



Daily Legislative Update

Thursday, January 15, 2015

4th Day of 90th General Assembly

TODAY AT THE CAPITOL

House convenes at 1:30 p.m.

Senate convenes at 1:30 p.m.

Today's session will begin its normal flow of morning committee meetings, most starting at 10 a.m. and the afternoon floor sessions. Several committees are meeting for the first time, while others have already held organizational meetings and are prepared to conduct business.

Committee Meetings:

JOINT

9:00 AM	Room A, MAC	JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE	Agenda	
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HOUSE

10:00 AM	Room 149	JUDICIARY COMMITTEE- HOUSE	Agenda
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10:00 AM	Room 130	PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR COMMITTEE- HOUSE	Agenda
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10:00 AM	Room 151	REVENUE & TAXATION- HOUSE	Agenda
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10:00 AM	Room 138	EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE	Agenda
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SENATE

10:00 AM	OSC	STATE AGENCIES & GOVT'L AFFAIRS-SENATE	Agenda
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10:00 AM	Room 272	CITY, COUNTY & LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - SENATE	Agenda
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INCOME TAX CUT BILL AMENDED

Senate President Jonathan Dismang amended SB 6, which was filed as a shell bill, to contain Governor Hutchinson's proposed middle class income tax reduction. Amendment 1 was filed yesterday and a second amendment was filed today. Dismang told the AP Wednesday that he hopes to bring bill up as soon as next week.

Dismang said the legislation mirrors Hutchinson's campaign promise to cut taxes for the middle class, with the reduction taking effect January 1, 2016. The three-page measure would cut income taxes by 1 percent for those making between \$21,000 and \$75,000 a year.

The AP reports that Revenue officials have said the cut would cost the state \$33.7 million for the fiscal year that begins July 1, and \$102.1 million when fully implemented the following year. Hutchinson has estimated about 500,000 residents would benefit from the cut.

The bill doesn't address whether other tax cuts approved by the Legislature two years ago will be delayed. The AP also reports that Hutchinson left delay of the previous tax cuts open as a possibility. This idea has opposition from some Republican lawmakers.

Gov. Hutchinson told the AP that he planned to offer more details on the proposal, including a provision that adjusts brackets for those making between \$75,001 and \$80,000. "I think there's tremendous support for it among the people of Arkansas. That's what they voted for me to do and what we intend to accomplish," Hutchinson said.

The AP reports that there are Democrats in the Legislature who want more details about Hutchinson's budget and how he'll pay for the cuts before considering the measure. They've also said they would prefer that Hutchinson announce his plans for the state's compromise Medicaid expansion before taking up the bill.

Hutchinson said in his Inaugural address that he will talk about the expansion's future in a speech next week.

[Here](#) is a link to SB6 and its two amendments.

STATE CHAMBER/AIA BILL TRACKING

To date, the House has filed 73 bills and the Senate has filed 50 bills.

The State Chamber/AIA is tracking 22 bills and resolutions.

New bills added to State Chamber/AIA tracking today:

[HB 1073](#) [Boyd, Justin \(R\)](#)
[Ingram, Keith \(D\)](#)

Extends the property tax assessment deadline to the next business day if the deadline falls on a weekend or postal holiday.

For the complete, searchable list of bills being tracked please visit our [tracking site](#). The full text of each bill is available at the site.

TOMORROW AT THE CAPITOL

Committee Meetings for Friday, January 16, 2015

JOINT

None listed.

HOUSE

9:00 AM	Room 130	AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE & MILITARY AFFAIRS- HOUSE	Agenda
9:00 AM	Room 149	INSURANCE & COMMERCE- HOUSE	Agenda
9:00 AM	Room 151	STATE AGENCIES & GOVT'L AFFAIRS- HOUSE	Agenda
9:00 AM	Room B, MAC	CITY, COUNTY & LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE- HOUSE	Agenda

SENATE

None listed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION CONTACT INFORMATION

State Senators: 501-682-2902

State Representatives: 501-682-6211

To view schedules, calendars, bill information and legislator information, visit:
www.arkleg.state.ar.us.

To view live stream video and audio from the Arkansas House of Representatives, visit www.arkansashouse.org.

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