



# Legislative Report

By Timothy S. Bramlet

TOI Legislative Consultant

*Expect action to come late this spring*

**W**ELL, AS YOU READ this article, we are in the middle of February, usually when the height of activity gets underway in the State Capitol. We would normally by now see a few thousand new bills introduced, committee hearings underway, and a budget for the coming new year starting to take shape.

But it's 2016, and those things just aren't happening yet. And they're not expected to any time soon. It is now anticipated that most legislative action, at least the heavy duty stuff, won't take place until the final month of session in May.

The House and Senate have scheduled all of five

days for session in the entire month of February, one of which is reserved for the Governor's budget presentation on the 17th. And the House has slated only three days in March for session. So even if there was a willingness to tackle the meatier issues, the General Assembly won't be around for all intents and purposes until April to get them done.

The big news stories today center around the lack of a state budget and the feud between Republican Governor Bruce Rauner and the Democrat-controlled legislature. And until that logjam is broken, there's little need for rank and file lawmakers to be hanging around. But that also diminishes the chances for more run-of-the-mill legislative matters to be addressed. And it increases the chances that legislation—both major as well as that which is less earth-shattering—could be rushed through the process in a fairly hasty fashion come May.

Later this month marks the Governor's address to a joint session of the Illinois General Assembly to unveil his fiscal year 2017 budget (which should be a tricky endeavor given there is no fiscal year 2016 budget!). It will also feature the deadline for introduction of new bills in both chambers. And we anxiously await seeing the legislative versions of the proposals put forth by the Lieutenant Governor's local government task force. We'll have plenty of time to digest those matters in March, when the Capitol will be pretty quiet.

In the meantime, next month's report will feature reports on all of these opening salvos as they unfold. Just don't expect any action on them until late.



## Think About It. . .

### END FUEL GELLING PROBLEMS!

#### No Matter How Cold it Gets

Winter Help for Diesel Fuel Bulk Storage, no additives or blended fuel — just use our Universal Fuel Filter Preheater™ for Bulk Tank Filters. Economical.

Keep the fuel flowing even in sub-zero temperatures without additives or blended fuel.

Fits 4" Diameter x 10" tall. 120V Thermostat controlled. Wraps the filter with heat. Stops Gelling in the filter even with #2 diesel fuel. Save with less costly #2 diesel. Keeps the fuel flowing. Helps reduce maintenance costs.

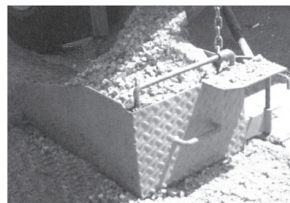
Use our vehicle Fuel Filter Preheaters™ too. Eliminates filter changes due to gelling fuel. Economical. Keeps plows, salt trucks and other vehicles & equipment working. Easy to install and remove.



Distributed by ETIP, Inc. North Aurora, IL 60542  
www.etipinc.com | sales@etipinc.com  
800-530-5064 | Fax 630-801-9569  
(Veteran Owned Small Business)

Reader Service No. 1952

### PIERCE PATCHER



- 1 MAN OPERATION
- LAYS DOWN GRAVEL & HOT OR COLD MIX
- LOWEST PRICE IN INDUSTRY
- BOLTS ON IN 10 MIN.
- BUILT BY A COMMISSIONER FOR COMMISSIONERS

SEE OUR VIDEO ON FACEBOOK - PIERCE PRODUCTS, LLC  
CONTACT : NORM PIERCE 815-222-7786

pierceprod@yahoo.com