



As the General Assembly works towards a mid-April adjournment, work this week focused on consideration of the remaining bills in committees of jurisdiction, and adjustments to the Governor's budget. Most committees have considered their last calendars, moving legislation to the House and Senate Finance Committees to await a decision on funding. Committees will take up 154 bills next week, a significant decrease from previous weeks, and additional Floor meetings have been scheduled for both the House and Senate, indicating the end of session is near.

Major legislative priorities of the Administration and the General Assembly continue to take shape through negotiations between the Chambers and interested parties. Bills concerning gun rights, franchise and excise tax calculations, education funding, certificate of need reform, and other pressing initiatives remain in the committee process until agreements can be made on the best pathway forward. In the remaining weeks of session, legislators will decide what version, if any, will succeed.

Yesterday was the filing deadline to qualify for the upcoming 2024 election. All 99 house seats will be up for the election and 16 seats in the Senate. Nine of the 13 Senate Republicans up for re-election this year face primary contests and one Senate Democrat has a primary opponent. In the House, 16 incumbents drew no opposition in either the primary or general election. Six members of the House have decided to retire or not run for seat again. Seventeen House Republicans have a primary opponent. Ten House Democrats have a primary opponent.