



Arizona Pest Professional Organization Legislative Update May 12, 2017

Dear Supporter:

Sine die! Wednesday night at approximately 6:58 p.m., the legislature adjourned sine die or "without a day [for future action or meeting]" after 122 days at the Capitol. While it certainly wasn't our longest session in recent memory, it did seem to drag-on at the tail end after what was a relatively quiet and efficient year.

The budget certainly played a role in the extended time at the Capitol mainly due to the Governor's priorities to provide the universities with more bonding authority and to create a performance-based system for the state's public schools. But even after the budget was approved, lawmakers squeezed out a couple more controversial bills.

One of those controversial bills was related to how and when cities conduct their elections. [SB1152](#) passed after it was introduced as a strike-everything amendment in the House. If signed by the governor, the proposed law will require cities, towns and counties to hold elections related to transaction privilege tax (TPT) increases to be held on even-numbered years. Proponents have long argued that elections for tax increases are often conducted in odd-numbered years during the summer months in an effort to suppress voter participation and to ensure passage of the tax increase.

Another controversial measure saw democrats and some republicans align in an effort to defeat what they perceived as a tax-payer give-away. [SB1416](#), via another strike-everything amendment, continues the Quality Jobs Tax Credit and current Research and Development tax credits. The bill allows for an additional depreciation schedule to be applied to Class Six property if certain requirements are met, and requires a county or municipality to commit 100%, rather than 20%, of prime contracting TPT revenues to be used for the construction and associated improvements of public infrastructure improvements that benefit a manufacturing facility. Even with some GOP opposition, the bill ultimately passed and has

been transmitted to the Governor for his signature.

The legislature approved 352 bills out of the 1,079 introduced this year, which equates to a roughly 33% success rate. As of this morning, the Governor has signed 302 bills and vetoed five. Typically, the governor must sign or veto legislation within five days of the day after transmittal (excluding Sunday), or it becomes law without his signature. However, if legislation is transmitted after the session adjourns, the governor must act within 10 days of adjournment (excluding Sunday).

One of those bills that has yet to be signed (well, technically several of those bills) is the budget. The legislature transmitted the budget to the governor's office on Monday, but he has not yet acted on it. This is really more of a formality since the legislature would not have transmitted the budget and adjourned had there been any issues with the governor's office.

So, there you have it, the 2017 session is now officially behind us and we can take a small sigh of relief that we were left unscathed this year! However, don't blink. After all, 2018 is right around the corner and lawmakers will be back to work before we know it!

Let me know if you have any questions.

Have a great week.

Regards,

Courtney Gilstrap LeVinus
Capitol Consulting, LLC
Courtney@azcapitolconsulting.com