

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

## Weekly Legislative Update

2017 Regular Legislative Session

March 25, 2017

### **\*SPECIAL EDITION: CONFERENCE WEEKEND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE\***

#### **MORE EMERGENCY BUDGET CUTS FROM GOVERNOR BRYANT**

On Friday afternoon, Governor Phil Bryant was forced to make emergency state budget cuts as revenue continues to fall short for the state spending plan for the current budget year. This will be the sixth time in less than two years that such cuts were made.

Governor Bryant ordered \$20 million to be cut from the current year's spending plan and will dip into the state's rainy day fund. Up to \$39 million will be drawn from the rainy-day fund to pay the state's bills through June. Governor Bryant is also requesting authority to pull more from the rainy-day savings if necessary, because he's reached the max of \$50 million he can take out in a single year without legislative authority.

To date for the fiscal year that ends in June, the Governor has had to make \$171 million in cuts to cover shortfalls in a roughly \$6 billion budget. The rainy-day fund now stands at about \$240 million, down from its statutorily "FULL" amount of more than \$400 million.

#### **JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES CUTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018**

As lawmakers begin intense negotiations for the FY 2018 budget during "Conference Weekend," the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) met on Friday and reduced the coming fiscal year budget by \$175 million, which starts in July. This new estimate projects "zero" growth for the coming budget year for the state's general fund.



#### **2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION: REGISTER Now**

Registration is now open for the MAS 88th Annual Convention, June 12—15 in Biloxi. More information is available on the MAS website: [www.mssupervisors.org/88th-annual-convention](http://www.mssupervisors.org/88th-annual-convention)

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