

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update

2018 Regular Legislative Session

February 16, 2018

INFRASTRUCTURE REMAINS BIG TOPIC AT THE MS STATE CAPITOL

As we reach the half way mark of the 2018 Regular Legislative Session, conversations about infrastructure funding continues to intensify. The Senate has until February 27th to consider [House Bill 722](#) that passed the MS House of Representatives 118 to 0. As a reminder, House Bill 722 diverts 35% of the use tax to counties (15%), cities (15%), and MDA (5%). This revenue would be residual coming in on an annual basis without approval from the Legislature. If passed, counties would receive \$46.5 million this year.

Please contact your local Senate delegation and ask that they strongly consider this legislation. In addition, it is rumored that the MS Senate will reveal its infrastructure plan either Monday or Tuesday of next week. MAS is monitoring this closely. We will provide immediate feedback if a plan is revealed.

[CLICK HER FOR LINK TO SENATOR CONTACT INFO](#)

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT REDUCED

On Wednesday February 14, 2018, the Senate chamber passed [Senate Bill 2963](#). Senate Bill 2963 is the appropriation for the Department of Revenue. In section 8 of this bill, the reimbursement for the homestead exemption is funded at \$79,424,665.00. Last year the homestead exemption reimbursement was funded at \$80,625,992.00. [Senate Bill 2963 currently presents a \(\\$1,201,327.00\) reduction from last years appropriation.](#)

Please contact your local legislative delegation and request not to cut the homestead exemption reimbursement and increase to full funding level of \$87.5 million.

REVERSE AUCTION: HOUSE BILL 1131

Changes were made to [House Bill 1131](#) that would allow a governing authority to determine that if reverse auction is “not” in the best interest of the governing authority they may explain in their minutes why they did not utilize reverse auction instead of having to request an exemption from the Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB).

For those counties that believe reverse auction is not in the best interest of their county, contact your local Senate delegation and ask that they support House Bill 1131.

NOTE: [House Bill 1131](#) has passed the House Chamber and will head to the Senate for further discussion

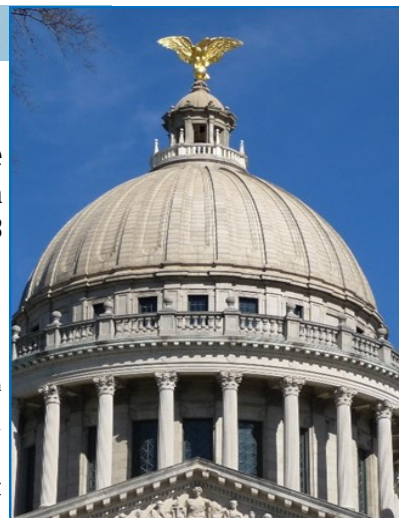
RURAL FIRE TRUCK FUNDING LOCATED IN TWO HOUSE BILL

Funding for Rural Fire Truck can be found in [House Bill 948](#) and [House Bill 49](#). Both bill has passed the House chamber.

Please contact your local Senate delegation to support these bills.

NOTE: [House Bill 948](#) has been assigned to the Senate Finance Committee & Senate Accountability, Efficiency, Transparency Committee.

[CLICK HER FOR LINK TO SENATOR CONTACT INFO](#)



The House will reconvene Monday, February 19 at 4:00 p.m. The Senate will reconvene at 2:00 p.m.

MAS WEEKLY GRASSROOTS INITIATIVE

The Fourth PDD County Capitol visits begins with [Northeast PDD on Wednesday February 21st](#). Supervisors will meet MAS staff on the first floor of the Capitol at 9:00am to receive handouts (talking points).

REGIONAL ELECTIONS FOR MAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES

During MAS Regional Capitol Visits, Supervisors will be electing representatives to the MAS Board of Directors, Nominating Committee, and Legislative Committee. These elections will be held promptly at **11:30 a.m.** Lunch will follow beginning at **11:45 a.m.**

Supervisors unable to attend the Capitol Visit may still participate in the election process by conference call. Conference call information is listed below and will be posted on the MAS website.

Dial In Number:
(877) 699-4804

Passcode: 601 353 2100 #

SAVE THE DATE

The 2018 NACo Legislative Conference will be held on **March 3rd—7th** at Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

HELPFUL TECHNOLOGY

Download the [Mississippi Legislature Roster](#) to your iPhone by visiting the App Store and searching “Mississippi Legislature” provided by Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi.