IOWA
MANUFACTURED
HOUSING
ASSOCIATION

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December, 2019

Dear IMHA Members:

It was another productive and interesting year for IMHA at the legislature, with prospects for a challenging session in 2020, when IMHA will mostly be playing defense against a major rewrite of the landlord/tenant law as well as rent control.

IMHA was involved in three pieces of legislation that became law in 2019. We have included all of these new laws as a part of this update.

First, HF 701 was a major piece of legislation protecting our older manufactured housing communities. The new law is a limitation on cities and counties from not allowing the grandfather clause to continue. Local governments were preventing communities from replacing dilapidated homes. The new law, incorporating findings from Iowa Supreme Court decisions, will allow community owners to replace homes so long as the homes will fit into the existing rental space.

SF 341 is a law which dealt with assistance and service animals. The new law provides for a state form to be used by doctors, psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, and social workers when tenants want to present their landlords with a claim that they need a particular assistance animal for a special medical or mental condition.

SF 93 is a new law that gives cities and counties more flexibility in dealing with abandoned structures for abatement purposes. IMHA wanted to make clear that owners of manufactured housing communities retained the right to deal with their own abandoned homes, rather than the lengthy process that local government follows. We asked the legislature to exclude us from this law.

There are some changes in administrative rules included in this packet, as well as revisions to some of our legal forms.

We encourage you to contact IMHA if you have any questions about anything related to the contents of this manual.

Sincerely,

Joe Kelly