

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

WEEK 12 | MAY 12, 2017



**ALABAMA  
STATE BAR**  
*Lawyers Render Service*

## MISSION

The Alabama State Bar is dedicated to promoting the professional responsibility, competence and satisfaction of its members, improving the administration of justice and increasing public understanding and respect for the law.

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## THIS WEEK

The 2017 Regular Session has begun winding down and days 25 and 26 this week were all about securing passage for legislation in its house of origin and continuing work on the pressing business of budgets and redistricting. In the House of Representatives on Tuesday, during a heated debate on court ordered redistricting, the more than 500 page legislation was requested to be read at length by Democrats. More than 16 hours later, after adjourning on Tuesday night at midnight and returning on Thursday morning, upon completion of the reading late Thursday, the bill was passed out of the House by the Republican majority. Shortly after, the House also concurred on the Senate's General Fund Budget and it was sent to the Governor's Office. Also this week, the Education Budget was passed out of the House, but was nonconcurred by the Senate and is in conference committee for further negotiation.

Other bills of interest moving this week include the historic tax credit and mandated coverage of autism therapy. The prison bill was also debated in House Judiciary Committee. Because of the House being precluded from other business due to the reading at length of redistricting legislation, not much occurred there. There should be a wave of movement next week in what may be the last week of this session. However, the last possible day is May 23, 2017. Thus far, there have been 422 bills introduced in the Senate and 602 in the House of Representatives.

The Alabama State Bar encourages all members to be aware of legislation that may impact court costs and fees. Access to justice is a priority. Please be aware of advertisements that may be occurring for local bills and those that may already be filed to use the courts as a fundraiser for non-court entities. We encourage you to be informed and notify us as well.

## LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

The Alabama State Bar provides legislative status reports concerning pending legislation that may be of interest to our members. The reports divide legislation into the following categories for your convenience: criminal, domestic relations, judicial, court costs, elections ethics and government relations (EEGR) and civil. To view these reports, [click here](#).

## LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

The House has adjourned until Tuesday, May 16 at 11:30 a.m.

The Senate has adjourned until Tuesday, May 16 at 2:00 p.m.

*For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the bar's  
Legislative Counsel Suzi Huffaker at [suzanne.huffaker@alabar.org](mailto:suzanne.huffaker@alabar.org) or (334) 549-2534.*