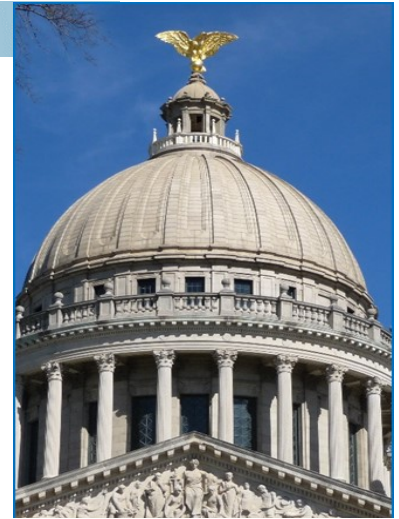


MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update

2017 Regular Legislative Session

February 17, 2017



Homestead Exemption Reimbursement: **CUT!!**

[Senate Bill 2973](#) makes an appropriation for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Department of Revenue. Within **Section 6** of this bill is the homestead exemption reimbursement. This bill is currently funding the homestead exemption reimbursement at **\$82,038,206.00**. This is a **\$2,416,435.00** cut from last year's funding level. \$87.5 million is needed for "FULL" reimbursement.

NOTE: Please begin calling your legislators and request that the homestead exemption reimbursement not be cut from last year's funding level.

ALERT! Education Funding Reform Still Possible with Special Session

On Wednesday, House Speaker Phillip Gunn told reporters that he has a plan to bring out one bill changing the current school funding formula, and another allocating funds for it in the near future. Gunn noted that this process could happen through a special session within the regular session.

NOTE: Please continue to discuss this issue with your legislators, and heavily emphasize to them, as well as your local media, that if counties are mandated to contribute more towards public education, property taxes will increase.

Long—Term Transportation Plan, Unlikely this Year

In addition to [House Bill 480](#) (*which collects the sales tax from the internet and earmarks it for infrastructure*) House Speaker Philip Gunn is suggesting an independent study on transportation before moving any further with legislation to address its long-term cost. Gunn believes the state should consider hiring an outside consultant to assess road construction needs.

NOTE: House Bill 480 has transmitted from the House to the Senate. Please ask your Senators to support House Bill 480.

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors Weekly Grassroots Initiative

The Sixth Regional Capitol visit begins next week with the [Southwest PDD on Wednesday February 22nd](#). Supervisors will meet MAS staff on the first floor of the Capitol at **9:00am** to receive handouts (talking points).

NOTE: See blue sidebar for important election meeting information following the 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**.

The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, February 20 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.

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