

Legislative Update

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Under the “goat’s tail”



SB 294 is off to the House after passing the Senate on 3rd reading 29-21. Maybe a little closer vote than we wanted and it could be just as close in the House but none of that matters as long as it passes, if you get a moment fire off an email to [Representative Moffie Funk](#) for all her hard work getting us this far.

Our own Dave Depew reports that he believes the bonding bills are dead however, it looks like an infrastructure bill of approximately \$30 million has a chance to make it to the finish line. The GOP majority is currently waiting on the calculations from the Legislative Fiscal Services Division for HJR2, which will give them an idea of upcoming revenue trends.

Meanwhile, in a failed attempt to blast SB 338 to the House floor Talen, Puget Sound Energy, and the [Montana Environmental Information Center](#) put the screws to their corporate toadies in the House of Representatives and the motion failed 40-60. Apparently requiring extractive industries that come into Montana to harvest everything from coal to timber will be absolved of any harm done to communities and workers when they abandon their company towns. It creates an unfriendly “business atmosphere.” Can anyone say **ANACONDA COMPANY!**

Legislative watch list

Please contact your [MPEA staff](#) regarding bills on this list or bills you believe MPEA should be tracking. Bills tabled in committee appear in **bold red**. Bills vetoed by Governor Bullock appear in **bold green**.

Bills

- [HB 2](#) General Appropriations Act – 3rd reading scheduled for 04/21/2017.
- ~~**HB 13 State employee pay raise – tabled in committee 03/29/2017; DEAD**~~
- ~~**HB 14 Bonding program (Governor Bullock’s infrastructure bill) – tabled in committee 03/27/2017 although the House and Senate both have watered down versions of Governor Bullock’s infrastructure bill that might see their way to the governor’s desk.**~~
- ~~**HB 72 Increase university system supplemental contributions to TRS – tabled in (H) State Administration**~~
- [HB 94](#) Generally revise public safety officer standards/training council laws – passed 3rd reading of the Senate 04/20/2017 and sent to enrolling.
- ~~**HB 136 Actuarial funding for the Game Wardens’ and Peace Officers’ retirement system – tabled in House Appropriations 02/08/2017**~~
- ~~**HB 155 Eliminate election day as state holiday – tabled in (H) State Administration**~~
- ~~**HB 169 Tabled in House Business & Labor**~~

- ~~HB 181 Tabled in (H) Judiciary Committee~~
- ~~HB 185 Tabled in Committee~~
- ~~HB 202 Vetoed by Governor 3/02/2017~~
- [HB 208](#) Provide that it is unlawful to retaliate against public whistleblowers – signed by the Governor 04/20/2017.
- [HB 248](#) Revise anti-bullying laws – signed by the Governor 04/20/2017
- ~~HB 262 Vetoed by Governor 2/23/2017~~
- [HB 273](#) Generally revise concealed weapons laws – signed by the Governor 04/07/2017 chapter number assigned
- ~~HB 341 Generally revise state employee travel and per diem laws – heard in (H) State Administration 02/07/2017 – TABLED IN COMMITTEE~~
- ~~HB 354 Revise unemployment insurance retirement considerations – Tabled in (H) Business and Labor~~
- [HB 383](#) Provide actuarial required funding for Sheriffs' Retirement System – sent to enrolling 04/20/2017
- ~~HB 385 Missed deadline for general bill transmittal~~
- ~~HB 392 Creating the family and medical leave insurance act – Tabled in committee~~
- ~~HB 436 Require voter approval for employer contribution increases in retirement systems – Tabled in committee 02/24/2017~~
- ~~HB 464 Missed deadline for general bill transmittal~~
- ~~HB 439 Introduced by Representative Ron Ehli (R) HD 86 clarifying when a state employment receives additional comp for supervisory duty – missed deadline for appropriations bill transmittal; officially dead.~~
- [HB 473](#) Revise highway revenue laws – scheduled 2nd reading in the House 04/21/2017
- ~~HB 499 Require actuarial report using alternative assumption for investment earnings – Tabled in committee~~
- [SB 5](#) Revise INTERCAP loan program – Signed by the Governor and chapter number assigned 02/08/2017
- [SB 8](#) Revise requirements for interim committees to review advisory boards, reports – signed by the Governor, chapter number assigned 03/31/2017
- [SB 57](#) Clarify highway patrol funding sources and increase certain registration fees – concurred in the House on 3rd reading 04/19/2017; returned to the Senate with amendments 04/19/2017
- ~~SB 69 Tabled in committee~~
- [SB 85](#) Signed by President of the Senate and Speaker of the House and filed with the Secretary of State
- ~~SB 87 Revise campaign finance report laws – Tabled in (S) State Administration~~
- [SB 99](#) Prohibit enforcement of federal firearms laws by Montana public employees – Signed by the President of the Senate 04/12/2017
- ~~SB 141 Tabled in (S) State Administration Committee~~
- ~~SB 148 Tabled in (S) Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs Committee~~
- [SB 152](#) Revise laws relating to state employees – Signed by the Governor 04/10/2017
- ~~SB 211 Revise laws governing MUS board of regents' acceptance of gifts – Tabled in Committee~~
- [SB 294](#) Generally revise laws related to state government pay plans – passed the Senate on 3rd reading 04/19/2017
- ~~SB 326 Introduced by Senator Brian Hoven (R) SD 13 revise worker laws to ban certain criminal history in job applications – tabled in (S) Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs~~
- [SB 368](#) Generally revise campaign practices laws – 3rd reading scheduled in the House 04/21/2017

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- ~~SB 369 Create a study commission on the state fund – tabled (S) Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs 03/24/2017; hopefully gone for good~~
- ~~SB 371 Revise workers' compensation insurance and dissolve state fund – tabled 03/24/2017 (S) Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs~~

Contact your legislator

Legislators respond when they hear from their constituents. That's you! Not sure about your House or Senate district, no problem Legislative Services has a webpage for that [find a legislator](#). Call or email individuals or entire committees through the Legislative Services Division online [contact your legislator](#) page.

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