

Discussion & Approval of Legislative Proposals

By: Steve A. Gray

Order of the Day

- Preliminary Legislative Budget Office (LBO) Hearings
- Legislature: \$1.8 Billion ARPA
- Mississippi Cannabis Act (Preliminary Actions)
- Key Legislative Items
- MAS Proposals

Joint Legislative Budget Committee Hearings

(JLBC)

Lt. Gov.: Delbert Hosemann

Senate Members: Sen. Joey Filingane; Sen. Josh Harkins; Sen. Briggs Hopson; Sen. Dean Kirby; Sen. John Horhn; Sen. Nicole Boyd

House Speaker: Philip Gunn

House Members: Rep. Jason White; Rep. John Read; Rep. Trey Lamar; Rep. Angela Cockerham; Rep. Scott Bounds; Rep. Percy Watson.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE - Sept. 24, 2021 @ 9 AM.

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Mississippi Joint Legislative Budget Committee

MORE VIDEOS

24 Sept 2021

1:03:48 / 8:18:40

YouTube

JLBC Hearing Schedule

YouTube Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKKxQ4raoJQ&t=3828s>

JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE

FY 2023 HEARING SCHEDULE

Friday, September 24, 2021

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. LBO Presentation (Executive Session)

9:05 a.m. – 9:25 a.m. Economic Update
Mr. Corey Miller, State Economist

9:30 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. Personnel Board - Overview Report for FY 2023
Mr. Kelly Hardwick

9:55 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Revenue, Mississippi Department of
Commissioner Chris Graham
(Lee)

10:20 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. Public Safety, Department of
Commissioner Sean Tindell
(Deborah)

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Information Technology Services, Department of
Mr. David Johnson
(Tina)

11:05 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. Transportation, Mississippi Department of
Mr. Brad White
(Lee)

11:25 a.m. – 11:40 a.m. Archives & History, Department of
Mr. Robert Benson (Deputy Director)
(Charley)

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks, Department of
Dr. Sam Polles
(Max)

1:50 p.m. – 2:10 p.m. Corrections, Department of
Commissioner Burl Cain
(Deborah)

2:15 p.m. – 2:35 p.m. Education, Department of
Dr. Carey Wright
(Charley)

2:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Medicaid, Division of
Mr. Drew Snyder
(Tracy)

3:05 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. Human Services, Department of
Mr. Bob Anderson
(Tracy)

3:25 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. Human Services - Child Protection Services
Commissioner Andrea Sanders
(Tracy)

3:45 p.m. – 4:05 p.m. Mental Health, Department of
Mrs. Wendy Bailey
(Lee)

4:10 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Health, Board of
Dr. Thomas Dobbs
(Lee)

4:35 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Regular Joint Legislative Budget Committee Meeting

Set Guidelines for FY 2023 Recommendations

Legislative Budget Office Hearings (Highlights)

- Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) - They have a budget expectation of \$1.2 billion. Over half the agency's budget comes from the Federal Government (\$600 million). State fuel tax contributes to just over \$308 million. Receipts and transfers makes up around \$149 million, and the Mississippi Lottery sends over \$80 million a year.
- Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) - They are still addressing staffing challenges. Also addressing issues pertaining to inmate Re-entry programs.

Agency Request for MDOC: FY 2023 = \$45,165,988.00 → \$1,315,516.00 3.0% Increase

Agency FY 2022 Request: FY 2022 = \$43,850,472.00

Legislative Budget Office Hearings (Cont'd)

- Mississippi Department of Revenue (MDOR) - Since their primary role is to collect state revenue and send it where the legislature request, they are looking to improve those systems regarding things that get filed and having a system to check that process. Homestead Exemption Reimbursement falls under MDOR.

Request for Homestead Exe. Reim: FY 2023 = \$90,600,000.00 → \$11,586,528 14.66% Increase
Agency FY 2022 Request: FY 2022 = \$79,013,472.00

- Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) - State Superintendent Dr. Carey Wright said the overall ask for MDE is now totaling \$3 billion. Their request included increases and full funding of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP) at \$2.7 billion.

Request for MAEP: FY 2023 = \$2,705,560,475.00 → \$406,618,831.00 17.69% Increase
Agency FY 2022 Request: FY 2022 = \$2,298,941,644.00

1st Quarter Revenues Exceeds Estimates

- Mississippi Legislature's fiscal year is from July 1st - June 30th.
- With the first quarter ending September 30th, MS Legislative Budget Office reported revenue collection estimates to be \$250 million above revenue projections for FY 2023.



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

\$1.8 Billion State Portion

American Rescue Plan Act (State Portion)

- What Currently Know:

- There is a strong interest to allocate to hospitals, while allowing the hospital CEOs the discretion to decide how to spend it. NOTE: There will be rules that will prevent CEOs from spending it on themselves.
- In addition, the goal is also to pay for more nurses to help with the nursing shortage statewide (more than 2,000 regarding shortage). Considering paying out-of-state firms.
- Direct money to help with “front line” medical workers and expand benefits for first-responders who died from COVID-19 or a COVID-19 related illness. In addition, federal law will allow families of first responders who died from Coronavirus to be eligible benefits.
- Great interest in funding centers to help victims of child and domestic violence. (Around \$11 million.)



Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act

(Proposed Language Highlights)

*Potential Impact to
Local Government*

Mississippi Cannabis Act (Local Gov't Impact)

- SECTION 30: Local Government Option:
 - The cultivation, processing, sale, and distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis product is legal in every county and municipality in Mississippi UNLESS:
 - The governing authorities of a municipality or board of supervisors may opt out through a vote of the board within ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act. The governing authority shall publish a notice in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of its intent of holding a vote regarding opting out of allowing the cultivation, processing, sale and and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products. They may opt out of allowing one (1) or more of the following: cultivation, processing, sale or distribution of medial cannabis and cannabis projects.

Mississippi Cannabis Act (Local Gov't Impact)

(Cont'd)

- If the governing authorities of a municipality or board of supervisors do not opt out within ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act, then no vote by the governing authorities of a municipality or the board of supervisors may be held to so opt out.
- If the governing authorities of a municipality or the board of supervisors opt out, then the citizens can vote to opt back in according to the existing referendum process.
- If the governing authorities of a municipality or the board of supervisors opt out, then the governing board of the municipality or the board of supervisors can vote to opt back in at a later date.

Mississippi Cannabis Act (Local Gov't Impact)

(Cont'd)

- If a municipality that has opted out of the program annexes the geographic area which contains a licensed entity operating under this act, then the licensed entity may still continue its operation in that municipality's annexed geographic area.
- **SECTION 18: Licensing of Medical Cannabis Establishments:**
 - If a municipality or county where the proposed medical cannabis establishment would be located has enacted zoning restrictions, then there will need to be a sworn statement certifying that the proposed medical cannabis establishment is in compliance with the restrictions.

Mississippi Cannabis Act (Local Gov't Impact)

(Cont'd)

- **SECTION 18: Licensing of Medical Cannabis Establishments:**
 - The physical address of the prospective medical cannabis establishment, which shall not be within one thousand (1,000) feet of the main point of entry of a school, church, or childcare facility which exists or has acquired necessary real property for the operation of such facility before the date of the medical cannabis establishment application unless the entity has received approval from the school, church or childcare facility and received the applicable waiver from their licensing agency.



Key Preliminary Legislative Items

Key Preliminary Legislative Items

- **State Income Tax: Removal (phasing out) of the State Income Tax**
 - Strongly advocated by Speaker Gunn
 - The second largest income generator for the state general fund
 - Last year's legislative effort was to initially offset the tax loss with tax increases
- **Redistricting: Recent Legislation (State Control)**
 - House Bill 627 Year 2021
 - House Bill 1189 Year 2020

2022 Regular Legislative Session Proposals

MAS 2022 Legislative Proposals

- **Proposal 1**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors requests legislation that provides for county supervisors' discretionary authority regarding their salary.

- **Proposal 2**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that fully funds the Homestead Exemption Reimbursement at \$90.0 million.

- **Proposal 3**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that provides for increased revenue for 911 funding.

- **Proposal 4**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that provides for the 2016 round Rural Fire Truck funding.

- **Proposal 5**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that will shift the funding for the First Responders Health and Safety Act to the state funding level.

QUESTIONS ?