

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update

2018 Regular Legislative Session

January, 26, 2018

## COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE IN JEOPARDY WITH WEIGHT LIMIT INCREASE THREAT (SENATE BILL-2418)

[Senate Bill 2418](#) increases the weight tolerance allowed for vehicles operating under a harvest permit and vehicles loading and unloading at a state port. Under this bill, vehicles operating with a harvest permit shall be allowed a tolerance not to exceed ten percent above their authorized axle weight. Our office has been informed that this weight tolerance increase can have a serious negative impact to local county roads and bridges. With the current bridge closings by the Federal government, and widespread crumbling infrastructure across the state, any type of weight limit increase would make it more challenging to rehabilitate and maintain local county infrastructure.

**Please contact your local Senator and request that they defeat [Senate Bill 2418](#).**

## LEGISLATION IMPACTING REVERSE AUCTION & ELECTRONIC BIDDING (SENATE BILL 2674)

[Senate Bill 2674](#): This bill authorizes governing authorities to charge a fee, or require a fee to be paid to a third-party service provider, for an electronic bid submission or participation in a reverse auction. The MAS membership had great discussion about reverse auction and electronic bid prior to the 2018 Regular Legislative Session. There was a concern if reverse auction or electronic bidding would be a cost to the counties, and based on an Attorney General's opinion, counties could not charge for the service. Therefore, counties would absorb the cost. With [Senate Bill 2674](#), counties would be allowed to charge a fee for participation in a reverse auction or electronic bid service.

**NOTE: This bill has passed out of its Senate committee and is now on the Senate Floor Calendar.**

## HOUSE BILL 722 OFFICIALLY TRANSITIONS TO THE SENATE CHAMBER

This bill is designed to divert 35% of the state's use tax into a fund to support municipal and county local infrastructure. Counties would receive 15% of the new revenue and it would be distributed based on the State Aid Formula. Municipalities would receive the other 15% and it would be distributed based on their current sales tax diversion formula. In addition, this measure would also provide 5% of this new revenue to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) for grant programs where local governments could apply for road and bridge funding up to \$1.5 million per project.

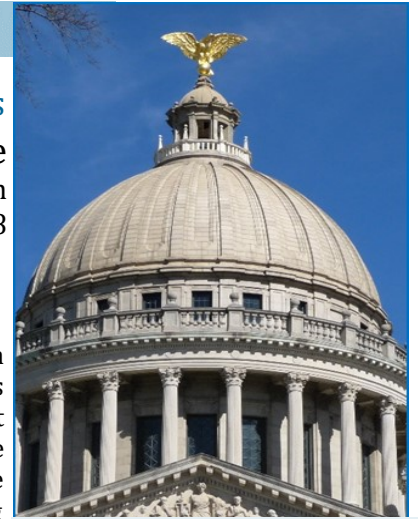
**Please continue to contact your local Senator and request that they support [House Bill 722](#).**

## HOUSE INSURANCE COMMITTEE AMENDS BILL TO DIVERT REVENUE TO THE RURAL FIRE TRUCK FUND

During a House Insurance Committee meeting this week, a motion was made to amend [House Bill 948](#) to divert revenue derived from the nonadmitted policy fee (*this is a fee on all premiums*) to be deposited into the Rural Fire Truck Fund or Supplementary Rural Fire Truck Fund.

**NOTE: This bill has passed out of committee and is now on the House Floor Calendar.**

**Please contact your House members and request that they support the amendment to [House Bill 948](#).**



**The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, January 29 at 4:00 p.m.**

### MAS WEEKLY GRASSROOTS INITIATIVE

The Second and Third Regional Capitol Visits will be **Southwest Region, February 6th and Three Rivers Region February 7th**. Supervisors will meet MAS staff on the first floor of the Capitol at 9:00am to receive handouts (talking points).

### REGIONAL ELECTIONS FOR MAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES

During MAS Regional Capitol Visits, Supervisors will be electing representatives to the MAS Board of Directors, Nominating Committee, and Legislative Committee. These elections will be held promptly at **11:30 a.m.** Lunch will follow beginning at **11:45 a.m.**

Supervisors unable to attend the Capitol Visit may still participate in the election process by conference call. Conference call information is listed below and will be posted on the MAS website.

**Dial In Number:**  
**(877) 699-4804**

**Passcode: 601 353 2100 #**

### SAVE THE DATE

The 2018 NACo Legislative Conference will be held on **March 3rd—7th** at Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

### HELPFUL TECHNOLOGY

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