

Clerk of the House of Representatives Legislative Resource Center B-106 Cannon Building Washington, DC 20515	Secretary of the Senate Office of Public Records 232 Hart Building Washington, DC 20510
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

RECEIVED
 SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
 PUBLIC RECORDS
 02 JUN 24 AM 1

LOBBYING REPORT

Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (Section 5) - All Filers Are Required To Complete This Page

1. Registrant Name International Council of Shopping Centers			
2. Address <input type="checkbox"/> Check if different than previously reported 1033 N. Fairfax Street, Ste. 404, Alexandria, VA 22314			
3. Principal Place of Business (if different from line 2) City: _____ State/Zip (or Country) _____			
4. Contact Name Judy E. Laniak	Telephone (703) 549-7404	E-mail (optional) jlaniak@icsc.org	5. Sena 1993
7. Client Name <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self			6. Hous 1993

TYPE OF REPORT 8. Year 2001 Midyear (January 1-June 30) OR Year End (Jul

9. Check if this filing amends a previously filed version of this report

10. Check if this is a Termination Report ⇒ Termination Date _____ 11. No L

INCOME OR EXPENSES - Complete Either Line 12 OR Line 13

<p>12. Lobbying Firms</p> <p>INCOME relating to lobbying activities for this reporting period was:</p> <p>Less than \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>\$10,000 or more <input type="checkbox"/> ⇒ \$ _____ <small>Income (nearest \$20,000)</small></p> <p>Provide a good faith estimate, rounded to the nearest \$20,000, of all lobbying related income from the client (including all payments to the registrant by any other entity for lobbying activities on behalf of the client).</p>	<p>13. Organizations</p> <p>EXPENSES relating to lobbying activities for period were:</p> <p>Less than \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>\$10,000 or more <input type="checkbox"/> ⇒ \$ <u>475,000.</u> <small>Expenses</small></p> <p>14. REPORTING METHOD. Check box to accounting method. See instructions for descri</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Method A. Reporting amounts using LD/</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Method B. Reporting amounts under sect Internal Revenue Code</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Method C. Reporting amounts under sec Internal Revenue Code</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Signature Rebecca M Sullivan

Printed Name and Title Rebecca M. Sullivan, Staff V.P. Government Relations

LD-2 (REV. 6/98)

Printed Name and Title Rebecca M. Sullivan, Staff V.P. Government Relations

Form LD-2 (Rev.6/93)

Registrant Name International Council of Shopping Centers Client Name Self

LOBBYING ACTIVITY. Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each information as requested. Attach additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code BNK (one per page)

16. Specific lobbying issues

see attached issue briefs

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies contacted Check if None

U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate
E.P.A.

18. Name of each individual who acted as a lobbyist in this issue area

Name	Covered Official Position (if applicable)
Rebecca M. Sullivan	
Wayne Mehlman	
William H. Hoffman III	

19. Interest of each foreign entity in the specific issues listed on line 16 above Check if None

Signature Rebecca M. Sullivan Date 2/13/02

Printed Name and Title Rebecca M. Sullivan, Staff V.P. Government Relations

Form D 2 (Rev 6/98)

Registrant Name International Council of Shopping Centers Client Name Self

LOBBYING ACTIVITY. Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each information as requested. Attach additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code TAX (one per page)

16. Specific lobbying issues

see attached issue briefs

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies contacted Check if None

U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate
E.P.A.

18. Name of each individual who acted as a lobbyist in this issue area

Name	Covered Official Position (if applicable)
Rebecca M. Sullivan	
Wayne Mehlman	
William H. Hoffman III	

19. Interest of each foreign entity in the specific issues listed on line 16 above Check if None

Signature Rebecca M. Sullivan Date 2/13/02

Printed Name and Title Rebecca M. Sullivan, Staff V.P. Government Relations

Form LD-2 (Rev 6/98)

Registrant Name International Council of Shopping Centers Client Name Self

LOBBYING ACTIVITY. Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each information as requested. Attach additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code CAW (one per page)

16. Specific lobbying issues

see attached issue briefs

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies contacted Check if None

U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate
E.P.A.

18. Name of each individual who acted as a lobbyist in this issue area

Name	Covered Official Position (if applicable)
Rebecca M. Sullivan	
Wayne Mehlman	
William H. Hoffman III	

19. Interest of each foreign entity in the specific issues listed on line 16 above Check if None

Signature Rebecca M. Sullivan Date 2/13/02

Printed Name and Title Rebecca M. Sullivan, Staff V.P. Government relations

Form LD-2 (Rev. 6/98)

Printed Name and Title Rebecca M. Sullivan, Staff V.P. Government Relations

Form LD-2 (Rev 6/98)

Registrant Name International Council of Shopping Centers Client Name Self

LOBBYING ACTIVITY. Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each information as requested. Attach additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code ENV (one per page)

16. Specific lobbying issues

see attached issue briefs

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies contacted Check if None

U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate
E.P.A.

18. Name of each individual who acted as a lobbyist in this issue area

Name	Covered Official Position (if applicable)
Rebecca M. Sullivan	
Wayne Mehlman	
William H. Hoffman III	

19. Interest of each foreign entity in the specific issues listed on line 16 above Check if None

Signature Rebecca M. Sullivan Date 2/13/02

Printed Name and Title REBECCA M. SULLIVAN, STAFF V.P. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Form LD-2 (Rev.6/98)

Printed Name and Title REBECCA M. SULLIVAN, Staff V.P. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Form LD-2 (Rev.6/98)



TERRORISM INSURANCE

ISSUE
Update

ISSUE

Before September 11, coverage for terrorist activities was generally included in a business' property and casualty insurance policy. "Acts of war" are typically excluded, however, "acts of terrorism" have not been separately included on from such policies. Even after the Oklahoma City and World Trade Center attacks, U.S. insurers did not see the need to offer, and U.S. businesses did not have separate coverage for acts of terrorism. September 11 changed all of that.

BACKGROUND

Although the insurance industry is able to absorb the estimated \$40-\$70 billion in claims from September 11, most reinsurance companies have decided, on a prospective basis, to exclude terrorism coverage because they are unable to price such coverage. Terrorism insurance from primary insurers is either unobtainable (especially for high-profile and "trophy" properties) or available only at extremely high prices (with high caps and high deductibles). Most states' insurance commissions, with the exception of New York and California, have been approving requests by insurance companies to exclude terrorist coverage from their policies.

Without proper terrorism insurance, shopping center owners will bear the full cost of damages resulting from any future terrorist events, and may be in technical default of their existing loan agreements. In addition, lack of such coverage may cause other lenders to cease or significantly curtail financing new projects or existing ones.

LEGISLATION

In November, the House of Representatives passed legislation (H.R. 3210), introduced by Representatives Michael Oxley (R-OH) and Richard Baker (R-LA), that would have the federal government act as an "insurer of last resort", thereby enabling insurers to offer reasonably-priced terrorism insurance to their policyholders. Specifically, the bill would create a one-year program (with an optional two-year extension) whereby the federal government would provide up to \$100 billion in loans to the insurance industry to cover claims from future terrorist attacks. The loans would cover 90% of claims exceeding \$100 million in industry losses (or 10% of an individual company's capital surplus and net pre-

H.R. 3210 also contains controversial tort reform measures that, among other things, would ban punitive damage awards against the federal government and prohibit punitive damages. Unfortunately, the bill would not require insurance companies to offer terrorism insurance to all their policyholders, and contains a somewhat restrictive definition of "terrorism."



International Council
of Shopping Centers

As of mid-February, the Senate has been unable to reach agreement on similar legislation despite the fact that Senate negotiators and the White House agreed on several elements in early December. The preliminary agreement would have the federal government cover 90% of future terrorist-related claims exceeding \$10 billion (for events under \$100 million) and the government would cover 80% of losses exceeding an individual company's level of 7.5% of premiums). Neither the insurance industry nor its policyholders have to reimburse the government for such assistance and the program would be in effect for one year. Tort reform measures had not been agreed to under the plan, but insurers have to offer terrorist coverage to all of their policyholders.

There are several bills in the Senate that contain various elements of the preliminary agreement and H.R. 3210, including S. 1751 – introduced by Sens. Phil Gramm and Mike Enzi (R-WY), S. 1743 – introduced by Sens. Ernest Hollings (D-South Carolina), Boxer (D-CA) and Ron Wyden (D-OR), and S. 1744 – introduced by Sen. Joe Lieberman (R-AZ).

The General Accounting Office, on behalf of the House Financial Services Committee, as well as the White House's Council of Economic Advisors, has asked the insurance community for examples of how the lack of federal legislation has negatively impacted their ability to obtain terrorism insurance, as well as new or refinanced loans. The GAO has sent a survey out to its members asking for their feedback.

OUR POSITION

ICSC supports H.R. 3210, as well as Senate efforts, to enact terrorism insurance legislation as soon as possible. Such legislation, however, should (1) require insurers to offer coverage to all of their policyholders and for all of their properties; (2) include a broad enough definition of "terrorism" to include all acts of terror even if not classified for political purposes as "acts of war"; and (3) include appropriate safeguards to protect all victims of a terrorist attack, including property owners.

For more information, contact Wayne A. Mehlman at 703-549-7404, ext. 225.



PROPOSED BANKING RULES Issue

Updated 1/01/01

ISSUE

The Department of Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board issued Proposed Rules in December 2000 that would permit financial holding companies and financial institutions of national banks to engage in real estate brokerage and management activities. ICSC believes these Proposed Rules could have a significant negative impact on our members and their management members.

BACKGROUND

In 1999, Congress passed and President Clinton signed into law the *Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act* – a bill that amends the *Bank Holding Company Act*. Among other things, it allows financial institutions to participate in securities and insurance activities, including such activities in its definitions of activities that are “financial in nature” or “incidental to a financial activity”.

Although the Act permits financial institutions to engage in other activities, Treasury determines, in consultation with the Federal Reserve Board, to be “financial in nature” or “incidental to a financial activity”, it does not give any indication explicitly or implicitly, that real estate brokerage or management activities are included in either definition.

However, after the Act became law, the banking industry persuaded Treasury to issue Proposed Rules (also known as “Regulation Y”) that would restrict real estate brokerage and management activities as “financial in nature” or “incidental to a financial activity”. ICSC has since signed onto letters with the National Association of Realtors and submitted a comment letter with NAREIT, the Real Estate Roundtable, the Building Owners and Managers Association International (BOMA) opposing the Proposed Rules.

LEGISLATION

Senators Wayne Allard (R-CO) and Hillary Clinton (D-NY) recently introduced the *Community Choice in Real Estate Act* (S. 1839) that would bar national financial holding companies from directly or indirectly participating in real estate brokerage or management activities. Representatives Ken Calvert (R-CA) and Tom Kanjorski (D-PA) have introduced similar legislation, H.R. 3424.

The Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit Subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee held hearings on this issue last May, however, the full committee has not yet scheduled hearings or a markup of H.R. 3424. Unfortunately, the Banking Committee has not acted on this matter either.



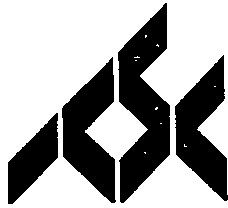
International Council
of Shopping Centers

OUR POSITION

ICSC supports S. 1839 and H.R. 3424, and urges Treasury and the Federal Reserve to withdraw their Proposed Rules. We believe that real estate is not a financial instrument or product. Therefore, related activities such as real estate brokerage and management, can not, and should not, be construed by Treasury and the Federal Reserve as either “financial in nature” or “incidental to a financial activity”.

We also believe that Congress, in passing the *Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act*, made it clear that financial institutions can only participate in financial activities and not in non-financial activities, such as real estate brokerage and management. ICSC is not opposed to healthy competition, however, we are very concerned that some financial institutions could use their leverage in a manner that could negatively affect our members and suppress competition in the long term.

For more information, contact Wayne A. Mehlman at 703-549-7404, ext. 225.



International Council
of Shopping Centers

LEASEHOLD IMPROVEM

ISSI

Upd

ISSUE

One of the most important obligations of shopping center owners is to provide efficient, and environmentally sound retail space for their tenants and the public. Owners must periodically refurbish and replace many structural components of their buildings, such as internal walls, ceilings, partitions, plumbing, lighting, floor coverings, electrical and communication outlets, and computer data ports—in order to meet the specific needs of their tenants and to comply with government regulations. Unfortunately, the tax code dictates that these modifications—commonly referred to as "leasehold improvements"—must be depreciated over 39 years. Most leasehold improvements, however, have a much shorter economic life—usually between 3 and 10 years.

BACKGROUND

Before 1981, building owners could recover the costs of leasehold improvements over the term of the lease to the tenant. The rationale behind this reflected the fact that improvements for one tenant are rarely suitable for another, and when a tenant leaves, it is usually necessary to destroy or abandon such improvements and rebuild for the next tenant.

In 1981, Congress set aside this principle of matching income from the lease with the costs of leasehold improvements. A single depreciation life of 15 years was established for all buildings and all improvements made within. Since then, the recovery period for nonresidential real property has been gradually increased to 39 years.

In 1996, Congress enacted legislation that allows owners to expense the costs of leasehold improvements in the year they are destroyed or abandoned. Previously, only tenants who owned such improvements could do so. Under the new law, leasehold improvements must still be depreciated over a 39-year recovery period while they are in service.

In 2000, the consulting firm of Deloitte & Touche completed a study that estimated the economic depreciation of various types of real estate structures and buildings and provides estimates for tax depreciation purposes. According to the study, retail structures have an estimated economic depreciation recovery period of 12 years based on annual building values (and 10 years based on building values) – both of which are significantly shorter than currently allowed under the tax code.

LEGISLATION

Representative Clay Shaw, Jr. (R-FL) and Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) introduced legislation (H.R. 1030, S. 1087) that would reduce the depreciation period for leasehold improvements from 39 to 10 years. Despite the fact that their bills have gar



International Council
of Shopping Centers

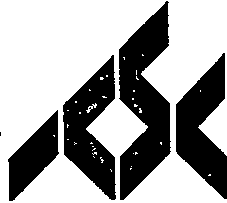
bipartisan support over the past few years, it was not included in the tax-cut bill signed into law last June.

However, two economic stimulus bills passed by the House in 2001 contain provisions that would permanently reduce the depreciation period for leasehold improvements to 15 years. Unfortunately, as of January 2002, the Senate has been unable to reach an agreement on their own stimulus package.

OUR POSITION

ICSC advocates shortening the depreciable lives of leasehold improvements to 15 years, more closely aligned with their economic lives. We strongly support legislative proposals H.R. 1030, S. 1087 and the House-passed economic stimulus package, which would significantly reduce the depreciation period for leasehold improvements, and would encourage shopping center owners to invest more resources into such projects.

For more information, contact Wayne A. Mehlman at 703-549-7404, ext. 225.



International Council
of Shopping Centers

E-COMMERCE TAXATION

Issue

Updated

ISSUE

The Internet is rapidly becoming America's new marketplace. While tax policy should not discourage consumers from exploring this new purchasing channel, it should favor Internet purchases over store purchases either. Instead, tax policy should level the playing field for traditional retail businesses, mail order companies and e-commerce based merchants. All levels of government need to work together to formulate a national sales and use tax system that is uniform, equitable and streamlined. The current system should reduce administrative costs and burdens for all businesses and consumers. Adopting an efficient sales tax system would not only preserve the sales tax base for state and local governments, but it would also promote fair trade among all sellers of goods.

BACKGROUND

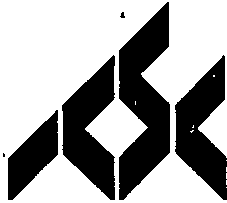
Through the years, Congress and the courts have addressed the issue of state sales and use taxes on remote sellers as it applied to mail-order merchants. The advent of Internet commerce brings a new focus and sense of urgency to this issue. The Internet marketplace is rapidly expanding, yet it remains mostly free from forms of taxation. The current dilemma facing Congress is whether to exercise its authority to collect taxes on remote e-commerce sales (which some claim is not Internet commerce) or maintain the current tax collection system (which gives e-commerce line sellers an unfair advantage over traditional merchants and reduces state revenues).

In 1998, Congress enacted a three-year moratorium which expired on October 1, 2001, on Internet access taxes and new, multiple or discriminatory taxes on e-commerce. In addition, it established an Advisory Commission to examine state sales taxation and interstate sales transactions. Unfortunately, the Commission failed to reach a consensus on the collection of state and local sales taxes on remote sales. The Commission did issue a majority report that recommended not only extending the moratorium but also creating special "nexus" carve-outs and sales tax exemptions for Internet business.

The Streamlined Sales Tax Project (SSTP), created by several state and local tax groups, approved model legislation last year that would simplify state and local sales tax systems in order to encourage collection by remote sellers. In addition, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) approved their own version. Since then, a number of states have decided to play an active role in the process of sales tax reform.

LEGISLATION

ICSC supports legislation introduced by Senators Byron Dorgan (D-ND) and Frank Lautenberg (R-WY), S. 512, and Representatives Ernest Istook (R-OK) and William D. Thomas (R-MA), H.R. 1410, that, in addition to extending the moratorium, would give



International Council
of Shopping Centers

that simplify their sales tax systems the authority to collect remote sales taxes. Unfortunately, a Senate amendment that would have provided such authority was not included in the underlying bill, H.R. 1552 – which extends the moratorium for two more years. This two-year extension, however, will provide states and local governments additional time to devise a simplified and workable collection system that will hopefully be part of the next moratorium extension.

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

Many Internet-based retailers claim that imposing remote sales tax requirements on them would be too burdensome, given the thousands of state taxing jurisdictions across the country. While we agree that states and localities should simplify their sales and use tax systems, there is currently software available that can adequately determine, collect and remit a merchant's remote sales taxes.

Our opponents also claim that states are currently flush with cash, and therefore should not be concerned with uncollected sales taxes on electronic commerce. While many states are currently enjoying budget surpluses, if the economy continues to shift more sales gravitate from traditional stores to the Internet, states and localities may find themselves with budget deficits and forced to cut back on essential services or taxes.

OUR POSITION

ICSC believes that tax policy should be consistent and equitable for all consumer purchases – whether they take place in shopping centers, via mail order, or over the Internet. Internet retailers should not receive a tax advantage at the expense of traditional retailers and state and local governments. ICSC does not oppose the substance of the moratorium, however, we believe that any extension should require those states that simplify their sales tax systems the authority to require remote sales and use taxes on their behalf. ICSC is working with other organizations and the e-Fairness Coalition to promote a level playing field for all merchants.

For more information, contact Wayne A. Mehlman at 703-549-7404, ext. 225.



International Council
of Shopping Centers

CAPITAL GAINS REFORM

Issue

Updated February 2002

ISSUE

Lowering the tax rate on individual and corporate capital gains would help stimulate the nation's economic growth, improve long-term productivity and make the U.S. more internationally competitive. It would also "unlock" billions of dollars in unproductive, under-utilized investments for new, innovative, job-creating activities.

BACKGROUND

Before 1987, the capital gains of individuals were taxed at rates below that of ordinary income. The *Tax Reform Act of 1986* not only lowered the tax rates on ordinary income but it also repealed the tax preference for capital assets. Therefore, capital gains were taxed at the same rates as ordinary income. In 1991 and 1993, the top rate for ordinary income was increased to 31 and 39.6%, respectively, while the top rate for capital gains was maintained at 28%.

The *Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997* reduced the maximum long-term capital gains tax rate from 28 to 20% (10% for those in the 15% income tax bracket). Beginning in 2001, the tax rates on assets held five years or more will drop from 20 to 18% (10 to 8% for those in the 15% bracket). However, to be eligible for the 18% rate, such assets would have to be acquired after December 31, 2000. The maximum tax rate on depreciated assets, however, was reduced only to 25%. The capital gains of corporations, on the other hand, are taxed at ordinary corporate income tax rates, with a maximum rate of 35%. The *Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997* did not provide any corporate capital gain relief. In 1998, former President Clinton signed legislation that included additional capital gains tax relief.

LEGISLATION

A tax-cut bill signed into law last June -- the *Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001* -- did not include any capital gains tax relief for individuals or corporations. An economic stimulus package passed by the House in October 2001 contained a provision that would have eliminated the five-year holding period requirement for the 18 and 8% rates referred to above. The bill also would have increased the amount of ordinary income that could be offset by capital losses from \$3,000 to \$5,000. Unfortunately, the House later passed a revised stimulus bill that did not include any capital gains or loss measures. As of January 2002, the Senate has no agreement on their own economic stimulus package.

OUR POSITION

ICSC will continue to work with other real estate groups to promote individual and corporate capital gains relief for inclusion in subsequent tax bills. We believe that capital gains taxes should be further reduced or eliminated, and that related legislation should be based on the following principles:



- Capital gains income should be taxed at a lower rate than ordinary income
- Corporate and individual taxpayers should be treated equally, since the supporting preferential tax treatment for capital gains apply without regard to the legal form of the entity holding the property;
- All types of real estate assets, including new and existing property, should be treated the same; and
- The tax rates applicable to capital gains on the sale of real estate appreciation and depreciation recapture, should be taxed at the same rates applied to other capital assets, such as stocks and bonds.

For more information, contact Wayne A. Mehlman at 703-549-7404, ext. 225.



International Council
of Shopping Centers

BANKRUPTCY REFC

Issue

Updated 1

ISSUE

Over the past few years, an increasing number of financially healthy companies have been filing for bankruptcy protection as a business tool. Because businesses do not want to be insolvent to declare bankruptcy, more and more solvent companies are reorganizing under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in order to restructure themselves and close unprofitable stores. To make matters worse, many bankrupt retailers fail to continue or reject their leases in a reasonable amount of time. As a result, shopping center owners are losing control over their own properties, neighboring businesses are losing business, retail employees are losing their jobs, and local economies are threatened.

BACKGROUND

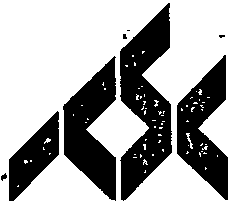
Congress has addressed the issue of bankruptcy reform for decades. In 1994, Congress created the National Bankruptcy Review Commission to investigate and report on issues relating to the Bankruptcy Code. As a part of its review, the Commission studied Chapter 11 of the Code, including provisions in Section 365 that affect shopping center leases. In 1997, the Commission submitted a report to Congress that contained a statement of their findings and conclusions, along with recommendations for legislative and/or administrative action.

Bankruptcy reform legislation was almost enacted in the 105th and 106th Congresses. In 1998, legislation passed the House but died in the Senate, while in 2000, a package passed both the House and Senate but died by "pocket veto" on former President Clinton's desk (since Congress adjourned within 10 days of sending the bill to the President).

LEGISLATION

ICSC supports both the House and Senate versions of *The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 2001* (H.R. 333). Both bills adequately address important issues to our industry, including: (1) the amount of time a bankrupt tenant has to assume or reject a lease; (2) the administrative priority of rents due under leases that are assumed and later rejected; (3) greater access to creditors' committees; (4) the curing of certain nonmonetary lease obligations before a lease can be assumed and assigned; and (5) the adherence of "use" and "assignment" provisions upon assignment.

Although House and Senate conferees have held preliminary meetings, it is unclear whether reform legislation will be enacted in the 107th Congress. Republicans and Democrats continue to disagree over several key issues, including those relating to the homestead exemption, means testing, and perpetrators of violence on abortion clinics and other public facilities.



International Council
of Shopping Centers

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

Some retailers claim that they need the long extensions of time in order to determine which leases should be assumed and rejected. While we agree that a 60-day period may not be enough time to make such decisions, a fixed period of time in which to assume or reject needs to be established so shop owners can retain some control over their properties. ICSC supports the current provisions in both versions that would require bankrupt debtors to assume or reject leases within 120 days, plus another 90 days "for cause". Any additional extensions would require the prior written consent of the owner.

Some of our opponents claim that shopping centers owners are not harmed by an extended period retailers have to assume or reject their leases so long as such retailers are paying their monthly rent on time. The problem is, even if an owner is receiving rent during this period, many bankrupt merchants cease their retail operations and their stores "dark". This, in turn, casts a dark shadow over the entire shopping center, negatively affects neighboring stores' customer traffic and sales revenues. The result is owners receiving reduced "percentage" rents, but it can also affect other agreements they have with these other stores.

OUR POSITION

ICSC believes that solvent companies should not be able to use the bankruptcy to break valid leases, and that decisions on whether to assume or reject leases should be made within a reasonable period of time. Companies faced with financial distress should be able to reorganize under Chapter 11. However, our bankruptcy laws have been strengthened to protect all creditors and to prevent companies from abusing the Bankruptcy process. Bankruptcy should be the final option, not the preferred option of businesses.

For more information, contact Wayne A. Mehlman at 703-549-7404, ext. 225.



A
Issue
Updated 1

ISSUE

The intent and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 is being abused by a growing number of attorneys who are filing, or threaten lawsuits against property owners for minor, technical access violations. Fearing hassle and expense of lawsuits, these property owners are forced into settling with these attorneys.

BACKGROUND

Some attorneys have created a cottage industry of inspecting various shopping retail stores and restaurants and then identifying minor violations of the ADA those in parking lots, walkways, or bathrooms. Without giving the alleged violator a chance to remedy the problem, these attorneys are filing, or threatening to file lawsuits that usually lead to cash settlements – part of which goes to the attorney and the disabled plaintiff. By creating a multitude of cases, these attorneys are generating substantial amounts of income for themselves.

LEGISLATION

To help address this problem, Representative Mark Foley (R-FL) and Senator Inouye (D-HI) have introduced the *ADA Notification Act* (H.R. 914, S. 782). This legislation would give property owners 90 days to fix an alleged ADA violation after they are notified before a related lawsuit can be filed.

OUR POSITION

ICSC supports these bills since they would curtail the abusive practice of attorneys filing, or threatening to file, lawsuits for easily correctable ADA violations while preserving the rights of disabled people to bring lawsuits for serious violations of their rights. ICSC is working with these members of Congress and other business groups to get this legislation enacted into law.

For more information, contact Wayne A. Mehlman at 703-549-7404, ext. 225.



ENDANGERED SPECIES

Issue

Updated 1/10/10

ISSUE

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) needs to be reformed. It has failed to protect species it was meant to protect and, in the process, has wreaked economic and social distress on communities throughout our nation.

BACKGROUND

The ESA has often been used as a tool by no-growth advocates to curtail private development. The ESA was first enacted in 1973 to protect species believed to be on the verge of extinction. When enacted, 109 species were listed for protection. Today, all species are listed, with more than 400 additional candidate species. Only two species have been “delisted” or removed from the species list since 1973: seven species of extinction, six because of data errors in the original listing process, and one officially declared as reaching recovery populations.

LEGISLATION

It is clear that the ESA does not work. According to the General Accounting Office, more than 90 percent of the species listed under the ESA rely upon private land for all or part of their habitat. The current system inadequately protects the environment and is economically harmful. In addition, species are listed without appropriate scientific review. It is imperative that the ESA be reformed to reflect current scientific and economic realities.

Legislation has been introduced in both the House and Senate that would require scientific review to become a stronger part of the ESA process. The Sound Science for Endangered Species Decision-making Act (H.R. 2829 and S. 1912) would also require input from stakeholders as listing and delisting decisions are made. ICSC supports this legislation.

OUR POSITION

ICSC will continue to advocate for reform of the Endangered Species Act. Private landowners are treated fairly and responsibly. We will work with supporters for legislative reform of the act which include, at a minimum the following principles:

- Responsible, responsive, and timely judicial review and/or regulatory development applications;
- Economic impact assessment of the imposition of legislation and regulation;



- Efficient and fair system by which a property owner can seek timely laws and regulations that result in a taking without compensation or the economic benefits of the “highest and best” use of his/her property;
- Standards by which the environmental value of property shall be established;
- Enhancement of the state and local role in the listing and delisting process to reflect local biological and economic concerns.

For more information, contact William H. Hoffman, III at 703-549-7404, ext. 224



ENEI

ISSUE

Update

ISSUE

The United States needs to implement a comprehensive energy policy that will provide increased energy supplies, electrical generation and transmission capacity and reliability, efficiency and conservation, while addressing the concerns of current commercial, industrial and residential consumers. A comprehensive approach is the way to ensure all consumers, including ICSC members, realize the most benefits while ensuring the country conserves its natural resources. In addition, the federal government should continue to support deregulation efforts, mirroring those that have implemented successful deregulation programs.

LEGISLATION

The Congress is expected to continue to debate energy legislation in 2002. ICSC will advocate for those elements in the legislation that will provide for increased energy supplies while ensuring advances made under state deregulation programs are not taken back by the federal government.

OUR POSITION

ICSC believes elements of a comprehensive energy policy should consist of, but not be limited by, the following:

- Modernization and expansion of the existing power transmission capabilities
- Increasing domestic energy supplies;
- Increasing electrical generation capacity where needed;
- A national framework governing utility restructuring modeled on successful state plans that have proven extremely beneficial to consumers;
- Incentives for ALL consumers to improve their energy efficiency through tax credits and equipment upgrade benefits
- Increased R&D on alternative energy sources and new technologies
- Regulators should be vigilant in their elimination of undue market power that could negatively influence pricing.

In addition, ICSC is committed to ensuring that thoughtful and manageable restructuring programs are implemented. ICSC believes a national framework should be developed – modeled on successful state programs – to reduce confusion being created by the state-by-state deregulation process.

ICSC also believes that its members with operations in multiple locations should be able to aggregate power among these locations without regulatory restrictions. Such aggregation by multiple operators, whether in the shopping center industry or other commercial/industrial interests, will increase efficiency for the individual ir



promote an overall efficiency increase to the benefit of all suppliers and users and conservation while at the same time benefit the operators. The end result to the entire community both economically and environmentally. ICSC companies will continue to work toward more efficient energy usage and federal, state and local governments to support efforts that will provide our economical and reliable energy supplies.

For more information, contact William H. Hoffman, III at 703-549-7404, ext. 224



International Council
of Shopping Centers

PRIVATE PROPE

Issue

Update

ISSUE

The “takings” clause of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution states, in part, “nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.” In the name of the protection of the Constitution, countless landowners have been deprived of their property, prosecuted, fined, or in some cases, jailed, because of wetlands and endangered species on their property.

BACKGROUND

The often reckless enforcement of laws such as the Endangered Species Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (the source of regulations limiting the development of wetlands) has driven down market value and often rendered property useless for agricultural or development purposes. Government action is essentially an act of government restricting the rights of private property owners to pursue specific activities on their private land—without compensation has been dramatically increased with the increase of regulation and galvanized private property owners into action to defend their property rights. However, all too often property owners are faced through a maze of procedural and judicial hurdles that take years to resolve.

The Fifth Amendment is being attacked, both legislatively and judicially. ICSC members ultimately want to be able to develop their land. Developers purchase land as an investment tool, not as an opportunity to seek compensation from any government entity.

The vast majority of land in America is privately owned. Regulators need to work with these landowners, not against them. Regulators and lawmakers should recognize the progress we have made since the '70s and encourage new and better ways to protect and enhance our environment.

LEGISLATION

ICSC continues to advocate the need for Congress to enact legislation that will strengthen the rights of property owners. The 107th Congress has thus far not made any serious legislative efforts on the property rights issue(s).

OUR POSITION

ICSC believes that it is necessary to protect private property through the enactment of appropriate environmental legislation and regulation and supports action that:

- Provides standards by which the environmental value of property is established;



International Council
of Shopping Centers

- Provides an efficient and fair system by which a property owner can : redress for laws and regulations that result in a taking without comp that deny the economic benefits of the “highest and best” use of his pro
- Provides for responsible, responsive, and timely judicial review and/or rulings on development applications; and
- Incorporates an economic impact assessment of the imposition of legi resulting regulation.

For more information, contact William H. Hoffman, III at 703-549-7404, ext. 224



SUPERFUND REFC

Issue

Update

BACKGROUND

The environmental importance of the nation's valuable wetlands is wide. However, the federal wetlands program in effect today under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act is not the product of a carefully considered and fully debated policy. The Clean Water Act is not a wetland protection law; it is a water quality law that has been used in an attempt to achieve wetland protection, a goal for which it was not designed. In fact, the Supreme Court ruled in January 2001 (*Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*) that the Corps does not have regulatory authority over isolated waters of the United States because, in part, Congress had not delegated the authority to the Corps.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

New activity-based permits, promulgated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) to replace Nationwide Permit 26 (NWP 26), went into effect on June 1, 2001. NWP 26 had been the general permit used most often for construction and related activities at small shopping centers. Large regional malls typically are forced into the more costly individual permit category. General, or nationwide permits, were authorized under Section 404(e) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in an effort by Congress to provide a streamlined permitting process for minimal impact projects. Nationwide Permit 39 (NWP 39) is a replacement permit covering residential, commercial and institutional development activities. To be eligible for that permit projects cannot result in the fill of more than 1/2 acre of wetlands. A Pre-Construction Notification must be filed with the Corps if the project will result in the fill of more than 1/10 of an acre of wetlands. If ICSC members are unable to qualify for NWP 39 they will be forced into the individual permit category, an expensive and time-consuming individual permitting process. Conservative estimates regarding the impact of the new permits are an increased cost to the regulated community of over \$300 million, necessitating a 30% increase in the Corps' regulatory budget to maintain current customer service standards. The new permits will not only increase the Corps' already serious workload while adding little environmental value, but they would prove harmful to the business community, state and local governments and public agencies.

The Corps is currently in the process of reauthorization of all Nationwide Permits (NWPs), including NWP 39. The schedule for issuance of the final permits is set for 2002. Although ICSC has continued to stress the need for a more rational permitting approach that would yield a more useful NWP 39, and has reiterated its position in its comments on the proposed revised permits, the Corps has offered no significant improvements to the permit.



International Council
of Shopping Centers

LEGISLATION

The politically charged climate surrounding national wetlands policy makes r legislative reform nearly impossible. . However, Rep. Walter Jones (R introduced legislation (HR 1474) which would legislatively created a wetlands banking program. ICSC believes this legislation would stimulate the cre funding of mitigation banks because it would provide a greater degree of certai has endorsed Rep. Jones' bill and has worked with his office to encourage support from other members.

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

Many in the environmental community argue that no progress has been m national effort to protect our wetlands and that the federal government must pl stronger role in permitting and land use decisions. However, statistics illu through mitigation and conservation landowners **are** protecting and improving of wetlands throughout the country by working with state and municipal agenci

OUR POSITION

Serious questions concerning the legality of the new permitting procedures, t supporting data to justify the changes and the ability of the Corps to adequat the increased workload resulting from these changes make the new permits vu legal challenges. ICSC is participating in litigation filed by other industry grou an *amicus curiae* brief. Congress has demonstrated its concern over this issi provisions in appropriations legislation for the Corps of Engineers for the past years, requiring the Corps to submit economic and workload impact reports to ICSC was instrumental in advocating for those appropriations provisions, become increasingly apparent that additional legislative efforts are necessary this fatally flawed federal regulatory activity. ICSC believes it is time to reau Clean Water Act in order to bring clarity and fairness to the wetlands permitting and to adequately insure the protection of valued wetlands resources. A principles that should be embodied in this legislative reform are:

- Respect for existing local and state laws on water quality and land us and development so that they are not be subordinated to federal regulations.
- Explicit statutory requirement that the value and functionality of w taken into account in the regulatory process, including reasonable mitigation.
- Define circumstances where the landowner would be entitled to compei instances where permit denials constitute an unlawful "taking."

For more information, contact William H. Hoffman, III at 703-549-7404, ext. 224.



International Council
of Shopping Centers

WETLANDS REFC

Issue

Update

BACKGROUND

The environmental importance of the nation's valuable wetlands is wide. However, the federal wetlands program in effect today under Section 404 of Water Act is not the product of a carefully considered and fully debated policy. The Clean Water Act is not a wetland protection law; it is a water quality law that has been used in an attempt to achieve wetland protection, a goal for which it was not designed. In fact, the Supreme Court ruled in January 2001 (*Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*) that the Corps does not have regulatory authority over isolated waters of the United States because, in part, it had not delegated the authority to the Corps.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

New activity-based permits, promulgated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to replace Nationwide Permit 26 (NWP 26), went into effect on June 1, 2002. NWP 26 had been the general permit used most often for construction and renovation of small shopping centers. Large regional malls typically are forced into the more restrictive individual permit category. General, or nationwide permits, were authorized under Section 404(e) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in an effort by Congress to provide a streamlined permitting process for minimal impact projects. Nationwide Permit 39 (NWP 39) is a replacement permit covering residential, commercial and institutional development activities. To be eligible for that permit projects cannot result in the fill of more than 1/2 acre of wetlands. A Pre-Construction Notification must be filed with the Corps if the project will result in the fill of more than 1/10 of an acre of wetlands. If ICSC members are unable to qualify for NWP 39 they will be forced into the more restrictive and expensive individual permitting category. Conservative estimates of the impact of the new permits are an increased cost to the regulated community of over \$300 million, necessitating a 30% increase in the Corps' regulatory budget to maintain current customer service standards. The new permits will not only increase the Corps' already serious workload while adding little environmental value, but they would prove harmful to the business community, state and local government and public agencies.

The Corps is currently in the process of reauthorization of all Nationwide Permits (NWPs), including NWP 39. The schedule for issuance of the final permit is set for 2002. Although ICSC has continued to stress the need for a more rational approach that would yield a more useful NWP 39, and has reiterated its positive comments on the proposed revised permits, the Corps has offered no substantive improvements to the permit.



LEGISLATION

The politically charged climate surrounding national wetlands policy makes legislative reform nearly impossible. However, Rep. Walter Jones (I introduced legislation (HR 1474) which would legislatively created a wetlands banking program. ICSC believes this legislation would stimulate the cr funding of mitigation banks because it would provide a greater degree of certa has endorsed Rep. Jones' bill and has worked with his office to encourage support from other members.

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

Many in the environmental community argue that no progress has been n national effort to protect our wetlands and that the federal government must p stronger role in permitting and land use decisions. However, statistics ill through mitigation and conservation landowners **are** protecting and improving of wetlands throughout the country by working with state and municipal agenc

OUR POSITION

Serious questions concerning the legality of the new permitting procedures, supporting data to justify the changes and the ability of the Corps to adequa the increased workload resulting from these changes make the new permits v legal challenges. ICSC is participating in litigation filed by other industry gro an *amicus curiae* brief. Congress has demonstrated its concern over this iss provisions in appropriations legislation for the Corps of Engineers for the pas years, requiring the Corps to submit economic and workload impact reports to ICSC was instrumental in advocating for those appropriations provisions, become increasingly apparent that additional legislative efforts are necessa this fatally flawed federal regulatory activity. ICSC believes it is time to rea Clean Water Act in order to bring clarity and fairness to the wetlands permittir and to adequately insure the protection of valued wetlands resources. , principles that should be embodied in this legislative reform are:

- Respect for existing local and state laws on water quality and land u and development so that they are not be subordinated to federa regulations.
- Explicit statutory requirement that the value and functionality of v taken into account in the regulatory process, including reasonable mitigation.
- Define circumstances where the landowner would be entitled to comp instances where permit denials constitute an unlawful "taking."

For more information, contact William H. Hoffman, III at 703-549-7404, ext. 224

