



First Session Deadlines

56th Legislature

UPDATED 01.03.17

December 2016	
December 9	Bill Request Deadline
January 2017	
January 3	12 noon Organization Meeting
January 19	Bill Filing Deadline
February 2017	
February 6	1st Regular Session of 56th Legislature Reconvenes at Noon
March 2017	
March 2	Senate deadline for SBs and SJRs to be reported from Senate committee
March 23	Deadline for third reading of House and Senate bills in house of origin
April 2017	
April 13	Senate deadline for HBs and HJR to be reported from Senate committee
April 27	Deadline for third reading of House and Senate bills in the Opposite Chamber
May 2017	
May 26	Sine Die Adjournment – no later than 5 p.m.

*NOTE: SCR0044 set the Third Reading deadline as March 16. Senate Rules adopted Jan. 3 set the Senate deadline for Third Reading of Senate bills as March 23. The House is expected to adopt the March 23 deadline as well.

<p>"Measure(s)" refers to bills and joint resolutions. Only House and Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions fall under these request and filing deadline dates. Concurrent Resolutions and Simple Resolutions may be requested and filed at any time until Sine Die Adjournment of the Regular Session.</p> <p>State statute dictates the bill filing period will begin "...on the 15th day of November of each even-numbered year and ending at the time of sine die adjournment the second regular session during the following even-numbered year..." The statute, Title 75, Section 26.11, requires members to "...have taken the required oath of office" before they are permitted to begin prefiling legislation. Traditionally, the House and the Senate will hold ceremonial sessions in mid-November for the members to take their oaths collectively, although members may have the oath administered individually.</p> <p>Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of both houses, a measure can be exempt from all cutoff dates in both houses.</p>	<p>Governor Signing Deadlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The governor has five days from the receipt of a bill, excluding Sundays, to sign or veto the measure while the Legislature is in session. If the governor takes no action, the bill becomes law. The governor has 15 days from sine die adjournment to dispose of matters passed during the final week of the legislative session. Assuming the Legislature adjourns May 31, the last Friday in May, the governor would have until June 15 to sign or veto measures. After sine die adjournment, bills not signed by the governor are considered vetoed (pocket veto). The governor is not required to give a reason for the veto.
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