



Legislative Report

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Legislature begins 2016 session, with 2015 still unfinished

THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY will soon begin its 2016 spring legislative session. But the 2015 session is still hanging on. Among unfinished business is passage of a FY 2016 state budget. Fortunately, the Motor Fuel Tax funds that had been tangled up in non-passage of a budget were finally allowed to flow to townships and other local governments with legislation passed and signed last month. Those allocations should be all but caught up by now.

Ironically, the Governor's budget address for FY 2017 is scheduled to occur on February 17, so it will be interesting to see if a budget for the current year is in place before a new one is laid out. Either way, we're in uncharted waters here, folks. And it continues to get more and more muddled as the days wear on.

Either way, there's going to be a 2016 spring session, and it gets underway this month. TOI is expecting a heavy agenda of defense with the Lt. Governor's task force on local government consolidation tipping things off in the new year. We'll be reviewing legislative proposals from there and other sources as the bill introductions pour in between now and the mid-February deadline.

Here are other important dates to note for the spring session:

January 27: Governor's State of the State address.

February 11 and 19: Deadline for introduction of bills in the House and Senate, respectively.

February 17: Governor's budget address.

April 6: Township Officials of Illinois Topics Day in Springfield

April 8: Deadline for bills to pass from committee in House of origin.

April 22: Deadline for passage of bills from House of origin.

May 13: Deadline for bills to pass from committee in opposite House.

May 27: Deadline for passage of bills from opposite House.

May 31: Adjournment



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