

MAS' WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

VOLUME 11
March 17, 2023

The 2023 Regular Legislative Session

The Eleventh week of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session is now complete. The deadline for original floor action on appropriations and revenue bills originating in other house has passed. The deadline to concur or not concur in amendments from other house to general bills and constitutional amendments is Thursday March 23rd. In addition, the deadline for introduction of "local and private bill that are not revenue bills is Friday, March 24th.

Governor Signs Measure Allowing for Counties to Spend ARPA Funding During Last 6 Months of the Term

Senate Bill 2734

On Tuesday, March 14th, Senate Bill 2734 was officially signed by the Governor into law. This date is set for 3/15/23. This measure permits county boards of supervisors to expend federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds during the last six (6) months of the term of office. In addition, with the House Chamber amendment, this measure allows any matching funds required under ARPA to be expended during the last six months of the term as well. Note: This law takes effect upon passage. **NOTE: This was an MAS Proposal Item.**

House Bill 1111 Heads to Conference

House Bill 1111 was a measure originally drafted to address county court jurisdiction for termination of parental rights when it passed the House Chamber. Yet, when it got to the Senate, this measure was amended with a committee strike all amendment and the entire body of the language addressing parental rights were removed and it was replaced with language creating a statewide county court system with unfunded mandates. **NOTE:** Now that conference has been invited on this measure, both chambers will assign a body of six members to further conference on this measure. MAS will continue to update as this issue progresses. **ADDITIONAL NOTE:** We still need members contacting their local legislative delegation and requesting that the Senate "Strike All Language" (*that creates this new statewide county court system*) be removed.

Important Legislation That is Headed to Conference Committee

Homestead Exemption Reimbursement

Senate Bill 3022: This act is the appropriation measure for the MS State Department of Revenue. Located in Section 7 of this bill is the appropriation line item for the homestead exemption reimbursement. This legislation currently has the reimbursement being funded at \$92,000,000.00. This represents a \$1.4 million increase from last year's reimbursement. **NOTE: This is an MAS Proposal Item.**

Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund

Senate Bill 3120 makes a FY 2024 appropriation from the state Capital Expense Fund to the MS Department of Transportation (MDOT) for certain infrastructure expenses. Located in Section 3 of this measure is a line-item appropriation for the Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund (ERBR) to be funded at \$100 million. **NOTE: This is an MAS Proposal Item.**

Additional Use Tax Revenue for Counties

Senate Bill 2692: Section 38 of this measure will allow for an additional one percent increase for the 5% use tax diversion. Instead of the current 5% diversion, it will now be a 6% diversion. This additional percentage is estimated to create an additional \$25 million for the diversion. **NOTE:** This will be new money added to the current use tax funding structure, and a new split will be established between the Local Systems Bridge Program and funding for the State Aid Road Construction Program. **ADDITIONAL NOTE: MAS strongly supports this measure.**

Corrections

Senate Bill 2495: This measure introduces an effort to expedite the removal of state inmates from county jails as early as practicable. This measure states that MDOC shall pay the county jails for housing state offenders out of any available funds. The mandate is as follows: \$25.00 per day per offender for days one through thirty, \$30.00 per day per offender for days thirty one through sixty, and \$35.00 per day per offender for days sixty-one or greater.

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HOUSE & SENATE will reconvene on Monday at 4pm

*****Tip! Items in gold are hyperlinked and will take you to a new page*****

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MASIT

MAS Insurance Trust



2023 MASIT Law Enforcement Risk Management Conference

April 26-27, 2023

MASIT will host an inaugural Law Enforcement Risk Management Conference at the Sheraton Refuge Hotel in Flowood, MS- **April 26 - 27, 2023**. Sessions are designed specifically for county law enforcement personnel and will address high risk areas in Mississippi and nationwide. Industry expert speakers from Law Enforcement Risk Management Group (formerly LLRMI) and OSS Academy will present, along with MASIT defense panel attorneys and the Department of Homeland Security.

Registration is now open for all MASIT member counties. All county officials are invited. Sheriffs, road deputies, training officers, jail administrators and other law enforcement personnel are encouraged to register.

Agenda and registration form are available on the MAS website at:

<https://www.mssupervisors.org/masit-law-enforcement-risk-management-conference>.

If you have any questions regarding the conference, please email Stephanie Spangler at Sspangler@massup.org or Renada Skannal at Rskannal@massup.org. Or call the MAS office at 601.353.3741.



**Join us next Friday, March 24 at 10:30 a.m. for
our weekly legislative Zoom call.**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3852299667>

Or Call in at: 888.788.0099

Then Enter Meeting Id Number: 385 229 9667