

Week Three

This week started off slow and actually ended slow. At this time in the last General Session there were just a few less bills filed.

I have had a discussion with the Sponsor of the bill that would ban single use sacks from grocery and c-stores and he has promised me he would not run it. He said he was putting it out for the public to see what is happening in out states.

Bills of Interest Filed this Week ...

- House Bill 1018 House Sponsor: Nickels, Jim Increases maximum potential unemployment benefits in a benefit year from twenty-five to twenty-six times the worker's weekly benefit amount; increases maximum eligibility for shared work plan compensation to twenty-six weeks.

I don't believe this bill will get anywhere but we will continue to watch it.

- House Bill 1234 House Sponsor: Williams, Darrin Eliminates the sales tax on food if the DFA Director determines that state payments to certain bonds, funds, and other expenses over the previous six months has declined by \$35 million.

This is the companion bill to SB135 that Sentor Rapert filed. SB135 does not the the trigger that this bill does.

- House Bill 1218 House Sponsor: Jean, Lane Reduces the sales tax on manufacturers' utilities from 2.625% to 1% in 2013; exempts those utilities entirely from sales tax in 2014 with the exception of the 1/8 cent conservation tax and the 1/2 cent temporary sales tax for highways.
- House Bill 1206 House Sponsor: Lowery, Mark Exempts trade service fees or deductibles from sales tax, when the fees or deductibles are charged pursuant to a contract.
If your companies sells extended warranties please read the full bill and let me know your thoughts.

To look up any bill, to get the full text, go to:

<http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2013/2013R/Pages/Home.asp>

[x](#)

Pharmacy

There were several pharmacy bills filed this week. We will be doing a **Pharmacy** conference call at

9:30 AM (Central Time) on Monday morning, February 4th to discuss some bills that were filed this week.

Here are the bills we will discuss: (Particularly SB149 and HB1186)

SB 149

Files, Jake

Allows pharmacists to dispense lower cost interchangeable biosimilar drugs in prescriptions for a biological product after first informing the prescription holder; requires notification to the prescribing physician of the substitution.

HB 1186

Malone, Stephanie

Removes the dispensing restrictions for pseudoephedrine that prohibited the sale of more than three packages, changes identification requirements for purchasers, and specifies that the verification system must share data.

HB 1185

Wright, Marshall

Authorizes pharmacists to substitute a therapeutically equivalent drug that is at a lower cost to the patient, when given authorization in the prescription.

HB 1184

Wright, Marshall

Requires the State Board of Pharmacy to prepare a list of specialty prescription drugs that require special handling, administration, inventory management, or patient support; provides regulations for pharmacy compliance.

What to expect next week!

Grocery

I am working with Rep. Mary Broadaway to expand the distribution days to SNAP recipients. We have found out that the Department of Human Services has the right to change the distribution days with out legislation. The department was very open to talk.

General Information

The pace of having bills filed with pick up and I know we will have to play defense on most but we will support others.