RESOLUTIONS FOR NON-APPROPRIATION ISSUES

Yesterday we listed all resolutions filed seeking authority to file a bill that addresses a non-budget issue. A two-thirds majority in each Chamber is required to adopt this type of resolution. It is likely that some or all of these resolutions will not be considered. Many of the issues have been the subject of speculation regarding a possible Special Session after the Fiscal Session concludes.

Here are excerpts from a report about the non-appropriation issues written by Wesley Brown and published by Talk Business & Politics this morning.

After Gov. Asa Hutchinson outlined his $5.6 billion budget for fiscal 2019, lawmakers on Monday filed several non-appropriation bills that could turn the legislature’s attention away from the state’s financial business during the 30-day session.

At least two resolutions filed on the first day of the 2018 fiscal session revisit the controversial “guns on campus” legislation that dominated the 91st General Assembly a year ago. During the 2017 regular session, lawmakers passed the state’s new concealed carry law sponsored by Rep. Charlie Collins, R-Fayetteville, which allows for permit holders with enhanced training to have guns on college campuses and an expanded list of public places in Arkansas.

That measure, now Act 562 of 2017, also added last-minute exemptions to keep guns out of sports arenas, the state hospital and the UAMS campus. The new rules went into effect on Sept. 1, but the Arkansas State Police was given an additional 120 days to design the new training requirements for handgun owners looking to obtain the enhanced license to carry their weapons virtually anywhere.

However, resolutions by Rep. Bob Ballinger of Berryville and Sen. Trent Garner of El Dorado in the House and Senate, respectively, would remove the extra training requirements for enhanced concealed carry licenses and will allow Arkansas gun owners to carry their weapons into bars and restaurants, airports, state buildings, the State Capitol and across college campuses and other places. According to state police officials, the new training standards will take up to eight hours to complete.

… House and Senate resolutions filed by Rep. Greg Leding of Fayetteville and Sen. Will Bond of Little Rock, both Democrats, would prevent a concealed handgun in university dorm rooms or
residence halls in Arkansas. Both argued during committee hearings a year ago that the Arkansas legislature was moving toward being an open carry state without restrictions.

Other non-appropriation resolutions filed Monday would halt new enrollments in the Arkansas Works program, limit school choice transfers, prevent all-terrain vehicles on public streets and highways, and regulate so-called PBMs, or pharmacy benefit managers, across the state.

**SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

Special Primary Elections were held yesterday to begin the process of filling two open seats in the Senate and one in the House.

There will be a runoff for the Republican nominee for Senate District 16 on March 13. There will be General Elections for Senate District 16 and 29 on May 22.

These are the results from the Secretary of State’s website:

**RESULTS**

**State Senate District 16 – Republican Primary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas Reporting: 100 %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert (Bob) Bailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41.37 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breanne Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43.42 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Heffley</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.21 %</td>
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**State Senate District 29 – Republican Primary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas Reporting: 100 %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Coy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43.47 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricky Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56.53 %</td>
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</table>

**State Representative District 83 – Republican Primary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas Reporting: 100 %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. Donald Ragland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53.97 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timmy Reid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46.03 %</td>
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</table>
STATE CHAMBER/AIA LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION
The State Chamber/AIA Annual Legislative Reception will be held from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20th under the big tent in our north parking lot.

This is an opportunity to network and visit with members of the Arkansas General Assembly, elected Constitutional officers, state agency personnel and State Chamber/AIA members. Please join us!

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

Legislative Message Center
House of Representatives: 501-682-6211
Senate: 501-682-2902

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The Daily Legislative Update is written by Kenny Hall and edited and distributed by Jeff Thatcher.