

# Week Five

## AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL.....

Great news! The Marketplace Fairness Act was reintroduced Thursday, February 14, in both the House and the Senate. What a great Valentine's Day present for hardworking small businesses. We need to make sure Members of Congress, both new and old, know e-fairness is still an urgent priority for America's small businesses and communities.

Please take a moment to [send your Members of Congress an email](#) urging them to ensure the Marketplace Fairness Act passes in 2013.

Inaction by Congress means online-only retailers will continue to receive a government-sanctioned tax advantage. Our businesses, employees, and communities will pay the price. **While some states are starting to collect sales taxes from Amazon and other online retailers, only federal legislation will fully level the playing field.**

[Send a message to Congress today:](#) **No more picking winners and losers.** Tell Congress to make 2013 *the year* all retailers are treated equally.

We've worked toward passage of federal e-fairness for a long time. This is our chance to finally level the playing field for Main Street.

We sincerely appreciate your hard work and continued support.

[Please take a few minutes to reach out to your Members of Congress today.](#)

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## *Bills of Interest this Week ...*

### *Action this week ....*

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

**HB 1018** by Rep. Jim Nickels was defeated by a vote of 8-10 in the House Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee yesterday. We opposed this bill that would increase the maximum potential unemployment benefits in a benefit year from 25 to 26 times the worker's weekly benefit amount.

#### EMINENT DOMAIN

**HB 1192** by Rep. Kim Hammer would prohibit improvement districts from using the power of eminent domain to acquire lands or rights-of-way for their use. It received a Do Pass recommendation from the House Judiciary Committee yesterday and will likely be considered by the full House next week.

#### INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

**HB 1259** by Rep. Robert Dale provides that persons working as independent contractors for an employer are "employees" and persons who report to IRS money paid to an independent contractor are "employers" for purposes of the Division of State New Hire Registry. I have received a number of comments about this bill and have expressed your concerns to Rep. Dale. At this point, Rep. Dale

does not plan to pursue this legislation in its current form.

## *Bills of Interest Filed this week .....*

Bill

Number Discription Sponsors

HB1285	TO ENCOURAGE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS BY CREATING A SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPTION FOR DISASTER-PREPAREDNESS SUPPLIES FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.	Lea
HB1280	CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION AGAINST CERTAIN NOVELTY LIGHTERS.	Kizzia
HB1368	TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING THE PARTIES QUALIFIED TO HOLD A PERMIT ISSUED TO A PUBLICLY TRADED CORPORATION OR TO A CORPORATION THAT HOLDS MULTIPLE PERMITS; TO REQUIRE THAT AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER OR DIRECTOR BE IDENTIFIED.	Vines
SB268	TO CLARIFY THE IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL TO PURCHASE PSEUDOEPHEDRINE AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.	J. English
SB291	AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE COLLECTION OF CREDIT CARD SURCHARGES.	J. English

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

State Senators: 501-682-2902 501-682-2902

State Representatives: 501-682-6211 501-682-6211

To view schedules, calendars, bill information and

legislator information, visit: [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us)

To view live stream video and audio from the Arkansas

House of Representatives, visit [www.arkansashouse.org](http://www.arkansashouse.org)

## *Plan on Attending Retail*

### *Day on the Hill!*

*April 9, 2013*

*New DATE!*

9:00 AM - Meet at Capitol Hill Apartments Lobby for name tags and instructions for the day.

10:00 AM - Attend House and Senate Committee Meetings and remind your local legislator to join you for lunch at Capitol Hill Lobby.

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM - Lunch with your Legislators and Constitutional Officers

1:30 PM ..... Until - Watch action on the House and Senate Floor. You may send for your legislator to come out to talk if you have information you need to pass along about certain bills.

Remember to extend an invitation to all in your company that would be able and willing to join us.