

It was an action packed week at the Indiana General Assembly.

Below are a few of this week's highlights:

House Committee on Roads and Transportation passed Rep. Soliday's (R-Valparaiso) bill, now being referred as the "Tesla bill", that would ban manufacturers of all electric vehicles from selling directly to the public. House Bill 1592 would allow auto manufacturers to continue selling directly to the public if they have obtained a license to sell new motor vehicles before July 1, 2015, and the manufacturers establish at least one physical location in Indiana that is a warranty repair service center Jan. 1, 2018. Under the amended bill, Tesla would be able to continue operating in Indiana through exempted status. This is the third consecutive year that the Indiana General Assembly has considered a bill that would drive Tesla from the state unless it adopted the franchise model.

Rep. Kirchhofer's (R-Beech Grove) House Bill 1578 passed the House Public Health Committee earlier this week, which would increase the tax on cigarettes from \$1.50 to \$2.50 and the legal smoking age to 21. Upon passage, the bill was reassigned to the House Ways and Means Committee, whose members have concerns about the sizable tax increase. During the 2016 session, the Indiana House included a cigarette tax as part of its road funding plan. The measure passed in the House but failed to receive a hearing in the Senate Health and Provider Services Committee.

Finally, the fight for Sunday alcohol sales was brought to the spotlight again this past week. Senate President Pro Tem David Long (R-Fort Wayne) thinks it's time to have a serious discussion on the issue again. Although grocery chains and convenience stores have advocated for the ban to be lifted, Long cautioned that the efforts may fail once more. This year's proposal creates a supplemental dealer's permit for Sunday sales. Liquor stores would not be required to obtain the permits.

Lawmakers have less than three weeks left before the each Chamber's Committee Report Deadline. Bills that fail to pass out of their assigned Committee will be considered dead.

Here are some upcoming deadlines for the 2017 Session.

- Tuesday, February 21-Senate/House Committee Report Filing Deadline
- Monday, February 27-Last day for 3rd Reading of Senate bills in the Senate
- Monday, February 27-Last day for 3rd Reading of House bills in the House
- Monday, April 10-Senate/House Committee Report Filing Deadline
- Thursday, April 13-Last day for 3rd reading of Senate bills in the House
- Thursday, April 13-Last day for 3rd reading of House bills in the Senate
- Saturday, April 29-Last day for adjournment (Sine Die)

Below is a summary of actions taken on this week on key bills included in your Bill Track List:

- **HB 1095 (Plastic-Coated Ammunition)** - Heard Thursday in House Public Policy Committee, and passed without an amendment.
- **HB 1123 (Study of Civil Forfeiture Laws)** – Passed Monday on the bills 3rd reading at a vote of 99-0.

The following bills on your Bill Track List are scheduled for a committee hearing next week:

- **HB 1189 (Crime Reporting Requirements)** – Scheduled for a hearing on Tuesday in House Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.
- **SB 438 (Bias Motivated Crimes)** – Scheduled for a hearing on Tuesday in Senate Corrections and Criminal Law.

As is our policy, we have attached an updated Bill Track List, with bills that are of interest to you. Your full Bill Track List is included this week.

If you would like to see a full copy of any bill, please visit <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2017/bills/> or let us know if you would like for us to furnish you with a hard copy of a particular bill. As you review the bills, please let us know of any questions or comments you have with the legislation that we may not be aware of.