



NEWS:

General Assembly's 2018 Legislative Action Wraps Sunday

JUNE 29, 2018 -- The 149th General Assembly will end its traditional legislative session tomorrow at midnight, continuing into the early morning hours of July 1st under "special session." The practice gives the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tem of the Senate the ability to call their respective chambers back into session at their discretion.

The tenure of the 149th General Assembly will continue through Election Day, with the new 150th General Assembly starting immediately afterward and meeting for the first time in January.

With the clock ticking down, dozens of bills remain in the legislative pipeline. Any measures not winning approval by the time lawmakers leave Legislative Hall Sunday morning will have to be reintroduced and start the process anew next year.

Here a few of the noteworthy bills awaiting consideration:

Senate Bill 266 (Sponsors: **Sen. Anthony Delcollo & State Reps. Dave Wilson & William Carson):** This measure would allow the Department of Agriculture to adopt any policies and regulations necessary to permit the cultivation of industrial hemp, positioning Delaware to immediately launch such efforts should legislation pending in Congress to repeal federal hemp restrictions be enacted.

House Bill 427 & House Bill 428 (Sponsors: **Rep. Osienski, et al.):** These bills would impose an annual fee on certain aircraft and a tax on aviation fuel, directing the funds to the Transportation Trust Fund to be used to upgrade aviation facilities statewide.

House Substitute 1 for House Bill 198 (Sponsors: **Rep. Lyndon Yearick, et al.**): This bill seeks to allow the tasting and limited sale of craft alcoholic beverages at farmers' markets.

House Bill 165 (as amended) (Sponsors: **Reps. Baumbach & Deborah Hudson, et al.**): This bill would remove Delaware from the short list of six states that presently prohibit wine from being shipped directly to consumers' homes.

Senate Bill 200 (Sponsors: **Sen. Lopez, Rep. Ron Gray, et al.**): This bill would prohibit drilling for oil or natural gas in Delaware's Coastal Zone and territorial waters.

Senate Bill 197 (Sponsors: **Rep. Lavelle, et al.**): This act would provide mandatory expungement eligibility to individuals who were convicted of the possession, use or consumption of marijuana prior to Delaware's decriminalization of these offenses.

House Substitute 1 for House Concurrent Resolution 34 (Sponsors: **Rep. Kevin Hensley, et al.**): This concurrent resolution would establish a task force to investigate the cost of special education and make recommendations related to cost efficiency.

Senate Bill 239 (Sponsors: **Sen. Hansen, Rep. Rich Collins**): This legislation is intended to curtail littering and illegal dumping through enhanced penalties and the creation of the Litter Investigation and Enforcement Fund, financed through restitution paid by offenders.

House Bill 157 (Sponsors: **Rep. Jeff Spiegelman, et al.**): This bill would authorize the use of "airbows" -- a weapon that shoots arrows pneumatically -- for hunting deer in place of a shotgun during any shotgun deer season.

House Bill 73 (Sponsors: **Rep. Ruth Briggs King, et al.**): This bill would require elected and paid appointed government officials in Delaware -- who are also employed by any state agency, education, or other institution, or any other political subdivision of this state -- to disclose such employment to the Public Integrity Commission (PIC) to ensure such officials are not receiving dual compensation for overlapping hours of work

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