



Arizona Pest Professional Organization Legislative Update March 16, 2018

Dear Supporter:

Day 68 - Next Friday, March 23 will mark a pivotal deadline in the 2018 legislative session. It will be the last day for non-budget related bills to be heard in committees. This means that any bill which has not been heard in committee next week will officially be dead. Accordingly, next week will be a very busy week at the capitol. It also means that after next week legislators will have much more time and energy to focus on the state budget. After the committee deadline closes budget talks will kick into high gear and become the major focus of legislators at the capitol.

In other news, yesterday Governor Doug Ducey released a barrage of tweets regarding school safety in response to this month's Florida school shooting. Some of his messages included improving background checks for guns and creating harsher penalties for unlawful possession of guns. It is likely that in the coming weeks we will see several proposals emerge from the legislature on how to improve school safety in Arizona. These proposals will surely spark intense debate from both sides of the political aisle and result in big changes around the state.

As for AZPPO, we have several meetings scheduled for next week regarding the fund sweeps to the Pest Management Trust Fund. We will continue to express our deep concerns on the issue especially in light of the fact that the Fund is in Trust and should not be subject to such sweeps. With budget considerations becoming an increasing topic of discussion our advocacy efforts are doubling down in order to fight the sweep.

Let me know if you have any questions.

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