

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Arizona Legislature remains in recess until April 13, 2020.

In discussions this past week with a number of members of the Arizona House, Senate and key staff, it is clear there is no consensus as to what if anything will happen in mid - April.

The Legislature passed a budget and accompanying bills necessary to keep state government functioning normally before the recess, so there is technically no reason to restart the legislative process other than the natural desire of some legislators (and interested stakeholders) to see certain bills passed into law as soon as possible.

If the Legislature does not restart the session, but instead chooses to adjourn *sine die*, the 2020 regular session will set the State record for most bills introduced and fewest bills signed into law.

If the Legislature does restart the session, no one knows if the House and Senate will pick up where they left off (unlikely), engage only on certain bills deemed important by legislative leadership, or use some other methodology to move legislation.

There is also new pressure on legislators to act on issues directly related to the virus phenomenon like delaying property tax payment deadlines, changing rules related to signature gathering for ballot initiatives, and more.

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