

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS
Weekly Legislative Update

2017 Regular Legislative Session

February 10, 2017

**Public School Funding Reform:
Bills are DEAD!**

Bills which were in the House and Senate to change the school funding formula in Mississippi are dead, but that does not mean lawmakers are restricted to waiting for the next session to take action. Lawmakers may consider certain options to bring a bill back such as a rules suspension or the governor could call a special session. **House Bill 1294** and **Senate Bill 2607** were both general bills that brought forward code sections of MAEP for revision. Although they passed out of committee, neither bill was brought to the floor of its respective chamber for debate. Both bills, which contained no specifics, were considered “placeholder bills” that could be amended later during the session. This methodology is not uncommon in the Mississippi statehouse, typically that method is reserved to allow lawmakers to make technical changes or clean up a state code.

NOTE: Continue to discuss the issue with your local legislative delegation.

House Kills Assessor/Collector Mandated Pay Raise, Senate Bill Still Alive.

Thursday, February 29th the Mississippi House of Representatives let the Assessor/Collector mandated pay raise bill (HB 904) die on the calendar. The Senate version of this bill (SB 2476) is still alive. On Tuesday of this week, the Senate chamber passed its version of this bill by a vote of 41 to 10. ([click here to see the vote](#)). In addition, MAS worked to get an amendment on the bill that would protect counties, but the amendment was defeated ([click here to view the amendment](#)). This bill will now head to the House for consideration.

New Infrastructure Revenue Passes House Chamber

House Bill 480: This bill would allow the state to begin collecting online sales tax from online retailers that do not have a physical presence in the State. The state would distribute 70 percent of this new revenue to MDOT, 15 percent to counties, and 15 percent to municipalities.

NOTE: This measure passed the House Floor by a vote of 77— 40 but the bill was held on a motion to reconsider. When the time came to “table” the motion to reconsider, the vote failed, and the “motion to table” failed. On Monday, February 6, another motion was made to table the bill and it passed. HB 480 has now been transmitted to the Senate chamber for consideration.

**The Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS)
Weekly Grassroots Initiative**

The Fifth Regional Capitol Visit will be next week with **Three Rivers Region on Wednesday, February 15th**

Supervisors will meet MAS staff on the first floor of the Capitol at **9 a.m.** to receive handouts (talking points).

Once you receive your handouts, identify committee meetings you would like to sit in to listen. If there are issues discussed that will impact your county, find your legislator(s) after the meeting and inform them of your concerns.

Remember to go into the gallery to be recognized by either the Senate or House chamber.

After speaking with your legislative delegation, please invite them back to the MAS office for lunch beginning at **11:30 a.m.** At that time MAS will provide a legislative briefing.

NOTE: See blue sidebar for important election meeting to follow luncheon.



WEEK IN REVIEW

The deadline for original floor action on general bills and constitutional amendments originating in own house has passed. The deadline for original floor action on appropriation and revenue bills originating in own house is **Wednesday, February 22, 2017.**

House and Senate will reconvene Monday at 4:00 p.m.

**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 following the luncheon at **1:00 p.m.** at MAS office.

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

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