The eight week of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session has passed. The deadline for making requests for general bills and constitutional amendments to be drafted has passed. The deadline for committees to report general bills and constitutional amendments originating in own house is Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

**LOCAL SYSTEM BRIDGE PROGRAM (LSBP) GAP FUNDING PROVIDED WITH HOUSE FLOOR AMENDMENT - HB 379 MAS PROPOSAL ITEM**

On Tuesday, February 25th, the House Floor Chamber passed House Bill 379 by a vote of 106 to 13. This measure is titled the “Mississippi Marketplace Facilitator Act of 2020.” The origin of this legislation is focused on definition revisions as it pertains to retailers and retail sales under the Mississippi sales tax law. In addition, this bill also addresses online retailers as it pertains to the online marketplace with various definition revisions regarding marketplace sellers and remote sellers. When this bill was being presented on the House Floor, an amendment was offered that would address the concern of waiting for the “use tax diversion” to build up over a four year period to provide the minimum of $20 million a year for the LSBP fund. Instead of waiting for the diversion to build up with a revenue shortfall within the wait time, the floor amendment mandates that beginning August 15, 2020 and each month thereafter through July 15, 2022, one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) of the total use tax revenue collected during the preceding month shall be deposited into the Local System Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Fund. This new one million dollars a month is an additional diversion to the current 5% diversion that is already being diverted to the LSBP Program.

**NOTE:** This measure has passed the House Chamber and will now head to the Senate Chamber for consideration.

**BOTH CHAMBER COMMITTEES PASSED MEASURES ADDRESSING REVERSE AUCTION SENATE BILL 2215 & HOUSE BILL 407**

On Wednesday February 25th, the House County Affairs Committee passed House Bill 407. This measure allows governing authorities the discretion to decide if reverse auction is in their best interest or not. **NOTE:** This bill now resides on the House Floor Calendar to await a floor vote. In addition, the Senate Accountability, Efficiency, and Transparency Committee also passed out a measure addressing reverse auction with Senate Bill 2215. This reverse auction bill specifically exempts “Term Contracts” and “E-Rate Contracts” from the mandate of reverse auction for procurements above the $50k threshold. Any other purchases made that exceeds the $50k threshold that is not a Term Contract, or an E-Rate Contract are still mandated to utilize the reverse auction process.

**NOTE:** This bill now resides on the Senate Floor Calendar to await a floor vote.

**MEASURES INTRODUCED ADDRESSING SUPERVISOR’S SALARY**

**Senate Bill 2632:** County supervisors; increase annual salaries of. **(No action taken)**

**House Bill 1397:** County board of supervisors; authorize to provide certain annual salary supplement for members of the board. **(No action taken)**

**House Bill 1432:** Supervisors and justice court judges; bring forward sections providing for annual salaries of. **(No action taken)**