



## Daily Legislative Update

Thursday, February 12, 2015

32<sup>nd</sup> Day of 90<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

### STATE CHAMBER/AIA PRIORITY BILLS

**SB 332** by Sen. Jake Files and Rep. Joe Jett was filed yesterday. The bill seeks a further and complete reduction in the sales taxes paid by manufacturers on their repair and replacement parts. It would eliminate all but the constitutional sales taxes from 4.875 percent to 2.5 percent on July 1, 2015 and to zero on July 1, 2016. The bill would also eliminate the requirement that those seeking to take advantage of this tax exemption must have a direct pay sale and use tax permit from the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration.

Additional pieces of our legislative package continue to work through the drafting process. We will provide bill numbers, sponsors and additional information as each bill is filed.

### TODAY AT THE CAPITOL

House convenes 1:30 p.m.

Senate convenes 11:00 a.m.

### JOINT

7:30 AM Room B, MAC [JBC-PERSONNEL](#) [Agenda](#) 

9:00 AM Room A, MAC [JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE](#) [Agenda](#) 

### HOUSE

10:00 AM Room 130 [PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR COMMITTEE- HOUSE](#) [Agenda](#)

10:00 AM Room B, MAC [PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION- HOUSE](#) [Agenda](#)

10:00 AM Room 149 [JUDICIARY COMMITTEE- HOUSE](#) [Agenda](#)

10:00 AM Room 138 [EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE](#) [Agenda](#)

## SENATE

10:00 AM Room 171 [INSURANCE & COMMERCE - SENATE](#) [Agenda](#)

10:00 AM Room 272 [CITY, COUNTY & LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - SENATE](#) [Agenda](#)

10:00 AM OSC [STATE AGENCIES & GOVT'L AFFAIRS-SENATE](#) [Agenda](#)

## STATE CHAMBER/AIA BILL TRACKING

To date, the House has filed 369 bills and the Senate has filed 349 bills.

The State Chamber/AIA is tracking 177 bills and resolutions.

New bills added to State Chamber/AIA tracking today:

[HB 1356](#) [Pitsch, Mat \(R\)](#) Includes the State Highway and Transportation Department within the definition of "claimant agency" for the purpose of obtaining setoffs against state tax refunds.

[HB 1363](#) [Copeland, Donnie \(R\)](#) Requires the Department of Human Services to notify all persons enrolled in the Health Care Independence Program that the program and coverage will end December 31, 2016.

[SB 79](#) [Woods, Jon \(R\)](#)  
[Leding, Greg \(D\)](#) Establishes a property right for an individual for his or her name, voice, signature, photograph or likeness that protects them from use without prior consent unless in connection with a news broadcast, political campaign, work of fiction, or other.

[SB 332](#) [Files, Jake \(R\)](#) Phases in a full refund of all sales tax on equipment bought for partial replacement and repair of manufacturing machinery.

[SB 333](#) [Hendren, Jim \(R\)](#) Allows property owner to seek compensation when a state government regulatory program reduces the

market value of their property by at least 10 percent.

- [SB 341](#) [Irvin, Missy \(R\)](#)  
[Talley, Brent \(D\)](#) Exempts payments from state income tax the payments received by a taxpayer from an agricultural disaster program.
- [SB 343](#) [Hendren, Jim \(R\)](#) Prohibits the establishment of an Arkansas state-based health insurance exchange under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. (Shell bill)
- [SB 349](#) [Clark, Alan \(R\)](#)  
[Gates, Mickey \(R\)](#) Reduces the duration of early voting from the 15 days prior to an election to Monday through Saturday of the week before the election; prohibits early voting on the Monday prior to an election.

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.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Yesterday was the filing deadline for Constitutional amendments. Arkansas law permits the legislature to refer up to three proposed amendments to the State Constitution. This session, 40 proposals were filed by legislators; 25 were presented by the House and 15 by the Senate. Below is the complete list of proposals filed:

- [HJR1002](#) [Douglas, Dan \(R\)](#) Proposes an amendment to the Constitution to eliminate the even-year fiscal session of the General Assembly.
- [HJR1004](#) [Bell, Nate \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to restrict the amount of state funds expended in support of public education to not exceed a certain percentage of overall state expenditures. (Shell Resolution)
- [HJR1005](#) [Shepherd, Matthew \(R\)](#) Allows Supreme Court Justices to run for retention of their office at the expiration of their term; creates a Judicial Nominating Commission for nominating replacements for Supreme Court vacancies.
- [HJR1006](#) [Branscum, David \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to define "infamous crime," one of the prescribed

transgressions making the transgressor ineligible to hold public office in the State.

- [HJR1007](#) [Lowery, Mark \(R\)](#) Constitutional amendment requiring voters to present valid government-issued ID before receiving a ballot.
- [HJR1008](#) [Gates, Mickey \(R\)](#) Constitutional amendment repealing the requirement that public notices be printed in newspapers and allowing the General Assembly to set the manner in which required public notices will be published.
- [HJR1009](#) [Davis, Andy \(R\)](#) An amendment to the Arkansas Constitution authorizing the General Assembly to enact law concerning rules of pleading, practice and procedure in civil cases. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1010](#) [Davis, Andy \(R\)](#) An amendment to the Arkansas Constitution amending provisions related to court rules and procedures related to civil claims. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1011](#) [Davis, Andy \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to authorize the General Assembly to enact laws regulating the award of damages in civil cases. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1012](#) [Bell, Nate \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution authorizing the General Assembly to enact a law declaring a lone candidate for office to be elected without appearing on the election ballot.
- [HJR1013](#) [Bell, Nate \(R\)](#) An amendment to the Arkansas Constitution limiting the amount of state funds expended for public education to a certain percentage of overall state expenditures.
- [HJR1014](#) [Dotson, Jim \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution concerning judicial procedures related to civil litigation. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1015](#) [Dotson, Jim \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution concerning the election of judges. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1016](#) [Dotson, Jim \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution concerning the award of damages and evidentiary procedures in civil cases, and the election of judges. (Shell bill)

- [HJR1017](#) [Dotson, Jim \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to provide that the State Highway Commission be governed in the same manner as other state agencies. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1018](#) [Dotson, Jim \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to provide that the State Highway Commission and the Game and Fish Commission be governed in the same manner as other state agencies. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1019](#) [Dotson, Jim \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to provide that the Game and Fish Commission be governed in the same manner as other state agencies. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1020](#) [Leding, Greg \(D\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution concerning voting by mail. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1021](#) [Leding, Greg \(D\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to exempt from personal property tax that property consumed in the normal daily operations of a business.
- [HJR1022](#) [Armstrong, Charles \(D\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to exempt certain veterans from property taxes. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1023](#) [Hammer, Kim \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution concerning the prosecution of certain alleged offenses committed by public servants. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1024](#) [Mayberry, Julie \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to provide that candidates for Lieutenant Governor be chosen as running mates by candidates for Governor and that they be elected as a pair.
- [HJR1025](#) [Mayberry, Julie \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution regarding the selection, powers and duties of the Lieutenant Governor. (Shell bill)
- [HJR1026](#) [Mayberry, Julie \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to abolish the office of Lieutenant Governor.
- [HJR1027](#) [Ladyman, Jack \(R\)](#) Amends the Arkansas Constitution to increase terms of circuit clerks and county judges from two to four years and authorize the quorum courts to refer to the voters of the county the question of two or four year terms for court members.
- [SJR 1](#) [Williams, Eddie Joe \(R\)](#) To propose an amendment to the Constitution regarding civil claims and court procedures. (shell)

resolution)

- [SJR 2](#)     [Clark, Alan \(R\)](#)  
[Hammer, Kim \(R\)](#)     Proposes an amendment to the Constitution limiting House service to 5 terms and Senate service to 3 terms, but no more than 16 years combined service.
- [SJR 3](#)     [Williams, Eddie Joe \(R\)](#)     Proposes an amendment to the Constitution which would remove the provision that strips the Governor of his or her powers and duties when absent from the state.
- [SJR 4](#)     [Hendren, Jim \(R\)](#)     Exempts boards or commissions governing state-supported institutions of higher education from the restrictions on abolishing state boards or commissions of Amendment 33, Section 2.
- [SJR 5](#)     [King, Bryan \(R\)](#)     Proposes an amendment to the Constitution increasing from two to four years the terms of elected county officials and authorizing a quorum court to refer the question of its' term lengths to referendum.
- [SJR 6](#)     [Clark, Alan \(R\)](#)     An amendment to the Constitution to authorize use of lottery proceeds for scholarships to vo-tech schools and technical institutes and colleges.
- [SJR 7](#)     [King, Bryan \(R\)](#)     Amends the Arkansas Constitution to authorize the General Assembly to establish law requiring presentation of a valid government-issued photographic identification before being allowed to vote.
- [SJR 8](#)     [King, Bryan \(R\)](#)     Amends the constitution concerning court procedures applicable to civil litigation. (Shell Resolution)
- [SJR 9](#)     [Ingram, Keith \(D\)](#)  
[Ferguson, Deborah \(D\)](#)     Amends the Arkansas Constitution to repeal the fiscal session and to require a two-thirds vote of approval to extend the regular session beyond 60 calendar days.
- [SJR 10](#)     [Ingram, Keith \(D\)](#)     Amends the Arkansas Constitution to authorize cities to increase the portion of property tax supporting retirement plans for municipal police and firefighters.

- [SJR 12](#)    [Williams, Eddie Joe \(R\)](#)    Amends the Arkansas Constitution concerning the power of the General Assembly related to the judicial department of government. (Shell bill)
- [SJR 13](#)    [Hester, Bart \(R\)](#)    Amends the Arkansas Constitution to increase the term of sheriff from two to four years.
- [SJR 14](#)    [Hutchinson, Jeremy \(R\)](#)    Amends the Arkansas Constitution to limit the amount of punitive damages that may be awarded in civil cases.
- [SJR 15](#)    [Johnson, David \(D\)](#)    Amends the Arkansas Constitution concerning court procedures pertaining to civil claims. (Shell bill)

### **Governor's Council on Common Core Review**

Governor Asa Hutchinson announced yesterday the creation of the Governor's Council on Common Core Review. The Council, created by executive order, will be chaired by Lt. Governor Tim Griffin. According to the Governor's website, "the 16-member Council will be comprised of educators, parents, business leaders, and students from all over the state – all of whom will be appointed by the governor." The Council will be asked to provide initial recommendations in the early summer and a longer list of recommendations in the fall.

Those interested in serving on the Council may apply online at [www.governor.arkansas.gov](http://www.governor.arkansas.gov). Council members will be announced in early March.

### **TOMORROW AT THE CAPITOL**

Committee Meetings for Friday, February 13, 2015

#### JOINT

None listed.

#### HOUSE

9:00 AM	Room 138	<a href="#"><u>AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY &amp; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- HOUSE</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Agenda</u></a>
9:00 AM	Room 149	<a href="#"><u>INSURANCE &amp; COMMERCE- HOUSE</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Agenda</u></a>
9:00 AM	Room 151	<a href="#"><u>STATE AGENCIES &amp; GOVT'L AFFAIRS- HOUSE</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Agenda</u></a>
9:00 AM	Room 130	<a href="#"><u>AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE &amp; MILITARY AFFAIRS- HOUSE</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Agenda</u></a>

## 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](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us).

To view live stream video and audio from the Arkansas House of Representatives,  
visit [www.arkansashouse.org](http://www.arkansashouse.org).

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