

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update

2018 Regular Legislative Session

February 23, 2018

SENATE PASSES MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE LEGISLATION

THE BRIDGE ACT SENATE BILL 3046

On Tuesday February 20th, the Mississippi Senate passed their version of a major infrastructure package entitled the “Bridge Act.” This comprehensive plan is designed to provide revenue for infrastructure needs across the state without raising taxes. The plan would be funded through diverting funds from existing revenue streams, in addition to issuing bonds for city, county, and state needs over a five-year period. This plan also includes \$60 million for the Local Systems Bridge Program. This is a \$1billion plan that is broken down into various sections. [Senate Bill 3046](#) has passed the Senate chamber by a vote of 36 to 14.

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

[CLICK HERE FOR HOUSE ROSTER](#)

DEBT SETOFF LEGISLATION: HOUSE BILL 1029

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) has often discussed finding more effective ways to collect various debts owed to county government. [House Bill 1029](#) would give authorization to county and municipal government to collect debts by a setoff against a debtor’s income tax refund. This bill has passed House chamber and now resides in the Senate Finance Committee.

NOTE: This bill has until February 27th to pass out the Senate Finance Committee or it dies.

Please contact your local Senate delegation to help push this bill through the Senate chamber.

[CLICK HERE FOR SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS](#)

CALL-TO-ACTION

FLEXIBILITY WITH REVERSE AUCTION IN DANGER OF DYING

HOUSE BILL 1131

Changes were made to [House Bill 1131](#) that would allow a governing authority to determine that if reverse auction is “not” in the best interest of the governing authority they may explain in their minutes why they did not utilize reverse auction instead of having to request an exemption from the Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB).

For those counties that believe reverse auction is not in the best interest of their county, contact your local Senate delegation and ask that they support House Bill 1131.

NOTE: [House Bill 1131](#) now resides in the Senate Accountability, Efficiency, and Transparency Committee. If House Bill 1131 is not taken up and passed out of committee by [Tuesday February 27th](#), counties will be have to continue with the current reverse auction law with “NO” flexibility.

Please contact your local Senate delegation to help push this bill through the Senate chamber.

[CLICK HERE FOR SENATE ACCOUNTABILITY, EFFICIENCY, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS](#)



The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, February 26, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

MAS WEEKLY GRASSROOTS INITIATIVE

Next week we will have [Southern PDD on Tuesday, February 27](#) and [Central PDD on Thursday, March 1.](#)

Supervisors will meet MAS staff on the first floor of the Capitol at 9:00a.m. 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.