

09 SESSION REVIEW FOR REALTORS® ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Various environmental issues were brought forward during the Session. The solar and wind energy bills are covered under the “Energy” section of this document.

Fire Protection and Defensible Space

The devastating wildfires in south Lake Tahoe during the summer of 2007 sparked concerns regarding fire protection and defensible space around the lake. The Senate Committee on Government Affairs introduced a bill to address some of the concerns, and REALTORS® were in the forefront to ensure this bill truly protected property owners around Lake Tahoe. We are happy to report this bill passed and will become law.

Graywater

Another emerging environmental issue we have seen this Session is that of the collection and reuse of graywater in single-family

residences. Although neither bill dealing with graywater passed this time around, we believe this is an issue that will resurface in one form or another in future legislative sessions.

Water Supply Part of Comprehensive Regional Plan

A proposal to require that the comprehensive regional plan of certain counties include several provisions concerning the availability of water resources, including a statement stating the total population of the region that may be supported by its sustainable water resources. This bill was vetoed by the Governor, and the Legislature did not take a vote to override it, therefore it will not become law.

Advisory Bistate Commission on Environmental and Land Use Issues

Loosely modeled on the Advisory Planning Commission of the Tahoe

Regional Planning Agency, an advisory bistate commission was proposed to study various environmental and land use issues that are common to the areas of Nye and Clark counties in Nevada, and Inyo and San Bernardino counties in California. This proposal did not pass out of committee and this advisory commission will not be created.

For a topic by topic summary or the comprehensive legislative report, please visit www.nvar.org.



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