



Friday Forum

3/19/2021

**Answers on Policy
and Budget
Coming Soon**

**OHBA Testifies on
HB 2578**

**Code Change
Deadline
Approaches**

OHBA Week in Review

Answers on Policy and Budget Coming Soon

The two big themes that drive a legislative session - policy and budget - are gaining clarity this week. The first major bill deadline will begin to set the pace at which legislation is heard, and the approval of the federal American Rescue Plan Act 2021 will begin to address many of the fiscal questions that were still fuzzy at the release of the quarterly revenue forecast in February.

Key deadlines for policy committees (not including Ways & Means, Revenue, Rules, or joint committees):

- **Friday, March 19** - Bills must have a committee work session scheduled in their first chamber.
- **Tuesday, April 13** - Bills must pass out of their first chamber committee.
- **Friday, May 14** - Bills must have a committee work session scheduled in their second chamber.
- **Friday, May 28** - Last day for work sessions on second chamber measures.
- **Monday, June 28** - Constitutional last day of legislative session

Bills that don't meet these deadlines are considered dead and will either be scrapped or reconstituted in a future session.

The big assumption made in the February revenue forecast was that more federal dollars would be infused into the state in 2021. Two federal stimulus packages in 2020 helped governments, businesses, and individuals persevere through COVID-caused unemployment and economic instability, and a third package signed by President Biden on Thursday will give state budget writers more room to work.

The revenue forecast on May 19 will drive the budget process in the final month of the fiscal year

as a new biennial budget is drafted and approved.

OHBA Testifies on HB 2578

Last Tuesday there was a public hearing on [HB 2578](#). This bill disallows, for purposes of personal income taxation, mortgage interest deduction for residences other than the taxpayer's principal residence, unless taxpayer sells residence or actively markets residence for sale. Scott Barrie testified on behalf of OHBA at this hearing.

(Click Icon to Play Video)



OHBA Code-Change Classes Continue as April 1 Deadline Approaches

OHBA Code-Change Classes kicked-off earlier this month with Mike Goodrich presenting an overview of the changes occurring this fall. Additional classes have been scheduled for the end of March and start of April to aid builders with design plan changes for new structural, mechanical, and HVAC ducts inside the home. Visit [the OHBA website](#) to sign-up for a future class.