MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update 2019 Regular Legislative Session January 25, 2019

THE 2019 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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 <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>February 5, 2019</u>.

LOCALS AWARDED \$213 MILLION OF THE \$250 MILLION IN THE EMERGENCY ROAD AND BRIDGE REPAIR FUND

On Tuesday January 22th, the Mississippi Transportation Commission awarded \$250 million in bond revenue to the Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Funds (ERBRF) for state and local entities. Local governments received the bulk of the revenue at \$213 million. More specifically, 70 counties and 10 municipalities received funding. The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) received the remaining \$37 million. These bonds originated as an earmark in House Bill 1 (*The Mississippi Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2018*) from the special legislative session this summer.

RURAL BROADBAND LEGISLATION UNANIMOUSLY PASSES THE SENATE CHAMBER

On Wednesday January 23rd, the Mississippi State Senate passed the Mississippi Broadband Enabling Act by a **vote** of 52 to 0. No changes/amendments were made to the bill as it originally passed from the House. <u>Therefore, this measure will now head to the Governor's desk to await his signature.</u>

FUNDING FOR RURAL FIRE TRUCKS PASSES OUT OF HOUSE COMMITTEE

On Tuesday January 22nd, the House of Representatives Insurance Committee passed out <u>House Bill 444</u>. In section 3 of this law, \$3 million from the non-admitted policy fee shall be diverted and deposited into the Rural Fire Truck Fund. <u>House Bill 444</u> is double referred. <u>This measure will now head to the House Appropriations Committee for consideration</u>.

REVERSE AUCTION—TERM BIDS

Senate Bill 2309: This measure exempts term contract authorizations from the reverse auction requirement for receiving bids.

NOTE: This measure is assigned to the Senate Accountability, Efficiency, and Transparency Committee. <u>The deadline to pass this bill out of committee is</u> <u>February 5th</u>.

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABLITY REGARDING WIRELESS E- 911 FUNDING

Senate Bill 2310: This measure mandates the Commercial Mobile Radio Service Board (CMRS) to make annual audit reports available for inspection by each Emergency Communication Districts (ECD) and the MS State Department of Audit. **NOTE:** This measure is assigned to the Senate Energy Committee and the Senate Accountability, Efficiency, and Transparency Committee. <u>The deadline to pass this</u> bill out of committee is February 5th.

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The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, January 28, at 4:00 p.m.

REGIONAL CAPITOL VISITS

The First of Ten County Capitol visits begins with <u>Central Planning</u> <u>and Development District on</u> <u>Tuesday, January 29, 2019.</u>

<u>East Central Planning and</u> <u>Development District will be</u> meeting the following day on <u>Wednesday, January 30, 2019</u>.

Supervisors will meet MAS staff on the <u>first floor of the Capitol at</u> <u>9:00am</u> to receive talking points.

SAVE THE DATE

The 2019 NACo Legislative Conference will be a the <u>Washington Hilton Hotel in</u> <u>Washington, D.C. March 2rd – 6th.</u>

HELPFUL TECHNOLOGY

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Download the <u>Mississippi</u> <u>Legislature Roster</u> to your iPhone by visiting the App Store and searching "Mississippi Legislature" provided by Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi.

