



Daily Legislative Update

Tuesday, January 27, 2015

16th Day of 90th General Assembly

TODAY AT THE CAPITOL

House convenes at 1:30 p.m.

Senate convenes at 1:30 p.m.

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

SENATE

None listed.

SB6 by Senate President Jonathan Dismang and House Speaker Jeremy Gillam, which contains the Governor's middle class income tax reduction, is on the agenda in the House Revenue and Taxation Committee meeting this morning. In addition to various changes to the income tax tables, the bill sets the capital gains tax exemption at 30 percent (currently at 50

percent as of 2015), and repeals the 100 percent capital gains tax exemption for gains of more than \$10 million.

Steve Brawner with [Talk Business & Politics](#) reported yesterday that the bill “faces opposition in the House from some Republicans opposed to the repeal of a capital gains tax cut and some Democrats who want to see the full budget first.” According to Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee Chairman Jake Files, R-Fort Smith, a compromise capital gains tax exemption of 40 percent is being considered. Rep. Joe Jett, D-Success, Chairman of the House Revenue and Taxation Committee told Talk Business, “We’re going to just try to work through this and try to ease everybody’s concerns, take care of the members’ concerns and try to work through it in a responsible manner.”

The Governor’s proposed balanced budget is scheduled to be released in today’s Joint Budget Committee meeting immediately prior to the House Revenue and Taxation Committee.

STATE CHAMBER/AIA BILL TRACKING

To date, the House has filed 172 bills and the Senate has filed 145 bills.

The State Chamber/AIA is tracking 54 bills and resolutions.

New bills added to State Chamber/AIA tracking today:

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| HB 1156 | Blake, Charles (D) | Creates the E-Cigarette Excise Tax Act, which imposes a 7.5 cent per fluid ml sales tax on nicotine solutions used in e-cigarettes. |
| HB 1158 | Womack, Richard (R) | Amends Arkansas law to provide for the right to engage in lawful occupation. (Shell bill) |
| HB 1161 | Hammer, Kim (R) | Exempts health care concierge service arrangements from the insurance requirements of Arkansas in the same manner that burial associations and health care sharing ministries are exempt. |
| HB 1163 | Bell, Nate (R) | Prohibits public employers from disciplining public employees for exercising rights under the Freedom of Information Act. |
| HB 1172 | Hammer, Kim (R) | Prohibits state agencies from creating or expanding licensure requirements for healthcare providers without prior study of such requirements by the Administrative Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Legislative |

Council.

SB 128	Johnson, David (D) Vines, John (D)	Makes technical corrections to Title 4 concerning business and commercial law.
SB 131	Johnson, David (D) Vines, John (D)	Makes technical corrections to Title 26 concerning taxation.
SB 133	Bledsoe, Cecile (R) Ferguson, Deborah (D)	Creates the Telemedicine Act, which requires coverage for healthcare services delivered through telemedicine on the same basis that in-person services are covered.
SB 135	Cooper, John (R) Sullivan, Dan (R)	Restricts the types of reimbursement models that may be used in the indigent medical care program; directs AHCIP carriers to participate in any applicable healthcare initiative, rather than only the Health Care Payment Improvement Initiative.
SB 144	Collins-Smith, Linda (R)	Terminates the Health Care Independence Program and Arkansas' participation in Medicaid Expansion; repeals the Health Care Independence Act of 2013.

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 Wednesday, January 28, 2015

JOINT

7:30 AM	Room B, MAC	JBC-SPECIAL LANGUAGE
9:00 AM	Room A, MAC	JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

HOUSE

10:00 AM	Room 151	STATE AGENCIES & GOVT'L AFFAIRS- HOUSE
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[Agenda](#)

10:00 AM	Room 130	AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE & MILITARY AFFAIRS- HOUSE	Agenda
10:00 AM	Room B, MAC	CITY, COUNTY & LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE- HOUSE	Agenda
10:00 AM	Room 138	AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- HOUSE	Agenda
12:00 PM	Room B, MAC	HOUSE RULES	Agenda

SENATE

8:00 AM	Room 272	PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR COMMITTEE - SENATE	Agenda
10:00 AM	Room 171	JUDICIARY COMMITTEE - SENATE	Agenda
Upon Adjournment of Senate	Room 207	EDUCATION COMMITTEE - SENATE	Agenda

YESTERDAY AT THE CAPITOL

SB 96 by Sen. Jim Hendren, which would create the “Health Reform Legislative Task Force, was amended yesterday. The amendment adds language specifying that Medicaid expansion recipients and “private option” enrollees will not continue to receive benefits at the end of 2016 without express approval by the General Assembly. It also adds review and recommendation duties regarding the Health Care Payment Improvement Initiative to the task force and authorizes the task force to contract with consultants to assist with the overall study. The amended bill has been re-referred to the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee.

SB 144 by Sen. Linda Collins-Smith, which was filed late yesterday, would terminate the Medicaid Expansion Demonstration Program, commonly known as the ‘Private Option’, terminate Arkansas’s participation in Medicaid expansion and repeal the Health Care Independence Act of 2013.

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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