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## **93rd General Assembly Friday, April 23, 2021 – Session Day 103**

### **NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL**

The House and Senate will convene at 1 p.m. Monday, April 26.

#### **Monday's Committee Meetings**

9:00 a.m. – Senate Insurance and Commerce

9:30 a.m. – House State Agencies and Judiciary

10:00 a.m. – Senate Judiciary | House Insurance and Commerce

10:30 a.m. – Senate State Agencies | House Management

Noon – Arkansas Legislative Council-Executive Subcommittee

Call of the Chair – Senate Education and Health | House Tax and Health

2:00 p.m. or upon adjournment, whichever is later – Senate Agriculture | House City/County/Local

#### **TAXABILITY OF REMOTE WORKERS – State Chamber/AIA Priority Agenda Bill**

**SB 484** by Sen. Jonathan Dismang provides that a nonresident's work is taxable only on work performed within Arkansas. It corrects a 2020 DF&A opinion letter saying that out-of-state remote employees of Arkansas businesses in some instances had to pay Arkansas income taxes.

*This bill is on Monday's agenda in the House Revenue and Taxation Committee.*

**We support this bill.**

#### **REVENUE STABILIZATION ACT (RSA)**

**SB 702 and HB 1949** by the Joint Budget Committee sets the state's budget.

*These bills were given Do Pass recommendations yesterday from the Joint Budget Committee.*

#### **MODEL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ACT**

**SB 601** by Sen. Jonathan Dismang seeks to create the Uniform Limited Liability Company Act and repeal the Small Business Entity Tax Pass-Through Act.

*This bill is on Monday's agenda in the House Insurance and Commerce Committee.*

**Thank you to those who made comments on this bill. We shared the comments with the Bar Association, and they were very responsive to the suggestions.**

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXTENDED RECESS**

**HCR 1015** by House Speaker Matthew Shepherd and Senate President Pro Tem Jimmy Hickey adopted on March 24 provides for an extended recess instead of a sine die adjournment. The General Assembly's goal is to conclude the session on Tuesday, April 27.

The purpose of the extended recess is to allow time for the new census data to arrive that is needed to complete Congressional redistricting. That data is expected in September.

**HCR 1015** addresses multiple issues of interest.

a) It authorizes interim committees to meet.

- b) It provides the Legislative Council the same authority it has during an interim between sessions.
- c) If the extended recess remains for more than ninety (90) days, all Acts that do not contain an emergency clause or a specific effective date shall become effective on the 91<sup>st</sup> day following April 30.
- d) It provides that the Senate President Pro Tempore and the Speaker of the House may by joint proclamation reconvene the General Assembly at any time for the purpose of 1) considering vetoes, 2) correcting errors, 3) complete its work on redistricting, 4) consider legislation related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, 5) consider the need for further extension of the Regular Session and 6) adjourn sine die.

## **YESTERDAY AT THE CAPITOL**

### **EMPLOYEE TRAINING RESTRICTIONS**

**SB 627** by Sen. Trent Garner seeks to place limitations on the content of state agency employee training based on a given definition of divisive concepts. It applies a provision to all contracts that require a statement by the contractor that they will abstain from certain training concepts.

*The amended bill passed the Senate 20 to 6.*

**The amendment solved our issues .**

### **DATA FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**HB 1868** by Rep. Delia Haak and Sen. Ricky Hill seeks to provide data related to sales and use tax revenues generated in a political subdivision that requests the data from DF&A.

*This bill passed in the Senate yesterday 33 to 0.*

**The amendment was our request, so we support this bill as amended.**

### **USED CAR SALES TAX REDUCTION**

**HB 1912** by Rep. John Payton is a second bill filed in the House to lower the sales taxes paid on used car purchases. Rep. Payton had previously moved **HB 1160** out of the House that sought to lower the sales tax on used car purchases, but the Senate is not willing to pass **HB 1160**.

*This bill passed the Senate yesterday 33 to 0.*

### **EMINENT DOMAIN**

**SB 334** by Sen. Bob Ballinger and Rep. Justin Gonzales seeks to place restrictions on the use of eminent domain by state agencies.

*This bill passed the Senate yesterday 30 to 2.*

**We oppose this bill.**

### **VACCINE PASSPORTS**

**SB 615** by Sen. Trent Garner would prohibit state and local authorities from using a vaccine passport as a condition of entry, travel, etc.

*This bill was given a Do Pass recommendation yesterday by the House Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee.*

**We could not find a way to amend this bill to make it acceptable .**

## **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

**In each session, the General Assembly can refer up to three measures to the next General Election ballot. Two Joint Resolutions have been adopted and a third awaits approval in the House.**

### **SIXTY PERCENT VOTE TO APPROVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

**HJR 1005** by Rep. David Ray and Sen. Bart Hester would require 60 percent approval by both legislative chambers to refer a measure to the ballot and a 60 percent vote by the public to adopt a constitutional amendment or initiated act.

*The Joint Resolution passed the Senate yesterday 23 to 6.*

### **SPECIAL SESSIONS CALLED BY LEGISLATURE**

**SJR 10** by Sen. Breanne Davis and Rep. Frances Cavanaugh would authorize the

legislature to enter a special session by joint proclamation of the Speaker of the House and Senate President Pro Tempore.

*This Joint Resolution passed in the House yesterday 82 to 9.*

## **FREEDOM OF RELIGION**

**SJR 14** by Sen. Jason Rapert and Rep. Jimmy Gazaway seeks to amend the constitution that prohibits government from burdening one's freedom of religion absent a demonstration that the burden advances a compelling government interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that interest.

*The Joint Resolution passed in the Senate yesterday 27 to 4.*

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

Total Bills Filed: 1663 | New Bills Filed Senate 0 | House 2

State Chamber/AIA Bills and Resolutions Tracked: 625

To see all tracked bills saved by category, click [here](#).

## **LEGISLATIVE SESSION INFORMATION**

To view schedules, calendars, bill information and legislator information, click [here](#).

To view the statement regarding Capitol access and committee attendance, click [here](#).

## **Legislative Session Message Center**

House of Representatives: 501-682-6211

Senate: 501-682-2902

## **STATE CHAMBER/AIA INFORMATION**

### **2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

To view the State Chamber/AIA's legislative agenda, click [here](#).

## **BILL SCORING**

Floor votes on bills that address issues in our Legislative Agenda and/or are discussed in a Daily Legislative Update are subject to being scored.

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