



Daily Legislative Update

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

23rd Day of 90th General Assembly

TODAY AT THE CAPITOL

House convenes 1:30 p.m.

Senate convenes 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
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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 171	INSURANCE & COMMERCE - SENATE	Agenda
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SB 96 by Sen. Jim Hendren, which passed the Senate last week, is expected to be heard in today's House Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee. The bill would create the "Health Reform Legislative Task Force" and extend the private option through 2016 but no further without legislative action. The purpose of the Task Force is to consider and recommend various changes to the private option program specifically and to "explore and recommend options to modernized Medicaid programs serving the indigent, aged, and disabled."

STATE CHAMBER/AIA BILL TRACKING

To date the House has filed 237 bills and the Senate has filed 208 bills.

The State Chamber/AIA is tracking 85 bills and resolutions.

New bills added to State Chamber/AIA tracking today:

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|--------------------------------|--|---|
| <u>HB 1214</u> | <u>Eubanks, Jon (R)</u> | Requires production contracts and mortgages related to them to contain notice that additional investments may be required on the part of the grower to complete the terms of the contract. |
| <u>HB 1219</u> | <u>Hickerson, Mary (R)</u>
<u>Hickey, Jimmy (R)</u> | Details factors that may be considered by a municipality for setting consumer rates for water service. Authorizes establishing special rates to assist with community or economic development efforts. |
| <u>HB 1228</u> | <u>Ballinger, Bob (R)</u>
<u>Hester, Bart (R)</u> | Prohibits state actions that burden a person's right to exercise of religion, unless the burden is essential to further a compelling governmental interest; entitles persons to relief against political subdivisions for violations. |
| <u>HB 1235</u> | <u>Sabin, Warwick (D)</u> | Incorporates investments using convertible financing structures into the award and distribution of equity investment incentive funds and tax credits under the Equity Investment Incentive Act of 2007. |
| <u>SB 197</u> | <u>Cooper, John (R)</u>
<u>Jett, Joe (D)</u> | Exempts from the Freedom of Information Act certain information related to water systems and city-owned utilities, including transmission and delivery plans and information, and customer usage data and personal information. |
| <u>SB 202</u> | <u>Hester, Bart (R)</u> | Prohibits counties, municipalities, and other political subdivisions from adopting anti- |

[Ballinger, Bob \(R\)](#) discrimination ordinances on a basis not also contained within state law.

[SB 204](#) [English, Jane \(R\)](#) Restricts the basis upon which the Attorney
[Brown, Karilyn \(R\)](#) General may enter into contingency fee contracts with private attorneys; provides enhanced transparency requirements for such contracts.

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, February 4, 2015

JOINT

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

HOUSE

10:00 AM	Room 149	INSURANCE & COMMERCE- HOUSE	Agenda
10:00 AM	Room 138	AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- HOUSE	Agenda
10:00 AM	Room 151	STATE AGENCIES & GOVT'L AFFAIRS- HOUSE	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
12:00 PM	Room B, MAC	HOUSE RULES	Agenda

SENATE

10:00 AM	Room 272	PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR COMMITTEE - SENATE	Agenda
10:00 AM	OSC	REVENUE & TAX - SENATE	Agenda

10:00 AM Room 171

[JUDICIARY COMMITTEE - SENATE](#)

[Agenda](#)

10:00 AM Room 207

[EDUCATION COMMITTEE - SENATE](#)

[Agenda](#)

SB6 by Senate President Jonathan Dismang and House Speaker Jeremy Gillam is on tomorrow's Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee to concur in a House amendment. The full Senate must then concur in the amendment. SB6 makes various changes to income tax tables, sets the capital gains tax exemption at 40 percent beginning February 1 of this year (currently at 50 percent as of 2015), and repeals the 100 percent capital gains tax exemption for gains over \$10 million.

INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMISSION

The Independent Citizens Commission met yesterday to make the following recommendations for salaries for state officials:

- Governor – from \$87,759 to \$141,000
- Lt. Governor – no recommended change from current \$42,315
- Attorney General – from \$73,132 to \$130,000
- Secretary of State – from \$54,848 to \$90,000
- Treasurer – from \$54,848 to \$85,000
- Auditor – from \$54,848 to \$85,000
- Land Commissioner – from \$54,848 to \$85,000
- Speaker of the House/Senate President – from \$17,771 to \$45,000
- Member of the General Assembly – from \$15,869 to \$39,400
- Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court – from \$161,601 to \$180,000
- Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court – from \$149,589 to \$166,500
- Chief Judge of Arkansas Court of Appeals – from \$147,286 to \$164,000
- Judge on the Court of Appeals – from \$144,982 to \$161,500
- Circuit Judge – from \$140,372 to \$160,000
- District Judge – from \$125,495 to \$140,000

The recommended salaries for Members of the General Assembly, House Speaker and Senate President include an increase in salary as well as the end of legislative reimbursement for office expenses. This plan would render the office reimbursement of \$14,400, which was previously tax-free, part of a legislator's taxable wages.

The public will have a chance to comment on the recommended salaries.

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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