

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update

2020 Regular Legislative Session

July 2, 2020

2020 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Mississippi Legislature has “officially” adjourned until further notified by the Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House. This particular adjournment is designed to operate as in “unofficial” SINE DIE, due to the anticipation of more legislative action needed regarding COVID-19 and the Federal Government, or emergency legislative action.

LEGISLATURE AMENDS AND PASSES BILL TO POSTPONE THE UNFUNDED MANDATE OF THE FIRST RESPONDERS HEALTH & SAFETY ACT

(SENATE BILL 3052)

On Wednesday July 2nd, the Senate and House Chamber passed [Senate Bill 3052](#). The origin of this measure addresses drivers license permits. MAS worked with members to get this bill amended with language that further delays the mandated implementation of the First Responders Health and Safety Act, from year 2021 to year 2022. This delay will give the legislature time to establish a funding mechanism to totally cover the cost or help cover the cost of this inevitable mandated cancer policy program.

SPECIAL THANKS: Thanks to everyone that contacted their local legislative delegation to request that this mandate be either paid by the state or further delayed until a revenue stream is established.

NOTE: This measure will now head to the Governor for consideration.

GOVERNOR REEVES SIGNS THE LOCAL SYSTEMS BRIDGE “GAP” FUNDING MEASURE INTO LAW (HOUSE BILL 379)

On Tuesday June 30th, Governor Reeves signed [House Bill 379](#) into law. This measure contains language that provides an additional use tax diversion of the “total” use tax collected at \$1 million a month into the LSBP Program beginning August 15th, 2020 until July 15th, 2022 to avoid a funding GAP as the 5% LSBP use tax diversion builds up.

COUNTIES/CITIES BENEFIT FROM NUMEROUS COVID-19 MEASURES HEADED TO THE GOVERNOR

[Senate Bill 3049:](#) Establishes the MS Back-to-Business Liability Assurance Act. This provides liability protection for local governments as well as businesses.

[Senate Bill 3047:](#) Establishes the MS County & Municipality Emergency Relief Program. Eligibility requirements, reporting requirements, accountability measures, and other important guidelines are established within this bill for receiving reimbursements.

[House Bill 1799:](#) Establishes the fund of money that will be issued through the MS County & Municipality Emergency Relief Program. This fund is officially funded at **\$70,000,000.00** (seventy million dollars).

NOTE: These measures will now head to the Governor for consideration.

COUNTIES BENEFIT FROM OMNIBUS BOND PACKAGE (HOUSE BILL 1730)

The House and Senate Chamber agreed to a total bond package of \$291 million. Of the \$291 million, MS counties will be eligible to benefit from the following programs:

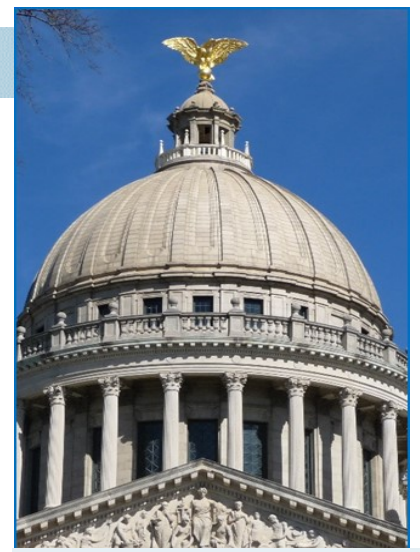
Limited County Population Grant Fund: **\$5,000,000.00**

Community Heritage Preservation Grant Fund: **\$5,000,000.00**

Local Governments and Rural Water Systems Improvements Revolving Loan Fund: **\$3,000,000.00**

In addition, roughly 40 infrastructure projects from around the state are earmarked for around \$36.6 million

NOTE: This measure will now head to the Governor for consideration.



NOTE: MAS will provide a summary report that covers measures that impact county government that passed during this 2020 Regular Legislative Session.

SAVE THE DATE

2020 Annual Convention

The 2020 Annual Convention will be at the MS Coast Coliseum & Convention Center August 10-12, 2020.

HELPFUL TECHNOLOGY

Download the [MAS Directory App](#)

Click [HERE](#) for Apple Phone

Click [HERE](#) for Android Phone

Or visit MAS Website for more instructions.

Download the [Mississippi Legislature Roster](#) to your iPhone by visiting the App Store and searching “Mississippi Legislature” provided by Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi.

ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS
MISSISSIPPI

