

MAS' WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

VOLUME 4

January 27, 2023

The 2023 Regular Legislative Session

The Fourth week of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session is now complete. The Deadline for introduction of general bills and constitutional amendments has passed. The deadline for committees to report general bills and constitutional amendments originating in own house is Tuesday, January 31st.

Measure to Allow for American Rescue Plan Act Spending in the Last 6 Months of the Term Passes House Floor, Yet Held on a Motion to Reconsider (House Bill 626)

On Wednesday, January 25th, **House Bill 626** passed the House Floor Chamber by a vote of 107 – 5. This measure provides for an exception on the prohibition of expending certain funds in the last months of office to meet the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) spending deadline.

Note: This measure was held on a motion to reconsider. Therefore, until the motion is tabled, it will stay on the House Motion to Reconsider Calendar.

Measure Impacting County Poll Managers (House Bill 552)

On Thursday, January 26th, the House Elections Committee passed out **House Bill 552**. This measure increases from \$75.00 to \$150.00 for poll managers for each election.

Note: This measure is double referred and will now head to the House County Affairs Committee for consideration.

Following are measures MAS is monitoring. Please review and discuss these measures with your local legislative delegation if you have any concerns.

Measure Passes House Insurance Committee that's Designed to Help Recruit and Retain Volunteer Fire Fighters (House Bill 521)

On Thursday, January 27th, the House Insurance Committee passed out **House Bill 521** which creates the Mississippi Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters. This program will be funded by one half of twenty percent of out of the insurance premium tax.

Note: This double referred measure has passed the House Insurance Committee and will now head to the House Appropriations Committee for consideration.

House Committees Pass Measure to Address Mental Health (House Bill 1222)

On Thursday January 27th, both the House Judiciary B Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee passed **House Bill 1222**. This measure creates the Mississippi Collaborative Response to Mental Health Act and takes a creative and comprehensive approach towards addressing the mental health crisis in the State. This measure also creates funding through appropriations and tax revenue from vapor products to address the intensive financial needs of adequately addressing mental health challenges.

Note: This measure currently resides on the House Floor Calendar for consideration.

HOUSE & SENATE will reconvene on Monday at 4pm.

**Join us next Friday, February 3 at 10:30 a.m. for
our weekly legislative Zoom call.**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3852299667>

Or Call in at: 888.788.0099

Then Enter Meeting Id Number: 385 229 9667

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Save the Dates

National Association of Counties (NACo) 2023 Legislative Conference
February 11th – 14th
Washington DC

MS NACo Conference Reception

Date: Saturday, February 11, 2023

Time: 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Washington Hilton Hotel

Room: Cabinet, Concourse Level

MAS 2023 Annual Convention

Date: June 12 - 15

Location: MS Coast Convention Center

More info to come on hotels and registration

MS Supervisor Podcast

Don't forget to check out MAS' Podcast. Every week, MAS Governmental Affairs Director, Steve Gray recaps what occurred that week during the regular legislative session. To listen to this podcast, please visit the MAS website, then click on Educational Resources.

[Click Here for Link to MS Supervisor Podcast](#)



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