



On the Hill

...reporting the progress of the
Alabama State Legislature

2013 Legislative Session Off to a Fast Start

The Alabama Legislature met for sixth and seventh legislative days. Gov. Bentley signed into law a bill to repay withdrawals from the Alabama Trust Fund there were authorized by last year's constitutional amendment vote. At the conclusion of business on Thursday, 340 bills have been introduced in the House and 243 bills have been introduced in the Senate.

Also, *On the Hill* now shows the last name of the legislator sponsoring each bill. The sponsors of all of the bills ANHA is tracking will be listed this week. In following weeks, we will only list the sponsor for newly added bills.

Bills ANHA is Monitoring

New Bills

Senate Bill 183-Orr: would establish the Alabama False Claims act and allow a citizen to file suit against a company on behalf of the State. *SB 183 awaits action in the Senate Finance & Taxation General Fund Committee.*

Health Care

House Bill 36-R. Johnson/Senate Bill 76-Waggoner: would allow the Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules for automated dispensing machines in nursing homes. *HB 36 awaits action in the House. SB 76 received a favorable report from the Senate Health Committee and awaits action in the Senate.*

House Bill 41-Nordgren: would provide an income tax credit for physicians and dentists providing free services to Medicaid recipients. *HB 41 awaits action in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

House Bill 45-DeMarco/Senate Bill 29-Ward: would create the crimes of elder abuse and neglect and crimes of financial exploitation of an elderly person and provide penalties. *HB 45 awaits action in the House. SB 29 as amended passed the Senate and awaits action in the House Children & Senior Advocacy Committee.*

House Bill 64-Patterson: provides for the continuance of the Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators until October 1, 2017. *HB 64 awaits action in the House.*

House Bill 109-Ball: would establish the Health Care Compact to regulate health care and establish the Interstate Advisory Health Care Commission. *HB 109 passed the House.*

House Bill 110-McClendon: the Medicaid Fraud Reduction Act of 2013 would investigate claims of fraud, abuse or misuse for controlled substances by Medicaid recipients or providers. *HB 110 passed the House.*

House Bill 131-Rich: would require drug testing for Medicaid applicants if there is a reasonable suspicion the applicant is using a controlled substance. *HB 131 awaits action in the House State Government Committee.*

House Bill 174-McClendon/Senate Bill 151-Whatley: specifies that a transfer of a certificate of need from one entity to another does not require a new or additional certificate of need. *HB 174 awaits action in the House. SB 151 and awaits action in the Senate.*

Budget/Tax/Finance

House Bill 15-Todd: would increase cigarette tax by \$0.32.5 per pack. *HB 15 awaits action in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

House Bill 94-Love: would require repayment of funds transferred from the Alabama Trust Fund due to the September 18, 2012, amendment. *HB 94 passed the House and Senate and was signed into law by Gov. Bentley.*

House Bill 153-Clouse: provides for the transfer of tobacco settlement funds to the General Fund for fiscal year 2014. *HB 153 awaits action in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

House Bill 158-Clouse/Senate Bill 143-Orr: General Fund budget. *HB 158 awaits action in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee. SB 143 awaits action in the Senate Finance & Taxation General Fund Committee.*

House Bill 172-Ford: would establish an education lottery. *HB 172 awaits action in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

Senate Bill 92-Sanford: would reduce the corporate income tax from 6.5% to 5%. *SB 92 awaits action in the Senate Finance & Taxation Education Committee.*

Workforce

House Bill 28-DeMarco: an employee could not receive workers compensation benefits if an injury or death was caused by alcohol or drug use. *HB28 awaits action in the House.*

Senate Bill 41-Dial: would make Alabama's right to work law a constitutional amendment. *SB 41 awaits action in the Senate.*

General Government

House Bills 101-Weaver, 148-Wren/Senate Bills 77-Waggoner, 112-Holley: would make changes to the Administrative Procedures Act. *HB 101 passed the House and awaits action in the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. SB 112 awaits action in the Senate. All other bills are currently in committee in the house of origin.*

House Bill 147-Wren/Senate Bill 122-Holley: would consolidate several legislative operations. *HB 147 awaits action in the House State Government Committee. SB 122 awaits action in the Senate.*