



# **Forecasting & Positioning for the 2026 Regular Legislative Session**

By: Steve A. Gray

# Order of the day

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Year-To-Date Revenue Estimates Update

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Systematic progression of MAS core policy items

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Out-of-Session policy discussion in the media

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Key MAS items and proposals

# Year-to-date Revenue Estimate

The **FY 2026 July–August** collections total **\$1.113 billion**, compared to **\$1.126 billion** last year.

This represents an overall **decrease of \$13.25 million**, or **-1.18%**, primarily driven by major drops in corporate income tax and other revenue streams.

The Fiscal Year 2026 Sine Die Revenue Estimate is \$7,627,000,000.00.



# Consistency in Addressing Core Proposal Policy Items

The Power of Staying on Message

# Infrastructure

- **2018: The Mississippi Modernization Act of 2018**
  - Creation of the Use Tax Diversion (15% 4 year phase in) (5% LSBP)
  - Creation of the Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund (ERBR) \$250 million seed funding
- **2019: Continued ERBR Funding**
  - \$89 million from Federal appropriation to MDOT
- **2020: COVID**
  - No Funding
- **2021: ERBR State Legislative Appropriation**
  - \$100 million
- **2022: ERBR State Legislative Appropriation**
  - \$100 million
- **2023: ERBR State Legislative Appropriation**
  - \$100 million
- **2024: ERBR State Legislative Re-Appropriation**
  - \$30 million
- **2025: Fuel Tax Increase**
  - House Bill 1 – Phase in 9% fuel tax increase and additional 1% increase based on indexing of the Federal Highway Construction Cost Index

# Homestead Exemption Reimbursement

- **2021: Legislative Appropriation**
  - Senate Bill 2923 – Section 9 – Line 175 : \$79,013,427.00
- **2022: Legislative Appropriation**
  - Senate Bill 3024 – Section 7 – Line 160 : \$90,600,000.00
- **2023: Legislative Appropriation**
  - Senate Bill 3022 – Section 7 – Line 164 : \$92,000,000.00
- **2024: Legislative Appropriation**
  - Senate Bill 3047 – Section 7 – Line 163 : \$92,000,000.00
- **2025: Legislative Appropriation**
  - Senate Bill 2036 – Section 7 – Line 204 : \$94,000,000.00

# E-911 Funding

- **2010: Creation of Additional Revenue for the E-911 Surcharge**

- Senate Bill 2938 from the 2010 Regular Legislative Session
- Section 2 added Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP)
- Section 5 added prepaid cell phones and a member of the Boards of Supervisors to the CMRS Board

**- 15 Years Later -**

- **2025: Creation of the Mississippi Emergency Communication Act**

- Senate Bill 2835 from the 2025 Regular Legislative Session
- Section 2 creates an advisory council with local officials that replaces the CMRS Board
- Section 7 creates the NG911 CMRS Grant Fund (Sub-section 2 of this section remits the remaining balance of the CMRS cost recovery fund to this newly created NG91 CMRS Grant Fund)
- Section 13 beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> 2026, the current \$1.00 surcharge on telecom devices increases to \$2.00



**Bill Text for All Versions** [Explanation](#)

- [Approved by the Governor](#)
- [As Passed the Senate](#)
- [Committee Substitute](#)
- [As Introduced](#)

**Description:** Emergency 911 law; include fees for Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and prepaid cell phones/extend repealer.

**Background Information:**

*Disposition:* [Law](#)  
*Deadline:* General Bill/Constitutional Amendment  
*Revenue:* No  
*Vote type required:* Three/Fifths  
*Effective date:* July 1, 2010  
*Suspension measure:* [SC 698](#)  
*Chapter Number:* 560

**History of Actions:**

1 01/18 (S) Referred To Public Utilities  
2 01/27 (S) Title Suff Do Pass Comm Sub  
3 02/04 (S) Committee Substitute Adopted  
4 02/04 (S) Passed [\[Vote\]](#)  
5 02/05 (S) Transmitted To House  
6 02/09 (H) Referred To Public Utilities  
7 03/02 (H) Title Suff Do Pass As Amended  
8 03/08 (H) Amended  
9 03/08 (H) Passed As Amended [\[Vote\]](#)  
10 03/10 (H) Returned For Concurrence  
11 03/18 (S) Decline to Concur/Invite Conf  
12 03/22 (S) Conferees Named Mettetal,Browning,Burton  
13 03/23 (H) Conferees Named Ellis,Rogers (61st),Banks  
14 03/24 (S) Conference Report Filed  
15 03/24 (H) Conference Report Filed  
16 03/25 (H) Recommitted For Further Conf  
17 03/25 (S) Recommitted For Further Conf  
18 03/26 (H) Conference Report Filed  
19 03/26 (S) Conference Report Filed  
20 03/26 (H) Conference Report Adopted [\[Vote\]](#)  
21 03/26 (S) Conference Report Failed [\[Vote\]](#)  
22 03/26 (S) Motion to Reconsider Entered  
23 03/26 (S) Reconsidered  
24 03/26 (S) Recommitted For Further Conf  
25 03/26 (H) Motion to Reconsider Entered  
26 03/26 (H) Reconsidered  
27 03/26 (H) Recommitted For Further Conf  
28 04/22 Suspend from Deadlines by SC 698  
29 04/22 (S) Conference Report Filed  
30 04/22 (H) Conference Report Filed  
31 04/22 (S) Conference Report Adopted [\[Vote\]](#)  
32 04/22 (H) Conference Report Adopted [\[Vote\]](#)  
33 04/28 (S) Enrolled Bill Signed  
34 04/29 (H) Enrolled Bill Signed  
35 05/13 Approved by Governor

**Amendments:**

- [H] Committee Amendment No 1 [Adopted](#) [Voice Vote](#)
- [H] Amendment No 1 to Committee Amendment No 1 [Adopted](#) [Voice Vote](#)
- Amendment Report for Senate Bill No. 2938

**Conference Reports:**

- Conference Report
- Conference Report # 2
- Conference Report # 3

**Bill Text for All Versions** [Explanation](#)

- [As Sent to the Governor](#)
- [As Passed the Senate](#)
- [As Introduced](#)

**Description:** Suspend rules for further consideration of SB 2938; Emergency 911 law; include fees for VoIP and extend repealer.

**Background Information:**

*Disposition:* [Adopted](#)  
*Deadline:* None  
*Revenue:* No  
*Vote type required:* Two/Thirds  
*Effective date:* No Effective Date  
*Chapter Number:* 2245

**History of Actions:**

1 04/20 (S) Referred To Rules  
2 04/20 (S) Title Suff Do Be Adopted  
3 04/20 (S) Adopted [\[Vote\]](#)  
4 04/20 (S) Immediate Release  
5 04/20 (S) Transmitted To House  
6 04/21 (H) Referred To Rules  
7 04/21 (H) Title Suff Do Be Adopted  
8 04/22 (H) Adopted [\[Vote\]](#)  
9 04/22 (H) Immediate Release  
10 04/22 (H) Transmitted To Senate  
11 04/23 (S) Enrolled Bill Signed  
12 04/23 (H) Enrolled Bill Signed

**----- Additional Information -----**

*Senate Committee:* [Rules](#)

*House Committee:* [Rules](#)

*Principal Author:* [Mettetal](#)

*Additional Authors:* [Carmichael](#)



# Rural Fire Truck Funding

- **2018: Legislative Appropriation**

- Senate Bill 2467 (\$4.5 million appropriation in the budget of the State Department of Insurance)

- **2019: Legislative Appropriation**

- House Bill 1639 (\$3.5 million appropriation in the budget of the State Department of Insurance)

- **2020: ERBR State Legislative Appropriation (COVID Year)**

- House Bill 1698 (\$1.5 million appropriation in the budget of the State Department of Insurance)

- **2021: ERBR State Legislative Appropriation**

- Senate Bill 2879 (\$2.3 million / possible deficit appropriation)

- **2022: Introduction of the Non-admitted Policy Fee Diversion Method**

- House Bill 451 (\$3.5 million for the Annual Fire Fund / \$500k First Responder Health and Safety Act)

- **2023: Transfer from the State Capital Expense Fund**

- House Bill 1605 (\$2 million transferred from the State Capital Expense Fund)

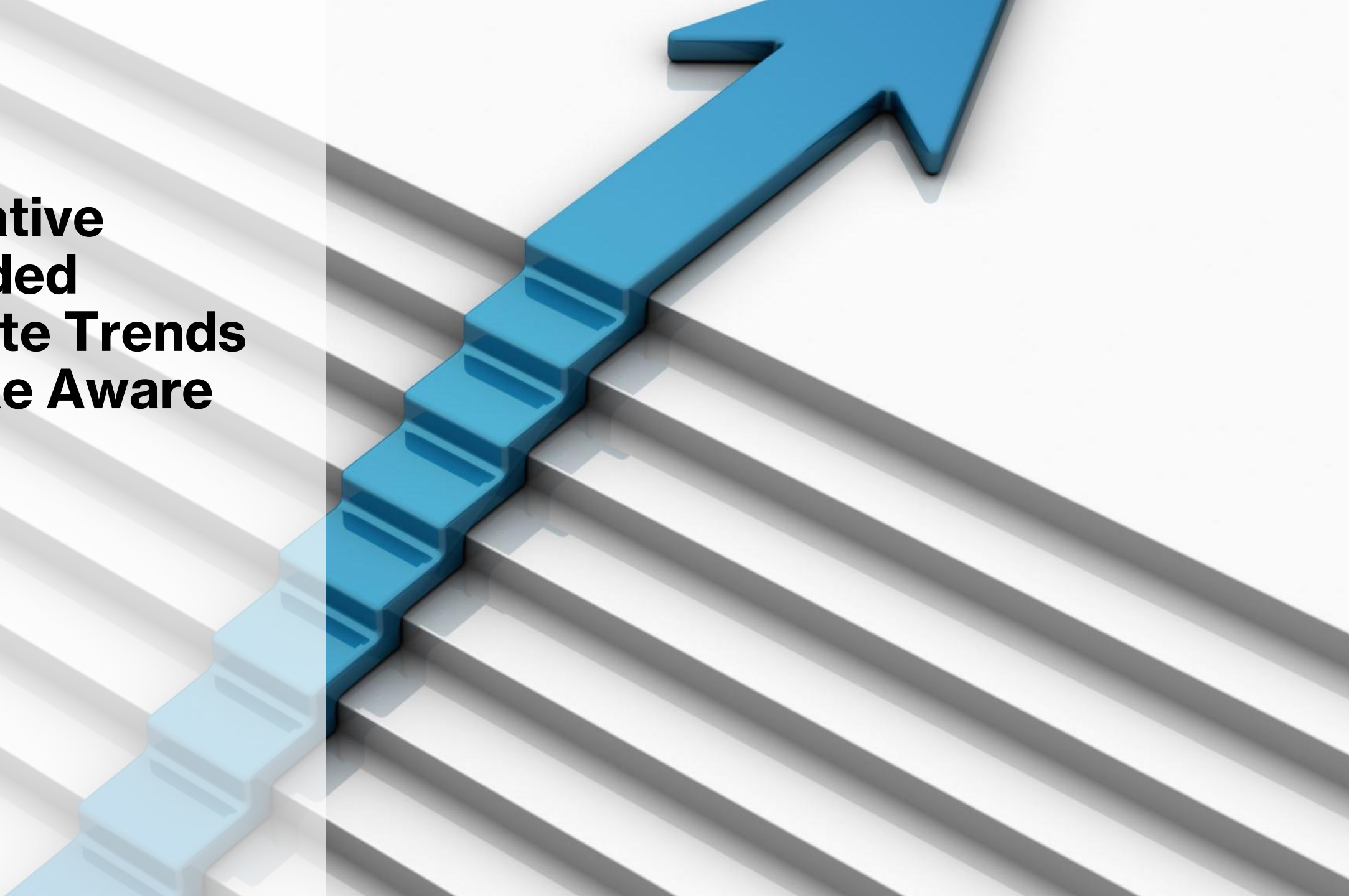
- **2024: Legislative Appropriation**

- House Bill 1799 (\$2 million for the Rural Fire Truck Grant Matching Program / \$9 million Annual Fire Fund in the budget of the State Department of Insurance)

# Rural Fire Truck Funding Cont'd

- **2025: Revisit of the Non-admitted Policy Fee Diversion Method**
  - Senate Bill 2802 (40% diverted to the Rural Fire Truck Fund / 30% to the County Fire Rebate Fund / 30% to the Municipal Fire Rebate Fund)
  - Actual dollars:
    - Rural Fire Truck Fund: \$7.4 million
    - County Fire Rebate Fund: \$5.5 million
    - Municipal Fire Rebate Fund: \$5.5 million

**Legislative  
Unfunded  
Mandate Trends  
to make Aware**



# Trending within the Courthouse

## Passed Into Law

- **Legal Compensation for Indigent Council**: House Bill 623 from the 2025 Regular Legislative Session
- **Court Reporter Salary Increase**: Senate Bill 2899 from the 2025 Regular Legislative Session
- **Judicial Redistricting**: House Bill 1544 from the 2025 Regular Legislative Session

## Often in Discussion for Consideration

- **Youth Court Reform**: Statewide uniformed youth court system
- **Statewide County Court**: Statewide system of county court judges and clerks



# **Out-of-Session Policy Concerns & Discussions**



# Out-of-Session Policy Concerns and Discussions

- **School Choice** – Expanding school choice option
- **Justice Court Jurisdictional Threshold Increase** – Raising the justice court jurisdictional threshold
- **Ballot Initiative Process** – Allowing citizens to bypass lawmakers to place issues on the ballot
- **Public Employee Retirement System (PERS)** – Identifying a consistent revenue stream to pay down its unfunded liability





# **The Mississippi Association of Supervisors 2026 Legislative Proposals**



# 2026 Legislative Proposals

## **Proposal 1**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request full statutory reimbursement of the homestead exemption

## **Proposal 2**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislative support for rural fire services.

## **Proposal 3**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislative support for incurred costs associated with housing mental health patients.

## **Proposal 4**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislative support providing counties the authority to contractually negotiate with municipalities as it relates to housing municipal inmates.

## **Proposal 5**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislative support that allows for improved purchasing authority for counties.

## **Proposal 6**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors strongly oppose any legislative efforts to limit county revenue growth.

# Questions

