



Issue 18 – May 14, 2021

Legislative Update

Today is the 124th day of the legislative session. This week, the House opted to skip floor activity on Tuesday and Wednesday to hold budget discussions amongst Republican caucus members. The Senate opted to forego Wednesday's floor session for the same purpose.

Since last Friday, the Governor has signed 30 additional measures into law, and has vetoed 5 bills total this year. While committees are no longer meeting, the Senate Health Committee made an exception to consider two strike-everything amendments on Thursday.

There are currently 42 House bills pending consideration in Senate Committee of the Whole (COW), and 33 Senate bills awaiting House COW. There are a total of 6 bills that are ready for Third Read, with most of those in the House. 15 bills await a final vote from their originating chamber.

State Budget

As they have for weeks, the Legislature continues to have budget discussions on the flat tax proposal. The League has heard chatter that a budget could come as early as next week but there are still several Republican members of both the House and Senate who have conveyed either their opposition to the flat tax or a desire to hold local governments harmless in any agreement.

While the state may be in a good fiscal position local governments have significant financial burdens, they must address including infrastructure, economic development, local amenities, public safety, and pension obligations.

The League asks that you continue to engage with your legislators about the damaging impacts of a flat tax to their cities and towns, and ask they pursue other alternatives that would not cut municipal budgets.

License Revocation – HB2570

On Thursday, the House considered [HB2570 licenses; pandemics; revocation prohibition](#) in Final Read. The measure preempts local governments from permanently revoking any license that is required to operate a business for not complying with an order issued by the Governor due to a state of emergency, unless the local government can prove that the business was the cause of transmission. The measure has moved through the legislative process on party-line votes, and now awaits action from the Executive who has 5 days (not counting Sunday) to either sign or veto the bill.

Legislative Bill Monitoring

All bills being actively monitored by the League can be found [here](#).