

## Legislative Update – Week of April 26, 2021

### Summer is coming...so is sine die

The budget is up in both House and Senate Finance Ways and Means next week. This signals the true beginning of the end of the first half of the 112<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. The house speaker has told multiple sources that he plans to work through the weekend to do his best to adjourn as soon as possible. There are more than 500 bills on the calendar for next week. The Lt. Governor has been quoted saying he thinks adjournment will be the first week of May.

### Updates

#### [SB 482 HB 752](#)

Specifies that the dual enrollment program shall award the in-state tuition and mandatory fees cost up to a maximum amount for the first four courses taken and makes other related changes. Requires TSAC's board of directors to determine the award per credit hour for the fifth through tenth courses taken under a dual enrollment grant. This is before the budget in both the House and Senate.

#### [SJR 1](#)

Provides for selecting the attorney general and reporter for the state with nomination by the supreme court and confirmation by the general assembly. This constitutional amendment has not been placed on the calendar in the House and does not look likely to pass this session.

#### [SB 751 HB 142](#)

This is the Governor's TANIF bill that is set to pass.

### Items to Watch this Week

#### *Criminal Law*

#### [SB 667 HB 880](#) (Massey/ Terry)

Excludes from the definition of "marijuana," the cannabis plant or its derivatives if a person in possession of the cannabis or derivatives retains proof that a licensed doctor or doctor of osteopathic medicine has diagnosed the person or the person's child, legal ward, conservatee, or spouse, with a debilitating medical health disease. Requires the cannabis or its derivative to be legally obtained to treat the debilitating medical health disease from a licensed medical marijuana dispensary, in a jurisdiction where the sale of the cannabis or its derivative is lawful and for (1) the cannabis or its derivative to be contained in the original packaging and labeled by the dispensary for medical use; and (2) the cannabis or its derivative not to be in a form intended to be smoked or inhaled as a vapor, including vape or vaporization pens and cartridges and; (3) for the person in possession of such to have no more than a 30-day supply.

The bill is set to be heard in House Criminal Justice on Tuesday at 1:30; watch it [here](#).

## *Workforce*

### [HJR 72](#) (Todd)

This bill would put the "Right to Work" on the next gubernatorial election for consideration as a constitutional amendment. The resolution reads that it "establishes" the right to work regardless of the status of affiliation with any labor union or employee organization. The amendment has faced some opposition from republican union members saying that a constitutional amendment could conflict with the United States Constitution and is not needed with the statutes.

The bill will be heard on the House floor at 4:00 p.m. on Monday and seen [here](#).

## *Quarantine*

### [SB 221 HB 370](#) (Hensley/ Casada)

Establishes information that county health departments are required to publish on the department of health website within five business days of quarantine and disease tracking procedures being implemented in response to a state of emergency and weekly after that until the state of emergency is no longer active. Includes total tests administered, total positive tests, types of tests used, number of cases with the type of each test, number of asymptomatic cases, and the number of symptomatic cases. Requires, in the event of a declared state of emergency due to a disease outbreak, epidemic, or pandemic, that each county health department report to the Department of Health (DOH) within five days of quarantine and any disease communication tracking procedures being implemented in response to the state of emergency and to report weekly after that, information relative to the form of testing utilized, the number of cases and the related symptoms, if any, of the disease. Requires the DOH to publish the necessary, reported information from each of the counties on the DOH's website so that the data is publicly accessible.

The bill will be heard in House Government Operations at 1:00 p.m. on Monday and can be seen [here](#).