



On the Hill

...reporting the progress of the
Alabama State Legislature

Weekly Legislative Happenings

The Alabama Legislature met for eighth and ninth legislative days. The week ended with both houses passing an education bill giving more flexibility to schools and student. At the conclusion of business on Thursday, 380 bills have been introduced in the House and 286 bills have been introduced in the Senate.

Bills ANHA is Monitoring

New Bills

House Bill 316-Todd: would establish the “New Assistive Devices Warranty Act.” *HB 316 awaits action in the House Commerce & Small Business Committee.*

House Bill 354/Senate Bill 251-Ward: would give health care providers authority to refuse to perform services that violate their conscience. *HB354 awaits action in House Health Committee. SB 251 awaits action in the Senate Health Committee.*

Senate Bill 259-Bedford: would expand Medicaid to provide assistance to all persons for whom federal matching funds are available to the state under the Affordable Care Act. *SB 259 awaits action in the Senate Health Committee.*

House Bill 370-Wren: would place a funding cap on the amount of State General Fund dollars appropriated annually to Medicaid. *HB370 awaits action in House Ways and Means General Fund Committee.*

House Bill 371-Wren: would require Medicaid to request a waiver from CMMS co-payments that Medicaid recipients pay for health care services. *HB371 awaits action in House Ways and Means Committee.*

House Bill 372-Wren: would create the Permanent Joint Medicaid Committee. *HB372 awaits action in House Ways and Means Committee.*

House Bill 377-Boothe: relates to assisted living administrators license procedures. *HB377 awaits action in House Committee on Boards, Agencies, and Commissions.*

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 passed the house and awaits action in the Senate Health Committee. SB 76 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 passed the House and awaits action in the Senate Children, Youth Affairs & Human Resources Committee.*

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 and awaits action in the Senate Health Committee.*

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 and awaits action in the Senate Finance & Taxation General Fund Committee.*

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 passed the House and awaits action in the Senate Judiciary Committee. SB 151 passed the Senate and awaits action in the House Health Committee.*

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 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, received a favorable report from the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and awaits action in the Senate. 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 passed the Senate and awaits action in the House State Government Committee.*

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.*

Bills Signed into Law

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.*