

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update

2019 Regular Legislative Session

February 22, 2019

## THE 2019 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The deadline for original floor action on appropriations and revenue bills originating in own House is Wednesday, February 27, 2019.

### **BOTH SENATE AND HOUSE PASS OUT OMNIBUS BOND LEGISLATION FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS AND FUNDING FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC ENTITIES: SENATE BILL 3065 & HOUSE BILL 1674**

This week at the capitol, the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee passed out their versions of the omnibus bond package. Traditionally, omnibus bond legislation provides funding for colleges and universities, and state agencies, yet this type of legislation has historically been known as a vehicle for special projects as well. It is very early in the negotiation process for this type of legislation. It is historically debated and negotiated upon until the final days of the conference weekend. In addition, the Local System Bridge Program, (LSBP) is commonly funded through this mechanism. Currently, LSBP is **not** being funded in either bond bills. We ask that you contact your legislator and request at least \$20 million to fund LSBP either through a bond or an appropriation.

**NOTE:** Both bills currently reside on the Floor Calendar in their respective chambers. Please ask your legislator to offer or support a floor amendment to include funding for LSBP in the bond bills.

### **HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT PASSES OUT OF SENATE CHAMBER: SENATE BILL 3024**

On Wednesday February 20<sup>th</sup>, the Mississippi State Senate passed Senate Bill 3024 by a vote of 51 to 0, This measure makes an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the counties, county districts and municipal separate school districts for tax losses incurred by reason of the exemption of the homes from certain ad valorem taxes.

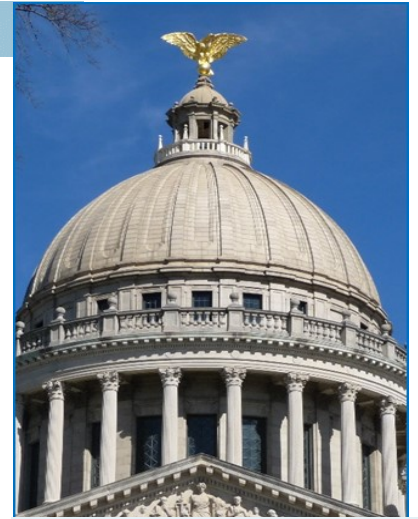
**NOTE:** The funding level for the homestead exemption reimbursement is in section 8 of this bill and it is funded at \$80,625,992.00. This funding level represents level funding from the previous fiscal year. To fully fund the homestead exemption reimbursement, it will take an appropriation of \$87.5 million. Please contact your local legislative delegation and request full funding for the homestead exemption reimbursement.

### **OMNIBUS COUNTY OFFICIALS PAY INCREASE RECEIVES HOUSE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: SENATE BILL 2827**

On Wednesday February 20<sup>th</sup>, the Mississippi House assigned the omnibus county officials pay increase legislation to the House Appropriations Committee. This legislation will have until March 5<sup>th</sup> to pass out of committee. Below are members of the House Appropriations Committee. If any of your House members are represented below, please contact them and request that they support voting Senate Bill 2827 out of committee for an opportunity for a House Floor vote.

#### **House Appropriations Committee Members List:**

Open Link: [http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/htms/h\\_cmtmemb.xml](http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/htms/h_cmtmemb.xml)



**The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, February 25 at 4:00 p.m.**

#### **REGIONAL CAPITOL VISITS**

Central PDD Capitol Visit is scheduled for next Tuesday, February 26.

North Delta PDD Capitol visit is scheduled for next Wednesday, February 27.

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

#### **SAVE THE DATE**

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

#### **HELPFUL TECHNOLOGY**

Download the MAS Directory iPhone app by searching “mas supervisor Directory” in the App Store.

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

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