



## What's Up in the Legislature

(January 12, 2008)

### LEGISLATURE

The 48<sup>th</sup> Legislature 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session convenes on Monday January 14. Governor Janet Napolitano will deliver her 2008 State of the State to a joint session of the Arizona State Legislature and to all Arizonans at approximately 1:30 p.m. Monday, January 14, 2008. (If you want the complete text of the State of the State, let me know and I will e-mail it to you.)

The Governor is expected to call for cuts and use of the rainy day fund to forestall the closure of any programs. The Legislature is calling for heavy cuts. (Senator Waring is saying that all university students should cover 40% of the university budgets without regard to their circumstances.)

Do not panic. Budgets have to be negotiated and no one wins everything.

### COMMITTEES

The committee on homeland security and property rights meets Thursday, January 17, in HHR 1 at 1:30 P.M. or upon adjournment. They are scheduled to hear Rep. Pearce's bill, HB 2063 (employer sanctions; federal citation; correction) that corrects an error in citing a federal code section number.

The Senate Committee on public safety and human services meets Thursday, January 17, at 9:00 A.M. in SHR 3. One of the bills on the agenda is Senator Miranda's SB 1052 (URS reduction; immigration; enforcement) that would reduce a city's revenue sharing by 10% if the city required police to enforce immigration laws.

The Senate committee on finance meets Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 1:30 P.M. in SHR 1. It will hear SB 1002 (state equalization property tax repeal). This bill would permanently repeal this tax that is in abeyance until 2010. Prime sponsor is Senator Waring, and the bill has the backing of the business community. However, opposition arises from people who do not feel now is the time to repeal any taxes.

### SENATE AND HOUSE DEADLINES

48th Legislature, 2nd Regular Session

#### JANUARY 2008

- Thursday 1/17 House 7-bill Introduction Limit Begins at 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday 1/22 Senate Bill Request Deadline (5:00 p.m.)
- Monday 1/28 Senate Bill Intro. Set Preparation Deadline (5:00 p.m.)
- House Bill Request Deadline (5:00 p.m.)

#### FEBRUARY 2008

- Monday 2/4 Senate Bill Introduction Deadline (5:00 p.m.)
- House Bill Intro. Set Preparation Deadline (5:00 p.m.)
- Monday 2/11 House Bill Introduction Deadline (5:00 p.m.)
- Friday 2/29 Last Day to Hear SBs in Senate Committees
- Last Day to Hear HBs in House Committees

#### March 2008

- Friday 3/28 Last Day to Hear SBs in House Committees
- Last Day to Hear HBs in Senate Committees
- April 2008 Friday 4/18 Last Day for Conference Committees (By House and Senate Rule)
- Saturday 4/26 Sine Die (By House and Senate Rule)

Remember that aside from the deadlines for bill introductions the Legislature has failed to meet these goals. With the shutdowns for budget work there may be even further delays. Look for the end of Session in June?

Quote of the Week comes from the AZ Republic's Political Insider. They report that Herb Guenther, director of the state Department of Water Resources, commenting on a legislative proposal to cut funding for his agency when the state is into its second decade of drought stated, "We would hate to be known as the Land of Dehydrated People, or, more appropriately, Mummyland."

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