Arise Bills of Interest
2016 Regular Session
May 19, 2016

Arise followed legislation related to our issue priorities throughout the Alabama Legislature's 2016 regular session, which ended May 4. "(CA)" indicates a proposed constitutional amendment. Measures in blue *are Arise priority legislation. Measures in* yellow *have been enacted. Measures in* red with white text *are Arise policy priorities that have been enacted.*

Adequate state budgets

ETF and GF budget bills:

HB104/SB125 (Clouse/Pittman) – FY 2017 General Fund budget. *HB104 is no longer moving.* **SB125 was enacted as Act 2016-116 when the Senate and House overrode the governor's veto. The budget leaves Medicaid $85 million short of the amount needed to avoid significant cuts, the agency says.**

HB117 (Poole) – FY 2017 Education Trust Fund budget. **Enacted as Act 2016-199.**

Health care:

HB226/SB203 (Rowe/Bussman) – Creates the Alabama Dental Service Program to incentivize dentists to serve Medicaid patients and underserved communities. *HB226 is no longer moving.* **SB203 was enacted as Act 2016-261.**

HB361 (Knight) – Limits Medicaid administrative cost payments to regional care organizations. *Died in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

HB498/SB285 (Mooney/Orr) – Adds new identity and asset verification rules for Medicaid, reduces the TANF lifetime limit to three years, adds photo ID rules for EBT cards, and adds other new SNAP and TANF requirements. *HB498 died in the House State Government Committee. SB285 was indefinitely postponed in the Senate.*

HB530/SB397 (Weaver/Reed) – Extends the certification deadline for Medicaid regional care organizations. **HB530 was enacted as Act 2016-377.** *SB397 is no longer moving.*

SB182 (Beasley) – Expands Medicaid eligibility under the Affordable Care Act. *Died in the Senate Finance & Taxation General Fund Committee.*

SB268 (Ward) – Suspends, rather than terminates, Medicaid eligibility for otherwise eligible people during incarceration. **Enacted as Act 2016-418.**

Other budget measures:

HB42/SB10 (Johnson, K./Allen) – Adopts a compact to urge a nationwide convention to add a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution. *HB42 was indefinitely postponed in the House. SB10 was indefinitely postponed in the Senate.*

HB49 (Poole) – Directs certain court costs and fees to the General Fund. *Died in the House Judiciary Committee.*

HB84/SB395 (Johnson, K./Brewbaker) – Creates "education savings accounts" funded by state education money that eligible parents can use to pay for private school. *HB84 was indefinitely postponed in the House. SB395 died in the Senate Education & Youth Affairs Committee.*

HB102/SB124 (Sells/Pittman) – FY 2017 Children First Trust Fund budget. *HB102 is no longer moving.* **SB124 was enacted as Act 2016-108.**

HB313/SB287 (Clouse/Pittman) – Allows the state to sell bonds to build four new prisons. *HB313 died in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee. SB287 passed the Senate and House and went to a conference committee to resolve the differences. The Senate approved the conference report, but the bill died when the House did not vote on the report.*

HB351 (Todd) – Appropriates $5 million from the Education Trust Fund for child care subsidies. *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

HB438 (Hanes) – Forbids DHR to seek a waiver of federal SNAP work requirements for able-bodied childless adults and requires DHR to create a work training program for recipients. *Indefinitely postponed in the House.*

HB523 (Scott) – Requires local governments to report annually to the Legislature on business tax breaks. *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

HB569/SB188 (Clouse/Orr) – Uses Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlement money to repay the General Fund rainy day account and Alabama Trust Fund, pay for roads, and fund Medicaid. *HB569 passed the House but died in the Senate Finance & Taxation General Fund Committee. SB188 was indefinitely postponed in the Senate.*

SB15 (Ward) – Moves about $400 million earmarked for mental health, the Department of Human Resources and other services to the General Fund. *Indefinitely postponed in the Senate.*

SB16 (Sanford) – Creates a new formula for distributing recurring revenues to the Education Trust Fund and General Fund. *Died in the Senate Finance & Taxation Education Committee.*

SB129 (Sanford) – Transfers $181 million to the Education Trust Fund from the ETF Budget Stabilization Fund and ETF Advancement and Technology Fund. *Died in the Senate Finance & Taxation Education Committee.*

SB130 (Sanford) – Redistributes use tax revenues from the Education Trust Fund to the General Fund. *Died in the Senate Finance & Taxation Education Committee.*

SB208 (Orr) – Requires annual reports on economic tax incentives and hearings on the reports every two years. **Enacted as Act 2016-389.**

Tax reform

Grocery tax bills:

HB305 (Knight) – Ends the state sales tax on groceries over four years. *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

HB306 (Knight) – Ends the state sales tax on groceries starting Sept. 1, 2016. *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

HB307 (Knight) – Ends the state sales tax on groceries and over-the-counter medicines and repeals the state's federal income tax deduction (CA). *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

SB272 (Dial) – Increases state sales taxes and use taxes and ends the state sales tax on groceries over two years. *Died in the Senate Finance & Taxation Education Committee.*

Health care:

HB191 (Clouse) – Extends the Medicaid hospital assessment through 2019. ***Enacted as Act 2016-299.***

HB223/SB78 (Beech/Dial) – Expands tax credits for rural physicians and dentists. *HB223 died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee. SB78 passed the Senate but died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

Other tax measures:

HB34 (McCutcheon) – Creates tax credits for increased use of state port facilities and for contributions to economic development organizations. ***Enacted as Act 2016-102.***

HB36 (South) – Creates a state tax credit for businesses with 75 or fewer employees that create new jobs paying more than $40,000 a year. ***Enacted as Act 2016-188.***

HB63, HB64, HB90 & HB91 (Greer) – Exempts certain income from defined contribution deferred compensation plans from state income tax. *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

HB92 (Greer) – Ends the state income tax exemption for defined benefit plans and exempts the first $50,000 of pension and annuity income. *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

HB179/SB75 (Patterson/Dial) – Expands state tax credits for hiring unemployed veterans. *HB179 died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee. SB75 passed the Senate but died in the House Ways & Means Committee.*

HB224 (Garrett) – Creates tax credits for certain contributions to a small business investment fund. *Passed the House but died on the Senate calendar.*

HB390 (Pringle) – Creates state tax credits for certain research and development activities. *Died in the House Technology & Research Committee.*

HB394 (McCutcheon) – Increases the state gasoline tax by 6 cents a gallon and allows for periodic increases. *Indefinitely postponed in the House.*

HB462 (Martin) – Increases the maximum business privilege tax from $15,000 to $24,500 and exempts taxpayers with less than $10,000 of state taxable net worth. *Died in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

HB505 (Williams, P.) – Suspends tax credits in any year when the Education Trust Fund or General Fund is prorated or level-funded. *Died in the House Ways & Means Education Committee.*

HB511 (Ledbetter) – Abates state and local property taxes for two years for new small businesses with 50 or fewer employees. *Died in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

HB556 (Ingram) – Increases motor vehicle title fees and dedicates the revenue to prison construction. *Indefinitely postponed in the House.*

HB560 (McCutcheon) – Increases the state gasoline tax by 6 cents a gallon and allows for periodic increases (CA). *Died in the House Transportation, Utilities & Infrastructure Committee.*

SB136 (Figures) – Creates an additional 5-mill state property tax for Medicaid (CA). *Indefinitely postponed in the Senate.*

SB202 (Coleman-Madison) – Requires "combined reporting," treating parent corporations and subsidiaries as one entity for corporate income tax purposes. *Died in the Senate Finance & Taxation Education Committee.*

SB345 (Singleton) – Exempts subscription video services and video on-demand services from state rental, sales and use taxes. *Died in the Senate Fiscal Responsibility & Economic Development Committee.*

SB355 (Pittman) – Ends one insurance premium tax credit and revises other credits. *Died in the Senate Finance & Taxation General Fund Committee.*

"Ban the box" legislation

HB412 (Givan) – Bars employers from inquiring into a job applicant's conviction history until after a conditional offer, unless a conviction is directly related to the job. *Died in the House State Government Committee.*

SB327 (Ross) – Bars the state from inquiring into an applicant's conviction history until after a conditional job offer, and bars a licensing authority from such an inquiry until an applicant is found otherwise qualified, unless a conviction is directly related to the job or license. *Indefinitely postponed in the Senate.*

Death penalty reform

HB423/SB237 (Hall/Brewbaker) – Creates a state Innocence Inquiry Commission. *HB423 died in the House Judiciary Committee. SB237 passed the Senate but died in the House Judiciary Committee.*

HB486/SB153 (Coleman/Sanders) – Imposes a three-year death penalty moratorium. *HB486 died in the House Judiciary Committee. SB153 died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.*

SB117 (Sanders) – Ends judicial override of jury sentencing recommendations in capital cases. *Died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.*

SB152 (Sanders) – Repeals the death penalty in Alabama. *Died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.*

SB154 (Sanders) – Bars the death penalty for defendants who were under age 18 at the time of commission of a capital crime. *Died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.*

SB155 (Sanders) – Establishes procedures to determine if a capital defendant has an intellectual disability and is ineligible for a death sentence. *Died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.*

Housing Trust Fund

HB341 (Todd) – Increases the mortgage recording fee and distributes part of the revenue to the Alabama Housing Trust Fund. *Died in the House Ways & Means General Fund Committee.*

Payday/title lending reform

HB296 (Garrett) – Repeals the Deferred Presentment Services Act under which payday loans are now governed. *Died in the House Financial Services Committee.*

HB297 (Garrett) – Reduces the interest rate for payday loans and extends the repayment period. *Indefinitely postponed in the House.*

HB326/SB301 (Todd/Orr) – Caps interest rates on title loans at 36 percent a year. *HB326 died in the House Financial Services Committee. SB301 died in the Senate Fiscal Responsibility & Economic Development Committee.*

HB342/SB91 (Todd/Orr) – Reduces the interest rate for payday loans, extends the repayment period and allows installment payments. *HB342 died in the House Financial Services Committee. SB91 passed the Senate but died on the House calendar after the House Financial Services Committee, which approved a substitute that would not allow installment payments and that would allow higher interest rates and shorter repayment periods than the Senate version of SB 91 would.*

HB526 (Scott) – Caps interest rates on title loans and makes other regulatory changes. *Died in the House Financial Services Committee.*

Voting rights legislation

HB52 (Ball) – Requires election officials to send voters a written explanation if their absentee ballot is not counted for legal reasons. *Passed the House but died on the Senate calendar.*

HB72 & HB149/SB71 (Melton & Hall/Coleman-Madison) – Authorizes automatic voter registration and registration updates for people who apply for or renew a driver's license or non-driver ID card. *HB72 and HB149 died in the House Constitution, Campaigns & Elections Committee. SB71 died in the Senate Constitution, Ethics & Elections Committee.*

HB163 (Lindsey) – Requires counties to offer early voting for four to six days in the week before an election. *Died in the House Constitution, Campaigns & Elections Committee.*

HB222/SB186 (England/Coleman-Madison) – Expedites voting rights restoration. *HB222 is no longer moving.* **SB186 was enacted as Act 2016-387.**

HB237 (Givan) – Defines moral turpitude for purposes of voter disqualification. *Died in the House Constitution, Campaigns & Elections Committee.*

HB245 (McClammy) – Automatically restores voting rights for almost all people convicted of a crime of moral turpitude upon release from incarceration. *Died in the House Constitution, Campaigns & Elections Committee.*

HB259 (Moore, M.) – Authorizes automatic voter registration (with opt-out option) for people who apply for or renew a driver's license or non-driver ID card. *Died in the House Constitution, Campaigns & Elections Committee.*

HB268/SB231 (Jones/Ward) – Reduces the number of crimes of moral turpitude for purposes of voter disqualification. *HB268 passed the House and Senate and went to a conference committee to resolve the differences. The House approved the conference report, but the bill died when the Senate did not vote on the report. SB231 was indefinitely postponed in the Senate.*

HB303 (Scott) – Requires registrars to notify all living people who are being purged from the voter list. *Died in the House Constitution, Campaigns & Elections Committee.*

SB156 (Sanders) – Allows voter registration on any day a board of registrars maintains office hours, including Election Day. *Died in the Senate Constitution, Ethics & Elections Committee.*

SB293 (Sanders) – Allows voter registration for any otherwise eligible voter who is not serving a prison sentence for a felony conviction. *Died in the Senate Constitution, Ethics & Elections Committee.*

SB302 (Smitherman) – Requires counties to offer early voting before all elections, including on Saturdays before statewide elections. *Died in the Senate Constitution, Ethics & Elections Committee.*

Other subjects

HB70/SB185 (Melton/Coleman-Madison) – Creates a state minimum wage and indexes it to the cost of living (CA). *HB70 died in the House State Government Committee. SB185 died in the Senate Fiscal Responsibility & Economic Development Committee.*

HB71 (Melton) – Creates a state minimum wage and indexes it to the cost of living. *Died in the House State Government Committee.*

HB150 (Hall) – Creates a state Equal Pay Commission to study pay disparities and recommend policies to combat them. *Died in the House State Government Committee.*

HB174 (Faulkner) – Forbids cities and counties to create their own minimum wage or paid leave requirements. **Enacted as Act 2016-18.**

HB258/SB402 (Scott/Melson) – Requires certain individual tax preparers to register with the Department of Revenue. *HB258 was indefinitely postponed in the House. SB402 passed the Senate but died on the House calendar.*

HB295 (Clarke) – Forbids wage discrimination against women and forbids retaliation against employees who bring such complaints. *Died in the House Commerce & Small Business Committee.*

HB446/SB349 (Jones/Ward) – Changes and clarifies provisions of the 2015 prison reform law related to parole, probation, release dates and community corrections. *HB446 died in the House Judiciary Committee. SB349 passed the Senate but died on the House calendar.*

SB408 & SB419 (Sanders) – Requires courts to consider alternatives to incarceration for defendants unable to pay fines or court fees. *SB408 and SB419 died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.*