



WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2016 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mississippi Association of Supervisors

Week in Review

The Thirteenth week of the 2016 session has passed. The deadline for original floor action on general bills and constitutional amendments originating in other house has passed. The deadline for original floor action on appropriations and revenue bills originating in other house is Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING SLIPS INTO GAMING LEGISLATION!

On Tuesday, March 29th, the Mississippi House of Representatives amended Senate Bill 2541 to include a state lottery. The original intent of SB 2541 was to create a study committee to study Fantasy sports contests. During the course of the debate, Representative Tommy Reynold (D-Charleston) offered a floor amendment that would create a Mississippi State Lottery. The amendment also earmarked all revenues collected from the state lottery to go towards funding public education and infrastructure funding for cities and counties. It is estimated that the state lottery could generate roughly \$100 million a year in new revenue. The argument in favor of a lottery is that it would provide the state a stream of revenue for projects or education without having to raise taxes. This measure will now head to the Senate for concurrence or an invitation for further conferencing

SAVE THE LOCAL SYSTEMS BRIDGE PROGRAM

Support House Bill 878 and Senate Bill 2469

The LSBP Program expires this June 2016. MAS has been informed by the Office of State Aid that one of the two bills (**SB2469 & HB878**) will be used as a vehicle to extend the life of the LSBP Program.

Please contact your local legislative delegation and request that they extend the life of the Local Systems Bridge Program and fund it at \$40 million.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT: SB 2885

When Senate Bill 2885 was originally introduced, the homestead exemption reimbursement was funded at \$78 Million from the Senate chamber. Thursday, the House Appropriations Committee performed a committee strike of all action and increased the \$78 Million to \$84 Million. The \$84 Million would be level funding from the 2015 Regular Session. Full funding for the 2016 Regular Session would be \$87.5 million.

Please contact your local legislative delegation and request full funding for the homestead exemption reimbursement.

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

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