

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update

2018 Regular Legislative Session

January, 19 2018

MS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSES NEW SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA (HB-957)

On Wednesday January 17, 2018, the members of the Mississippi House of Representative passed a major overhaul of Mississippi's school funding formula by a vote of 66-54. This new act is titled, **The Mississippi Uniform Per Student Funding Formula Act of 2018.**

House Bill 957 is expected to provide an additional \$107 million in to the state's schools over the course of a seven-year phase in. Experts with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) said the formula will still fall \$157 million short of what would be required to fully fund Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP). There is a "hold harmless" provision in this measure that would protect school districts for two years as it relates to the current state funding stream. After the two year, Thirty-five school districts are projected to receive less money from the state.

House Bill 957 has passed the House Floor Chamber. It will now head to the Senate for consideration. Please contact your local Senate delegation to find out how your local school district will be impacted by this bill.

BILLS IMPACTING COUNTY GOVERNMENT MOVING THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

House Bill 1131: This bill gives local governments the option to publish public notices on a publicly accessible free official government website. This measure could save counties and municipalities revenue from circulating public notices in the newspaper. ***(This bill has passed out of the Technology Committee, and is now on the House Floor Calendar.)***

House Bill 358: This bill provides that a portion of the use tax revenue collected from online sales that do not have a sales tax nexus with this state but voluntarily collect and remit use tax to this state shall be deposited into a special fund in the state treasury and used for the repair and rehabilitation of county bridges, state bridges, and municipal streets and bridges.

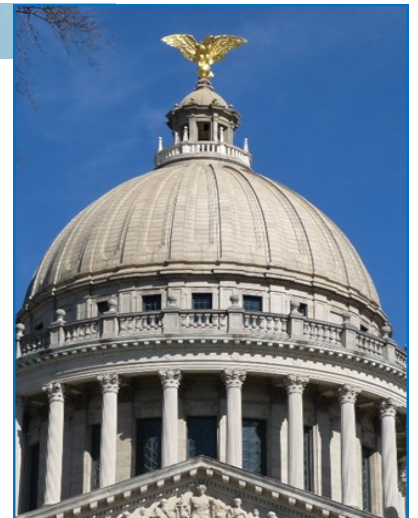
NOTE: 50% of the new revenue will go towards state bridges and 25% for county bridges and 25% for municipal bridges and streets. The Office of State Aid Road Construction will administer the funds between the counties and cities. ***(This measure is now on the House Floor calendar)***

House Bill 357: This bill authorizes the issuance of a \$50 million bond to assist municipalities and counties with bridge improvements.

NOTE: Half of the revenue will go towards county bridge improvement and half will go toward municipal bridge improvement. The Office of State Aid Road Construction will administer the funds. ***(This bill has passed the House chamber and will head to the Senate for consideration)***

House Bill 354: This bill provides that 50% of growth in the state general fund revenue above 2% in any fiscal year shall be deposited into a special fund in the state treasury to be used for the repair, maintenance, and reconstruction of state, county, and municipal roads, streets, and bridges. ***(This bill has passed the House chamber and will head to the Senate for consideration.)***

House Bill 164: This bill allows the board president of a County Board of Supervisors to proclaim a local emergency. ***(This bill has passed out of the County Affairs Committee, and is now on the House Floor Calendar.)***



The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, January 22 at 4:00 p.m.

MAS WEEKLY GRASSROOTS INITIATIVE

The First Regional Capitol Visits begin next week with the **North Delta Region on Wednesday January 24th**. 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 **12:00 p.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.