

DAILY RECAP.

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📅 June 2, 2017

The Big News.

Budget
Negotiations
Ongoing Through
Weekend

The House and Senate are set to meet through the weekend carrying over into the final week of the 2017 regular session. Budget negotiations are ongoing, with the Senate slated to take up **HB1** by **Rep. Henry** (R-Metairie) and **HB 2** by **Rep. Neil Abramson** (D-New Orleans) tomorrow.

📅 June 3, 2017

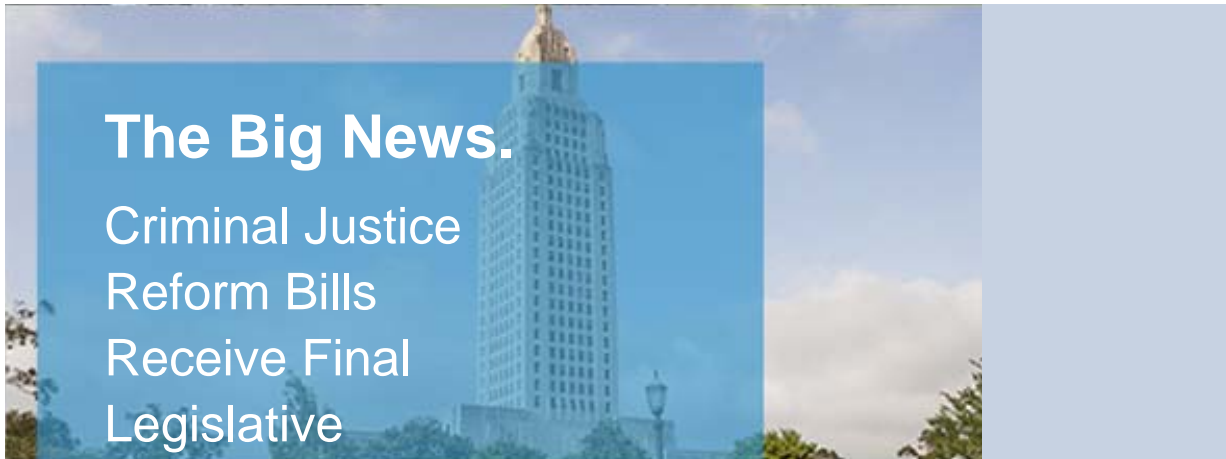
The Big News.

State Budget
Passes Senate;
Criminal Justice
Reform

The Senate met today to take up **HB1** by **Rep. Henry** (R-Metairie) and **HB 2** by **Rep. Neil Abramson** (D-New Orleans). HB 1, the state operating budget, passed the Senate chamber by a vote of 36-0 as amended. As the bill leaves the Senate, many state agencies face two percent cuts, but otherwise, many of the House reductions were restored. HB 2, the capital outlay bill, passed by a vote of 34-1 as amended. These two budget bills now head to the House for concurrence or rejection. If rejected, they will go to a conference committee to work out the differences between the two chambers before Sine Die on Thursday, June 8th, at 6pm.

The Senate Judiciary B Committee took up three bills that are supported by LABI. The first bill, **HB 249** by **Rep. Tanner Magee** (R-Houma) permits courts to modify or waive the monetary obligations related to an offender's conviction based on their determination of the offender's ability to pay. It was reported favorably as amended. The second bill, **HB 489** by **Rep. Walt Leger** (D-New Orleans) provides for the reinvestment of savings realized as a result of criminal justice reforms and requires the collection of certain data and information in this regard was reported favorably. Finally, **Rep. Julie Emerson's** (R-Carencro) **HB 519** was reported favorably. This bill will enhance the ability of ex-offenders to obtain occupational licenses. These bills will now continue through the process to the Senate floor.

June 5, 2017



Today was the last day to pass legislation in the regular order. At this point, both the House and Senate must suspend the rules with a 2/3 vote in order to pass additional bills. Most time will now be spent on conference committee reports, concurrences and resolutions before Sine Die this Thursday at 6pm.

The Senate passed three criminal justice reform bills today that are supported by LABI. The first bill, **HB 249** by **Rep. Tanner Magee** (R-Houma) permits courts to modify or waive the monetary obligations related to an offender's conviction based on their determination of the offender's ability to pay. It was reported favorably as amended by a vote of 22-9. The second bill, **HB 489** by **Rep. Walt Leger** (D-New Orleans) provides for the reinvestment of savings realized as a result of criminal justice reforms and requires the collection of certain data and information in this regard was reported favorably by a vote of 29-0. Finally, **Rep. Julie Emerson's** (R-Carencro) **HB 519** was reported favorably by a vote of 27-1. This bill will enhance the ability of ex-offenders to obtain occupational licenses. HB 489 and HB 519 will now head to the Governor's desk to be signed and HB 249 will be sent to the House floor for concurrence.

The Senate also took up **HB 468** by **Rep. Julie Emerson** (R-Carencro), which is a bill to deregulate services within the Louisiana Cosmetology Act. It was brought off of the calendar for debate where **Sen. Page Cortez** (R-Lafayette) first offered a compromise amendment that would follow a Mississippi law that lessens regulations, requiring hair braiders to be registered with the Cosmetology Board so they can operate in a legal environment. The amendment narrowly failed to pass. **Rep. Regina Barrow** (D-Baton Rouge) then offered an amendment that would gut the bill but Sen. Page Cortez swiftly returned the bill to the calendar so no vote was taken on this amendment. At this point in the process, the bill would have to overcome significant procedural hurdles in order to be heard again on the Senate floor.

Finally, as anticipated, the House sent the **major budget bills** to a conference committee for further negotiations. The House and Senate have just a few days to work out the differences between them before Sine Die on Thursday, June 8th, at 6pm.