



Issue 15 – April 23, 2021

Legislative Update

Today is the 103rd day of the legislative session. Tuesday was the 100th day of session, a marker typically signaling efforts towards adjourning sine die. Although there appears to be no budget compromise in sight, there are speculations that lawmakers intend to adjourn in the next few weeks.

The Governor has signed 274 bills into law and vetoed two measures. There are currently 31 bills that have passed the legislature and await action from the Executive. There are 66 measures pending consideration from the Rules committee with 163 bills awaiting Committee of the Whole. 21 bills are ready for consideration in Third read, with the majority of those in the Senate.

On Monday, the Governor issued Executive Order 2021-09. The EO effectively bans “vaccine passports” by prohibiting cities, towns, counties, and state agencies from requiring documentation proving an individual’s COVID-19 vaccination status as a condition of entering a building, business, facility or location. Additionally, the measures stipulate that vaccination status cannot be used as a condition for receiving a service, permit, or license. EO 2021-09 is linked [here](#).

State Budget

Budget discussions are continuing, but the proposal to enact a flat income tax is facing headwinds due to concerns of some lawmakers and the efforts of city and town elected officials conveying the negative impacts to local services and budgets as a result of the plan.

Representative Regina Cobb (R-Kingman) appeared [on a KJZZ radio interview](#) on Tuesday to recap on the progress of the state budget and highlight the House proposed tax plan. During the interview, she dismissed concerns regarding impacts to local budgets and public safety services and suggested that any budget impacts would be offset by *Wayfair* and Prop 207 revenues. Her statements are not accurate - *Wayfair* collections will not be sufficient to offset the \$225M loss to cities and towns and her comments make clear there is a deep misunderstanding of the *Wayfair* legislation passed only a few years ago. That legislation simply authorized the taxation of

online and remote retail purchases that would have otherwise been taxed if it had been done at a bricks-and-mortar location in the state. In addition, prior to the passage of *o*, many of the large online retailers such as Amazon and Walmart were already remitting sales tax – in other words, this was not new revenue.

Tom Belshe appeared on the same [KJZZ show](#) the following day to rebut the claims by Representative Cobb. We ask you continue to talk with your legislators about the damaging impacts of this plan and suggest alternatives that would allow for the legislature to move forward with tax cuts that do not impact cities and towns.

Legislative Bill Monitoring

All bills being actively monitored by the League can be found [here](#).