

# Legislative Update

submitted by Larry Axlen, Legislative Member Representative

**ANSI A300 Updates:** No public reviews are currently scheduled. Public reviews and other revisions or new ANSI A300 parts may be seen at any time at <http://www.tcia.org/standards/CurrentProjects.htm>.

**ANSI Z133:** ASC Z133 (Arboriculture Safety Standard Committee) last met November 10, 2010. The committee began the process of reviewing and discussing recommendations for the 2011 standard revision. The next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2011. The 45-day public review period will begin on February 18, 2011, and end April 4, 2011. This is a very short time for public comments and objectives for review and consideration. For more information, call Janet Huber at ISA (217) 355-9411 x259 or e-mail [jhuber@isa-arbor.com](mailto:jhuber@isa-arbor.com).

## **HR 872 – The Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011:**

HR 872 passed the House on March 31, 2011, and was introduced in the Senate April 4, 2011. Once fully passed and signed into law this bill will protect the public from insect-borne diseases, protect our environment from harmful invasive species and reduce regulatory burden on businesses, by ending a duplicate permit process for pesticide applications.

**HR 4:** HR 4 passed the House on March 3, 2011, and also passed the Senate on April 5, 2011. The bill repeals the 1099 rule

(which had been included in the Health Care Bill of last year) requiring businesses to report payments of over \$600 to vendors. The bill is expected to be signed into law by President Obama.

## **H-2B – Program Rewrite Underway:**

The Department of Labor is rewriting the H-2B temporary and seasonal non-agricultural worker program. The proposed changes are described in a 78-page notice published in the March 18, 2011, *Federal Register*. The publication comes one year after the DOL published new rules for H-2A agricultural program.

## **OSHA Clarifies Payment Responsibilities for Protective Equipment:**

*Risk & Insurance (03/11)*

A new directive from OSHA details and updates compliance for employers to provide personal protective equipment for their employees. The directive replaces the Inspection Guidelines for 29 CFR Part 1910 Subpart I, the revised Personal Protective Equipment Standards for General Industry, issued in June 1995.

The most significant changes include:

- Clarification on what type of personal protective equipment employers must provide at no cost, when employers must pay for or replace equipment and when employers aren't required to pay for protective equipment.

- Clarification on the payment requirements for protective equipment worn off the job site, for equipment that must remain at the job site and for employee-owned equipment.
- Enforcement policies that reflect court and review commission decisions concerning protective equipment.
- Guidance that allows employers to use protective equipment constructed in accordance with the most recent national consensus standards.

Go to the OSHA directive at this link:

<http://www.jjkeller.com/wcsstore/CVCatalogAssetStore/references/workplace/2011/021511CPL.pdf>.

## **Pest Alert – Gypsy Moth Quarantine Expands:**

On April 5, 2011, the gypsy moth quarantine expands to also include Jackson and Price counties. The quarantine will have the greatest impact on plant nurseries, Christmas tree growers, and lumber mills because of the inspection and certification requirements. For more information, contact Bob Dahl at 608-224-4573 or visit <http://gypsymoth.wi.gov>.

Please check our website for the new legislative representatives ([http://www.waa-isa.org/legislative\\_issues.htm](http://www.waa-isa.org/legislative_issues.htm)). Over 30 new representatives are now in office.