

## IFA Legislative Report

March 14, 2009

The legislature has completed the first quarter of session by meeting committee deadlines on Thursday, March 12. Any bill that is not out of committee is now dead for this session, unless, a miracle occurs before the end of session. The next three weeks we will hear bills on the House and Senate floor. The next deadline for legislation is April 3, which is the deadline for bills to get out of the house of origin.

IFA bills SB 1413, Sen. Sullivan is on third reading in the senate and HB 1087, Rep. Reitz is on second reading in the house. They can be called at any time.

Our new Governor, Pat Quinn, is presenting his budget on next Wednesday. It is believed that he will ask for an income tax increase to try to improve the state's financial disarray. There will probably be other tax increases presented to access stimulus dollars to improve roads and other infrastructure in the state of Illinois.

There is relief that our former Governor is not around. Governor Quinn has quite a challenge ahead but most legislators in both parties are willing to work with him to find a solution. Partisan politics is still strong but most folks know how complicated the state's future is. There are no easy answers!

This year will certainly be interesting but we may also get a few things accomplished.