

**Sigmon Public Affairs
Weekly Legislative Report
APCO-NENA
April 18, 2017**

Weekly Summary

Day 100 of the 105 day Regular Session

We are down to the last week of the legislative session. Last Wednesday was the cutoff for bills to pass out of the opposite House. This week both the House and Senate will be working on concurrence and final passage of bills.

So far, there have been no serious budget negotiations between the House and Senate. With Sine Die scheduled for Sunday, it appears we are heading into a special session!

Activity on Priority Bills / Issues of Interest

ESSB 5048 2017-2019 proposed Operating Budget. (Support)

Both the House and Senate versions of the budget restore \$221,000 in revenue to the E911 Account that had been previously appropriated to the State Patrol in 2015-2017 biennium.

Neither budget uses E911 revenue for non- E911 purposes.

Both budgets provide additional general fund revenue to help fund some rural counties for Next Gen E911.

SB 5573 Increasing membership of the State Interoperability Executive Committee. (Support)

SSB 5573 The bill was delivered to the Governor on April 14th. He has until April 20th to take action on it.

SHB 1258 Travis Alert (Monitor)

The bill has been signed by both the House Speaker and President. It will be on the Governor's desk in the next couple of days.

ESHB 1594 (Public Records Admin.)

The bill passed out of both the House and Senate and will be delivered to the Governor in the next couple of days.

How long does the Governor have to sign a bill?

Bills that are delivered to the Governor more than 5 days before the Legislature adjourns have five calendar days (excluding Sundays) to be acted on. Bills that are delivered to the Governor fewer than five days before the Legislature adjourns have 20 days (excluding Sundays) to be acted on.

<http://www.awcnet.org/Advocacy/Newsandupdates/LegislativeIssues/TabId/677/ArtMID/1863/ArticleID/1748/Pending-special-session-budget-impasse-impacts-cities.aspx>

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Advocacy

Welcome to AWC's online library of *Legislative Bulletin* and *CityVoice* news articles and other updates.

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Pending special session, budget impasse impacts cities

Budget leaders from the House Democrats and Senate Republicans still aren't negotiating in the short time left before session is scheduled to end. Each side says the other's budget is not balanced, with Democrats saying, "so let's talk" and Republicans saying, "not until you reconcile yours." This leaves everyone with a stake in budget outcomes (cities included) on edge and vulnerable.

Their proposed budgets include key items of interest to cities across the state. Our "[Hot Sheet](#)" outlines what those are, how they differ, and what AWC prefers.

The spending levels of each budget differ: \$43.3 billion in the Senate and \$44.9 billion in the House. When leaders start negotiating, they typically work toward a compromise which would be somewhere in the middle of the \$1.6 billion difference.

We do not know when negotiations will occur and there could be more than one special session. When these critical negotiations occur, cities and other interests are most vulnerable. During the negotiations, your calls and contacts with your own legislators can be most impactful.

We do know they have to agree to an operating budget before the start of the new fiscal year on July 1. Without a passed budget, the state does not have a way of legally raising revenue and spending resources for the two years of the 2017-19 biennium.

We will keep you posted at critical times over the course of the expected special session(s). We again remind you to share your interests and concerns with your own legislators – many of whom may be home after the regular session ends on April 23. Most legislators will not return to Olympia until negotiations produce something for them to consider. Reach out, thank them for what they have done so far, and remind them of your needs and interests.

In the meantime, watch for further action on policy bills before the end of the regular session on April 23. Once session ends, the Governor will have 20 days to sign bills into law or veto them. Information on the Governor's action on bills is available [here](#).

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