

# MAS' WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

VOLUME 10  
March 11, 2022

---

---

## The 2022 Regular Legislative Session

The Tenth week of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session is complete. 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, March 15.

### **Cash-in-lieu Legislation Enroute to the Governor's Desk (House Bill 843)**

On Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, the House Chamber concurred with the changes that the Senate Chamber made to **House Bill 843** by a vote of **119 to 3**. With this action being taken, this measure will not go to conference but instead be routed to the Governor's desk. As a reminder, last year MAS worked to get a Medicare-in-Lieu bill passed into law that gave counties the opportunity to offer their Medicare eligible employees an opportunity to transition to Medicare and away from the county's health benefits plan. Unfortunately, we found out that the federal government (Medicare regulations) deemed it illegal to treat one group different from another group. House Bill 843 allows for a "Cash-in-Lieu" instead of Medicare in-lieu and this methodology will allow everyone to participate in Cash-in Lieu, without federal regulations creating any type of prohibitions.

### **Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Program Survives Deadline and Passes Senate Chamber (House Bill 842)**

On Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Chamber passed out **House Bill 842** by a vote of **52 to 0**. House Bill 842 authorizes **two** additional rounds for counties regarding the Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Assistance Program. **NOTE:** This measure will now head to the House Chamber for concurrence or nonconcurrence.

### **Purchasing Threshold Measure Survives Deadline and Passes House Chamber (Senate Bill 2371)**

On Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, the House Chamber passed out **Senate Bill 2371** by a vote of **110 to 9**. Senate Bill 2371 increases from 50k to 75k for purchases from the lowest and best bidder without publishing or posting advertisement for bids, provided that at least two competitive bids have been obtained. **NOTE:** This measure now heads back to the Senate Chamber for concurrence or nonconcurrence.

## **State Revenue Collection Continues to Exceed Expectation**

On Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, the Mississippi Legislative Budget Office (LBO) released their Fiscal Year 2022 Revenue Collections Report for the month of February. The report disclosed that the total revenue collections for the month of February FY 2022 is **\$101,362,084 or 31.76%** above estimated projections. Regarding Year-to-Date (YTD), revenue collections through February 2022 are \$768,408,412 or 21.46% above projected SINE DIE estimates.

## **ARPA Measures Moving Through the Process**

### **HOUSE BILLS:**

**House Bill 779**: Law enforcement and Fire Fighters Death Benefit Trust Fund.

**House Bill 764**: MS Health Care Workers

**House Bill 1427**: Premium Pay Fund for Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters

**House Bill 1538**: Funds Drinking Water Grant Program

**House Bill 1537**: Funds Stormwater/Waste water Grant Program

**House Bill 453**: MS Tourism Recovery Fund

**House Bill 1517**: Office of Workforce Development for Workforce Development Initiatives

**House Bill 1521**: Funding for a New Nursing School at UMMC and Fund Nursing Education Incentive Program

**House Bill 1522**: Community and Junior College Nursing Supplemental Funding Program

**House Bill 1664**: Funds State and School Employees Life and Health Insurance Plan

### **SENATE BILLS:**

**Senate Bill 2862**: Funding for Child Protective Services

**Senate Bill 2863**: Funding for Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)

**Senate Bill 2864**: Funding for National Guard

**Senate Bill 2865**: Funding for Department of Mental Health

**Senate Bill 3056**: Funding to MS Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for Wastewater/ Stormwater/ Drinking Water for Municipalities, Counties, and rural Water Associations

**Senate Bill 3057:** Funding to the program Accelerate Mississippi for various medical worker retention programs

**Senate Bill 3058:** Funding for Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) for a nurse and respiratory therapist loan repayment program

**Senate Bill 3059:** Funding to Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) for a Destination Marketing Grant Program

**Senate Bill 3060:** Funding to MS Department of Health (MSDH) for the Covid-19 Hospital Capacity Program

**Senate Bill 3061:** Funding for the Department of Public Safety (DPS) First Responder Death Benefits

**Senate Bill 3062:** Funding to DFA Bureau of Buildings for various Capital Projects

**Senate Bill 3064:** Fund for DFA for MS Association of Independent Colleges and Universities Grant Program for Capital Projects

**House and Senate will reconvene on Monday, March 14 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Join us next Friday, March 18 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

Meeting Id Number: 385 229 9667

\*Copyright. All Rights Reserved

Authors, Steve Gray and Derrick Surrette

## **MAS 2022 SPRING REGIONAL PDD MEETINGS**

The dates and locations for the MAS 2022 Spring Regional PDD Meetings have been set. Please find your PDD below for your meeting date and location.

As a reminder, we will be holding elections for the MAS Board of Directors, Legislative and Nominating committee as well as recapping the 2022 legislative session. A meal will be served immediately following each meeting.

For planning and meal purposes, we ask that you please contact Mavis Seaberry at 601.353.2741 or by email at [MSeaberry@massup.org](mailto:MSeaberry@massup.org) with the total number of individuals from your county that plan on attending the meeting and meal.

Please call your PDD if you cannot find the location or need directions.

## MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

### **CENTRAL MS PDD REGION:**

**Tuesday, March 29: 10:00 a.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MAS Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Hosted By: Central MS PDD

Location: CMPDD Office

Address: **1020 Centre Pointe BLVD, Pearl, MS 39208**

Phone: 601.981.1511

### **EAST CENTRAL PDD REGION:**

**Wednesday, March 30: 10:00 a.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MAS Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Hosted By: East Central PDD

Location: ECPDD Office

Address: **280 Commercial Drive, Newton, MS 39345**

Phone: 601.683.2007

### **SOUTH DELTA PDD REGION:**

**Thursday, March 31, 10:00 a.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MAS Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Hosted By: South Delta PDD

Location: **1427 South Main Street, Greenville, MS 38701**

Phone: 662.378.3831

### **SOUTHWEST PDD REGION:**

**Tuesday, April 5, 10:00 a.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MAS Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Hosted By: Southwest PDD

Location: Natchez Grand Hotel

Address: **111 Broadway Street, Natchez, MS 39120**

Phone: 601.446.6044

### **SOUTHERN MS PDD REGION:**

**Tuesday, April 5, 4:00 p.m.**

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. MAS Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Hosted By: SMPDD

Location: Southern Oaks

Address: **1246 Richburg Road, Hattiesburg, MS 39402**

Phone: 228.868.2311

**NORTH CENTRAL PDD REGION:**

**Wednesday, April 6, 10:00 a.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MAS Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Hosted By: North Central PDD

Location: NCPDD

Address: **28 Industrial Park Blvd., Winona, MS 38967**

Phone: 662.283.2675

**NORTH DELTA PDD REGION:**

**Tuesday, April 12, 10:00 a.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MAS Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Hosted By: North Delta PDD

Location: NDPDD Office

Address: **220 Power Dr., Batesville, MS 38606**

Phone: 662.561.4100

**NORTHEAST PDD REGION:**

**Tuesday, April 12, 4:00 p.m.**

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. MAS Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Hosted By: Northeast PDD

Location: Market 105

Address: **118 West College Street, Booneville, MS 38829**

Phone: 662.728.6248

**THREE RIVERS PDD REGION:**

**Wednesday, April 13, 10:00 a.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MAS Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Hosted By: Three Rivers PDD

Location: First Choice Gateway Pavilion

Address: **139 W Reynolds Street, Pontotoc, MS 38863**

Phone: 662.489.2415

**GOLDEN TRIANGLE PDD REGION:**

**Wednesday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.**

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. MAS Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Hosted By: Golden Triangle PDD

Location: GTPDD office

Address: **106 Miley Drive, Starkville, MS 39759**

Phone: 662.324.7860