



## Arizona Pest Professional Organization Legislative Update February 9, 2018

Dear Supporter:

Day 33- Believe it or not, we are already nearly a month into the 2018 Legislative Session. To date, lawmakers have introduced 1,164 bills which, while it seems like a staggering amount of bills, is actually about the average number of bills we see every year. It is also important to note, that the majority of the bills introduced will not make it across the finish line.

As far as any new proposals this year, we shouldn't see any new pieces of legislation since Monday was the last day for House bills to be introduced without special permission. The new only new bills that will come forward are appropriation bills dealing with the FY2019 State Budget.

Next week brings us to one of the most important deadlines for the Session. Next Friday will be the last day for House consideration of House bills and Senate consideration of Senate bills. In other words, any bills that don't receive a committee hearing in their house of origin next week, with the exception of a Rules Committee hearing, will be effectively dead.

As for AZPPO...

No news on SB1373 (prohibition; pesticides), the bill that would prohibit the sale or use of the pesticides clothianidin, imidacloprid or thiamethoxam in Arizona or HB2145 (TPT; services; tuition surcharge), the bill to create a "service tax" for many service industries, including for structural pest control services. Both bills have yet to be scheduled for a hearing. As mentioned earlier, next week's committee deadlines should put the nail in the coffin for both bills.

We are meeting with the Department of Agriculture on Monday to discuss the governor's budget and the proposed \$2.1 million sweep of the Pest Management Trust Fund. It is our understanding that the sweep would drain most of the \$2.8 million fund balance.

Finally, we hope you are excited for next week's AZPPO Day at the Capitol. We continue to receive RSVPs from House and Senate members so we should have a great turnout.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

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