



## Daily Legislative Update

91st General Assembly

Friday, January 20, 2017 – Day 12

### TODAY AT THE CAPITOL

The House and Senate are in recess until Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, when the Senate will convene at 1 p.m. and the House will convene at 1:30 p.m.

No committee meetings are scheduled today.

To view schedules for all of today's activities, committee agendas, bills and other information related to the Session, visit [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us).

### YESTERDAY AT THE CAPITOL

#### GOVERNOR'S INCOME TAX CUT

**HB 1159** by Rep. Matt Pitsch, R-Fort Smith, and Sen. Jim Hendren, R-Gravette, received a Do Pass recommendation from the House Revenue & Taxation Committee. This bill is identical to

**SB 115** by Sen. Jim Hendren, R-Gravette, and Rep. Matt Pitsch, R-Fort Smith, which received a Do Pass recommendation Wednesday by the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee. These bills, which are part of Governor Hutchinson's plan to reduce the income tax for all Arkansans, would reduce the income taxes paid by those making less than \$21,000 per year. The bill also forms a Blue Ribbon task force to review and recommend further tax cuts prior to the 2019 Legislative Session. The bill is expected to be considered by the full Senate next week.

**SB 115** is on the Senate Calendar for Monday afternoon.

#### OTHER INCOME TAX CUTS

**HB 1161** by Rep. Warwick Sabin, D-Little Rock, and Sen. Jake Files, R-Fort Smith, also gained a Do Pass recommendation from the House Revenue and Taxation Committee. This bill would create an income tax credit in an amount equal to five percent of what a taxpayer is eligible to receive under the federal Earned Income Tax credit.

#### CORPORATE INCOME TAX FILING DATE

**HB 1156** by Rep. Joe Jett, R-Success, received a Do Pass recommendation from the House Revenue and Taxation Committee. This bill makes the change in Corporate

Income Tax filing deadline effective January 1, 2016 instead of January 1, 2017, because the federal corporate tax filing date was changed effective January 1, 2016. The Arkansas Corporate Income Tax filing deadline was changed by Act 896 of 2015.

### **LIMITATIONS ON FOOD STAMP PURCHASES**

**HB 1035 by Rep. Mary Bentley, R-Perryville, and 45 others**, has been amended. The bill would now require the Department of Health, instead of DHS, to identify and prohibit the use of food and beverages that have insufficient nutritional value in SNAP. The Department of Health would also be required to implement rules according to its' findings regarding food with sufficient nutritional value.

### **PROPERTY TAXES**

**HB 1157, by Rep. Charlie Collins, R-Fayetteville, and Sen. Bill Sample, R-Hot Springs**, received a Do Pass recommendation from the House Tax Committee. It limits the number of homestead property tax credits that may be claimed by a property owner to one, regardless of circumstance, and specifies that assessed value of real property is 20 percent of the property's appraised value.

### **STATE CHAMBER/AIA BILL TRACKING**

#### **NEW BILLS**

**SB 146, by Sen. Cecile Bledsoe, R-Rogers, and Rep. Deborah Ferguson, D-West Memphis**, would repeal the existing statutes governing telemedicine and establish a new standard for the practice of telemedicine. The new standard would include the prior existence of a professional relationship between patient and physician and other regulations.

#### **TRACKED BILLS**

The House has filed 236 bills and the Senate has filed 152 bills. We added five bills to our tracking, which now totals 87 bills.

To view a list of bills added most recently to our tracking, click [here](#).

Our entire list of tracked bills are posted on our website by category, which you can access by clicking [here](#).

### **LEGISLATIVE SESSION INFORMATION AND MESSAGE CENTER**

To view schedules, calendars, bill information and legislator information, visit: [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us).

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