

# FINE GEDDIE

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

## THE FINE GEDDIE REPORT

2020 REGULAR SESSION · WEEK SEVEN

MARCH 27, 2020

### *OUTLOOK ON LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE*

The Alabama Legislature is ending its spring break, but the fate of the 2020 Regular Session is unclear due to the novel Coronavirus. The House had a brief session yesterday attended by Speaker Mac McCutcheon (R—Huntsville). The House did not have a quorum but, pursuant to an emergency rule, adjourned and plans to convene on Tuesday. The Senate is scheduled to convene Tuesday, as well. If a quorum can be reached in each chamber, they will pass a resolution to return on April 28. If a quorum cannot be reached in either the House or the Senate, the session is effectively over as it will trigger an automatic running of the clock.

The Alabama Constitution dictates that the regular session cannot continue beyond May 18. All legislative agenda items except the absolute highest priorities will be unlikely to pass. Work has not begun on the state budgets, and existing revenue projections for the coming year need to be reevaluated.

### *CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE IN ALABAMA*

Alabama has been officially in a public health emergency since March 13. Gov. Kay Ivey's [emergency declarations](#) are available online, and she issued an updated health order this morning that updates the ban of non-work related to **10 or more people**, rather than 25 or more. It also listed various non-essential businesses ordered to close. The list included commercial gyms and bowling alleys to personal service businesses such as nail salons and everything in between. Note that Birmingham and Tuscaloosa issued orders for their cities earlier this week, both of which do not apply to essential businesses. Here is a snapshot look at the limits in place so far:

- **Delayed:** The filing date for **state income taxes** is now July 15. **Primary runoff elections** are July 14.
- **Schools:** In-person instruction for schools of any kind is banned for the remainder of the academic year.
- **Social Distancing:** Nonwork-related **gatherings of 10 or more people** are prohibited. **Daycare centers** are limited to a maximum of 11 children per room.
- **Closed:** **Restaurant dining rooms** are closed. Take-out/delivery is permitted. Alabama's **beaches** are closed.