



Alabama State Bar LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Legislature convened on Tuesday for the second week of the 2018 regular session and then... winter arrived. Although Tuesday was brief, they did recognize the Medal of Honor winner and began the passage of legislation. According to the Constitution, a bill must receive three readings before it is eligible for final passage in its house of origin. Tuesday was the first day that a third reading was possible. On Wednesday, the statehouse was officially closed due to weather but on Thursday it was back to business with the postponed committee meetings from Wednesday being folded into the session day. There are now 264 bills in the House of Representatives and 197 bills in the Senate.

There is still an optimistic feeling as members work to move their priorities along. The Senate confirmations committee also met for the first time confirming members to Alabama's many boards and commissions. The Alabama Law Institute's partnership law update was passed out of the House and heads to the Senate. There was a bill to expand private judging and several tax bills introduced.

There were several more bills introduced this week affecting court costs. Please check the court cost tracking to see if these affect you or your clients. As always, the Alabama State Bar encourages members to be aware and follow bills that may affect access to justice and notify us of any you may be seeing advertised locally as well.

LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

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

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

The House has adjourned until Tuesday, January 23 at 3:00 p.m.

The Senate has adjourned until Tuesday, January 23 at 2:00 p.m.