Adjournment on Saturday

The 2016 Legislature has four days remaining in its 60-day session. The Chamber will continue to work on pro-jobs legislation through adjournment at midnight on Saturday. The following is a status report on key economic development issues that remain in play:

**Regulatory Reform Act**
Passed by the Senate earlier in the session, [SB 619](#), is under review by the House Judiciary Committee. If approved, the bill would change the current rule-making statute including mandating both an economic and a health impact statement on each proposed rule and requiring all proposed rules include data on whether the rule will be "overly burdensome" to business and industry.

**Drug-Free Workplace**
The bill, [SB 287](#), is pending before the House Judiciary Committee after passing the Senate 34-0. The bill would give employers the flexibility to develop policy on drug-testing in the workplace and remove the requirement that drug testing is only permitted in safety-sensitive positions or, if a reasonable suspicion of drug use exists.

**Nuisance Lawsuit Reform**
The bill, [SB 508](#) provides guidelines and structure to present nuisance lawsuits for lawfully permitted activity. The bill has been approved by the Senate and is before the House Judiciary Committee.

**Broadband Tax Credit**
[SB 16](#) was passed by the Senate 33-0 and is now before the House Finance Committee. The bill provides a tax credit to Internet service providers who expand their service to offer high-speed Internet to under-served areas throughout the state.

Senate Passes Crowdfunding Bill
The state Senate this morning approved, HB 2615, the "crowdfunding" bill. Already approved by the House, the bill now goes to Governor Tomblin for his approval. The measure facilitates a method for citizens to invest in a small business or idea that would otherwise struggle to obtain conventional or bank financing. The method is available in a number of other states.

"Uber" Bill Approved & Awaits Governor's Signature

HB 4228, the so-called "Uber Bill" has been passed by both Houses and will shortly be on its way to Governor Tomblin for his approval. The bill will allow users to order a vehicle and driver with their phone and handle the transaction through an online account.

"Brunch Bill" Clears House Judiciary Committee and sent to the House Floor

The bill, SB 298, will allow alcoholic beverages to be served in restaurants, private clubs and wineries beginning at 10 a.m. on Sundays. It was passed out of the House Judiciary Committee late last night and sent to the House Floor. Currently, alcoholic beverages cannot be served in the state until 1 p.m. on Sundays.

BILLS TO WATCH

TO REVIEW THE TEXT OF ANY BILL
CLICK THE BILL NUMBER

STATE SENATE

SB 1 --- Establishing WV Workplace Freedom Act; Passed Senate 1/21; Passed House 2/4; Passed Senate as amended by the House 2/5; Vetoed by the Governor 2/11; Veto overridden and passed by the Senate & House 2/12; Effective 90 days from passage
**SB 7** --- Establishing wrongful conduct rule prohibiting recovery of damages in certain circumstances; Passed Senate 2/11; Passed House 2/23; Senate concurred in House amendments and passed the bill 2/24; **Approved by the Governor 3/2; Effective 90 days from passage**

**SB 15** --- Adopting learned intermediary doctrine as defense to civil action due to inadequate warnings or instructions; Passed Senate 2/1; Passed House 2/16; **Approved by the Governor 2/25; Effective 90 days from passage**

**SB 287** --- Creating WV Safer Workplaces Act (Drug-Free Workplace); Passed Senate 2/29; to House Judiciary Committee

**SB 290** --- Assignment of wages by employers and payment by payroll card; Passed Senate 1/28; to House Judiciary Committee

**SB 298** --- Allowing restaurants, private clubs and wineries sell alcoholic beverages on Sundays; Passed Senate 2/16; amended by House Roads & Transportation Committee 3/3; Approved by House Judiciary and sent to the House Floor 3/7;

**SB 508** --- Relating to civil claims for private nuisance; Passed Senate 2/23; to House Judiciary Committee

**SB 619** --- 2016 Regulatory Reform Act; Passed Senate 2/2/27; to House Judiciary Committee

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**HB 2615** --- West Virginia Small Business Capital Act (crowdfunding); Passed House 2/15; Passed Senate 3/8; To Governor

**HB 4005** --- Repealing prevailing hourly rate of wage requirements; Passed House 1/27; Passed Senate 2/4; Vetoed by Governor 2/11; **Veto overridden and passed by the House & Senate 2/1; Effective 90 days from passage.**

**HB 4228** --- Relating to transportation network companies (such as Uber); Passed House 2/15; Passed Senate with amendments 3/1; House concurred in Senate amendments and amended the bill 3/4; Senate concurred in House amendments 3/5; To Governor

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