



On the Hill

...reporting the progress of the
Alabama State Legislature

2013 Legislative Session Off to a Fast Start

The 2013 Regular Session began with the Alabama Legislature meeting for three days to pass several bills in the Republican majority's "We Dare Defend Our Rights" legislative agenda. Gov. Bentley used his State of the State Address to call for level funding of most state agencies. At the conclusion of business on Thursday, 229 bills have been introduced in the House and 172 bills have been introduced in the Senate.

Bills ANHA is Monitoring

Health Care

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

House Bill 41: 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/Senate Bill 29: would create the crimes of elder abuse and neglect and crimes of financial exploitation of an elderly person and provide penalties. *HB 45 as amended received a favorable report from the House Judiciary Committee and awaits action by the House. SB 29 as amended received a favorable report from the Senate Judiciary Committee and awaits action by the Senate.*

House Bill 64: provides for the continuance of the Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators until October 1, 2017. *HB 64 received a favorable report from the House Boards, Agencies & Commissions Committee and awaits action in the House.*

House Bill 109: would establish the Health Care Compact to regulate health care and establish the Interstate Advisory Health Care Commission. *HB 109 received a favorable report from the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee and awaits action by the House.*

House Bill 110: 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 as*

amended received a favorable report from the House State Government Committee and awaits action by the House.

House Bill 131: 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/Senate Bill 151: 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 Health Committee. SB 151 awaits action in the Senate Judiciary Committee.*

Budget/Tax/Finance

House Bill 15: 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: would require repayment of funds transferred from the Alabama Trust Fund due to the September 18, 2012, amendment. *HB 94 passed the House and awaits action in the Senate Fiscal Responsibility & Accountability Committee.*

House Bill 153: 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/Senate Bill 143: 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: would establish an education lottery. *HB 172 awaits action in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

Senate Bill 92: 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: 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 Judiciary Committee.*

Senate Bill 41: would make Alabama's right to work law a constitutional amendment. *SB 41 received a favorable report from the Senate Business & Labor Committee and awaits action in the Senate.*

General Government

House Bills 101,148/Senate Bills 77, 112: would make changes to the Administrative Procedures Act. *HB 101 received a favorable report from the House State Government Committee and awaits action in the House. SB 112 received a favorable report from the Senate*

Fiscal Responsibility & Accountability Committee and awaits action in the Senate. All other bills are currently in committee in the house of origin.

House Bill 147/Senate Bill 122: would consolidate several legislative operations. *HB 147 awaits action in the House State Government Committee. SB 122 received a favorable report from the Senate Fiscal Responsibility & Accountability Committee and awaits action in the Senate.*