

## THE 2020 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The fourth week of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session has passed. The Deadline for making requests for general bills and constitutional amendments to be drafted is Thursday, February 20, 2020.

### 2020 CENSUS APPROPRIATION HEADS TO GOVERNOR (SB 2149)

On Thursday January 30, 2020, the MS House passed **Senate Bill 2149** (*2020 Census Appropriation bill*) sending the measure directly to the Governor since there were no changes to the original measure. The Senate first passed this measure out this Tuesday, Jan. 28. SB 2149 appropriates funds from the state general fund to offset the expense of the Census incurred by the state Department of Finance and Administration (DFA). The funds are to last until the Census is completed, around June 30, 2020. The funds can go to things like advertising, media, marketing and public relations services or however DFA decides as it pertains to promoting the Census. The amount of this appropriation is \$400,000.

### LEGISLATORS HOLD HEARING REGARDING REGIONAL COUNTY JAILS

As various legislation is introduced to reform the state's prison system, legislators gathered on Wednesday, Jan. 29 with local county law enforcement, county supervisors, and other interested parties regarding the role regional county jail facilities could play in this reform process. The bulk of the discussion encompassed moving more medium-security prisoners to regional county jails to take pressure off state facilities. It was noted that such a move could save the state roughly \$22.5 million annually; it costs about \$14 more per day, per inmate to house in a state-run facility compared to a county-managed facility. Counties with regional jail facilities seeking to increase their inmate capacity are encouraged to contact their local legislative delegation to support this matter.

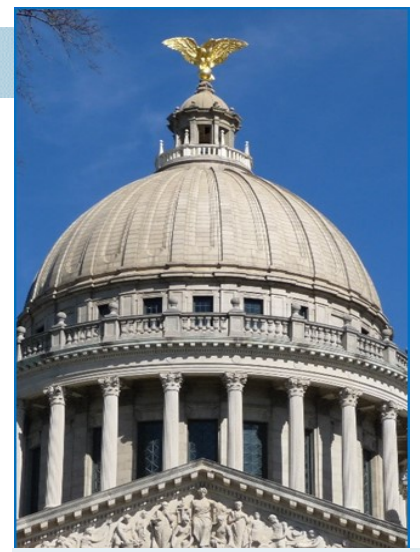
### BILLS AFFECTING COUNTIES INTRODUCED

**House Bill 278:** Authorizes leasing of certain land by cities/counties for less than the minimum percentage of market value under certain circumstances.

**NOTE:** No action has been taken on this measure.

**Senate Bill 2204:** Authorizes off-duty use of municipal and county police vehicles by certain law enforcement officers engaging in private employment. Additionally, this measure requires approval of local government entity whose vehicle is involved before the private employment usage can take place.

**NOTE:** No action has been taken on this measure.



**The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, February 3 at 4:00 p.m.**

### SAVE THE DATE

#### 2020 Annual Convention

The 2020 Annual Convention will be at the MS Coast Coliseum & Convention Center June 15—18, 2020.

#### NACo Legislative Conference:

The 2020 NACo Legislative Conference will be at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. February 29 - March 4. MAS Caucus reception is scheduled for **Sunday, March 1** beginning at 5:00 pm at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

### 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.