

August 9, 2012

Everyone,

I just spoke to Jonah in Senator Bruce Tarr's office, Jonah handles the legal aspects of the legislation for Bruce. Apparently Transportation Committee Chairman Straus (on the House side) added another amendment, which delayed things further. I am actually OK with the amendment, as it brings in Federal agencies, as well...like Homeland Security. To me this is a great thing as it now brings it to the attention of Washington. The amendment also requires that a respected institution validate all of the criteria, which I am also pleased with, as I want help from these resources for the "NEWW Word" combinations. Jonah is sending me the amendment (Bruce is also fine with the amendment).

Now with the new amendment, it requires engrossing the Bill again, but their thoughts are that it could be done Monday, but most likely by next Thursday. Then it is sent to the Governor, where he has 10 calendar days to sign the Bill. Apparently, it would be about 6-7 days, from when the Gov receives it, for the signing and photo opportunity. Therefore, we are most likely looking at the week of the 20th for signing by the Governor. These delays are frustrating for us all, but in the long run this amendment will be a good thing! My thanks to you all!!!

All the best,

Gary Richard