



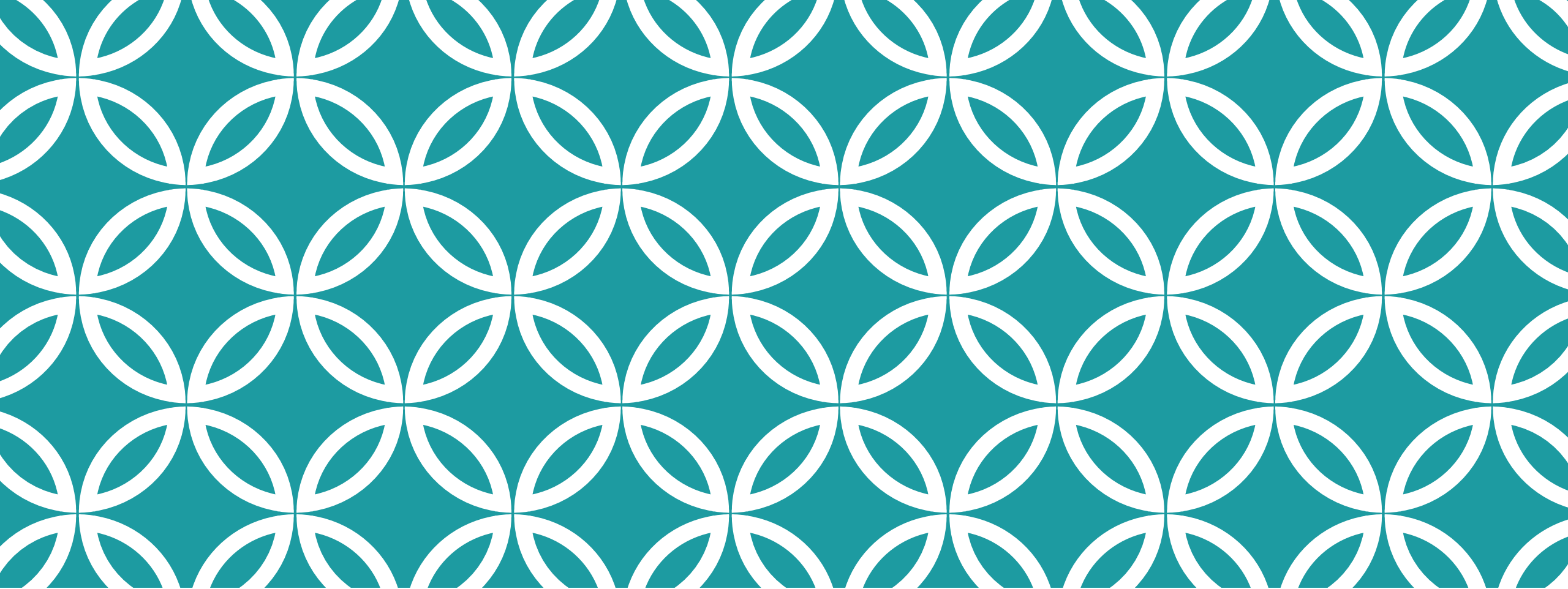
# 2020 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Legislative Forecast

*By: Steve A. Gray*

# TODAY'S TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- ❖ Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) Recommendations
- ❖ Executive Leadership & Key Chairs
- ❖ The Legislative Process (*General Overview*)
- ❖ Potential Public Policy Impacting County Government
- ❖ MAS 2020 Legislative Proposals
- ❖ MAS Regional Capital Visits
- ❖ Your MAS Lobbying Team



# **JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE (JLBC)**

2021 Budget Recommendations

# JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE

## 2021 RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Recommended total state support for Fiscal Year 2021 is **\$6,270,033,886.00**
- ❑ This is \$93.7 million less than the 2020 Fiscal Year budget.
- ❑ There will be \$107 million general funds that are **unencumbered**

# JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE

## 2021 RECOMMENDATIONS

(CONT'D)

State Agency Requests	FY 2020	FY 2021 Requested	LBR 2021 Recommendation	\$ Amount in Dollars	% Amount
<b>Homestead Exemption Reimbursement</b>	\$80,625,992.00	\$88,200,000.00	\$80,625,992.00	0	0%
<b>Beaver Control Assistance Program (BCAP)</b>	\$1,100,000.00	\$1,100,000.00	\$1,100,000.00	0	0%
<b>Junior College Support</b>	\$245,348,586.00	\$265,348,586.00	\$236,393,248.00	-\$8,955,338.00	-3.7%
<b>Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP)</b>	\$2,226,145,998.00	\$2,535,464,059.00	\$2,303,035,318.00	\$76,889,320.00	3.5%



# LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP & THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

State Government Affairs

# LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

## Senate

### \* Chamber Executives:

- Lieutenant Gov. Delbert Hosemann
- Senate President Pro Tempore Sen. Dean Kirby

### \* Key Chairmanships

- Finance Committee
- Appropriations Committee
- Highways & Transportation Committee
- Accountability, Efficiency, & Transparency Committee
- County Affairs Committee
- Energy Committee
- Elections & Apportionment Committee
- Judiciary A & B Committee
- Agriculture Committee

## House of Representatives

### \* Chamber Executives:

- Speaker of the House Rep. Philip Gunn
- House President Pro Tempore Rep. Jason White

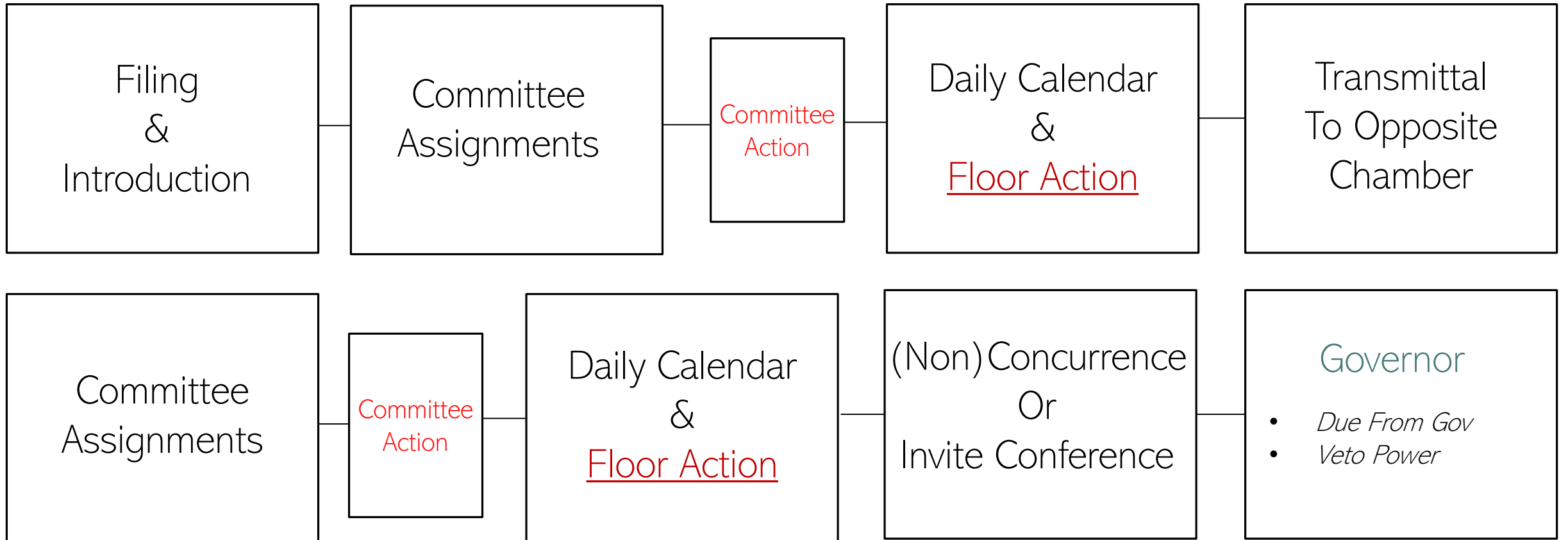
### \* Key Chairmanships

- Ways and Means Committee
- Appropriations Committee
- Transportation Committee
- County Affairs Committee
- Public Utilities Committee
- Accountability, Efficiency, & Transparency Committee
- Elections & Apportionment
- Judiciary A & B Committee
- Agriculture Committee

# MISSISSIPPI'S LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

(GENERAL OVERVIEW)

Mississippi's Legislative Lifecycle is Structured by an Array of Deadlines







# POTENTIAL PUBLIC POLICY IMPACTING COUNTY GOVERNMENT

2020 Regular Legislative Session

# MISSISSIPPI INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2019

(POSSIBLE TECHNICAL AMENDMENT)

- ❑ Systematic way to disclose what counties spent each year on infrastructure regarding the dollars that are received from the use tax distribution.
- ❑ This may or may not require legislation.
- ❑ MAS is working closely with the MS Department of Audit & the MS Department of Revenue to properly address this issue since the law mandates that DOR and AUDIT have the powers to ensure the proper implementation of this section of the law.

# INMATE MEDICAL COSTS

(HOUSE BILL 1111 FROM THE 2010 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION)

Repealer in Mississippi Code Annotated 47-5-901 stands to repeal July 1, 2020.

## The Key Language:

- “The board of supervisors of any county shall not be liable for any cost associated with medical attention for prisoners who are pretrial detainees or for prisoners who have been convicted that exceeds the Mississippi Medicaid reimbursement rate or the reimbursement provided by the Department of Corrections, whichever is greater.”

MAS has developed an inmate cost containment program around House Bill 1111 that has save counties over \$24.9 million since the inception of the program.

- ✓ MAS supports advocating “Deleting the Repealer 1<sup>st</sup> or Extending the Repealer 2<sup>nd</sup>.”

# 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS HEALTH & SAFETY ACT OF 2019

- ❑ Senate Bill 2835 mandates that counties and municipalities cover the cost for a defined benefits cancer policy for first responders. (Law Enforcement/Firefighters)
  
- ❑ The mandate doesn't take effect until 2021, and proof of coverage is not required until 2022. Oversight will fall under the Attorney General's Office
  
- ❑ The Uncertainty :
  - Will the legislative leadership have a plan to cover the cost?
  - Will the legislative leadership support the Insurance Commissioner's plan to absorb the cost?

# RURAL FIRE TRUCK FUNDING

- Possibility of a long-term funding solution for rural fire truck funding
- For the past two sessions the Legislature has provided funding for the rural fire truck fund by way of a percentage diversion of the non-admittance policy fee from the Wind Pool Insurance Fund.
- There is a growing advocacy from the firefighter community to create a permanent funding source for rural fire truck funding. There may be a push to allow the non-admittance policy fee from the Wind Pool Insurance Fund to be a permanent diversion.

# INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

## Local Systems Bridge Program “GAP” Funding

- ❑ In House Bill 1 from the 2018 Special Legislative Session, The Local Systems Bridge Program (LSBP) is set to be funded at \$20 million “minimum” by August 15<sup>th</sup> of year 2022. (This funding is provided by a 5% diversion of the Use Tax, which will be incrementally phased in over a 4-year period.)
- ❑ Until the LSBP Program can be permanently funded by the Use Tax diversion, there will be a need to fill the necessary gaps as the Use Tax is being phased in.
- ❑ MAS will advocate for the necessary gap funding.

# INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT) CONT'D

## Local Referendum: Discussed by Lieutenant Governor Hosemann

- ❑ Interests in adopting a local option tax on gasoline and diesel, ranging from 2 cents to 6 cents. The new additional revenue would be earmarked to address roads and bridges in the local communities.
- ❑ By an approved majority vote from the county board of supervisors, the proposed tax would be placed on the next general election ballot.
- ❑ In addition this option would specify to voters the projects that funds would be allocated toward, and the tax would sunset after those projects were completed.

# COUNTY OFFICIALS COMPENSATION TASK FORCE

- ❑ Section 12 of Senate Bill 2827 from the 2019 Regular Legislative Session “mandated” a study taskforce to study the compensation structure of elected county officials.
- ❑ No action was taken.
- ❑ Although no action was taken, MAS along with other county official groups will work to have legislation re-introduced to address the county compensation study taskforce.



# E-911 FUNDING

- The cost to fund E-911 services continues to rise and counties continue to supplement funding E-911 services with general fund revenue.
  
- MAS will continue to work to establish a funding stream that will adequately address the rising cost of E-911 services.
  
- Options to consider:
  - Restructuring the 911 surcharge distribution formula
  - Increasing the current surcharge
  - Request that the Legislature commission a study to deeply analyze and offer a solution to this funding crisis

# 2020 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

## **Proposal 1**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors requests legislation that addresses the gap funding needed for the Local Systems Bridge Program (LSBP).

## **Proposal 2**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that will fully fund the Homestead Exemption Reimbursement at \$88.2 million.

## **Proposal 3**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation provides for increased revenue for E-911 Funding.

## **Proposal 4**

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

## **Proposal 5**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that provides for the 2020 Rural Fire Truck Round and Rural Fire Truck Funding.

## **Proposal 6**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that provides funding for the Beaver Control Assistance Program (BCAP).

## **Proposal 7**

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors request legislation that will allow counties to increase from \$1,500.00 to \$2,500.00 for purchases made that does not require a purchase requisition.



# REGIONAL CAPITOL VISIT DATES

MAS Grassroots Initiative

# 2020 CAPITOL VISIT DATES

**Central PDD**

Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

**North Delta PDD**

Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

**East Central PDD**

Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>

**Southern PDD**

Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

**Southwest PDD**

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

**Golden Triangle PDD**

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Three Rivers PDD**

Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

**Northeast PDD**

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

**North Central PDD**

Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

**South Delta PDD**

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

# MAS LOBBYING TEAM

## **Derrick Surette**

▪ *Executive Director*

Years of State Lobbying/Government  
Relations Experience

15

## **Steve A. Gray**

▪ *Director of Governmental Affairs*

13

## **Brent Henderson**

▪ *(Contract Lobbyist)*

20+

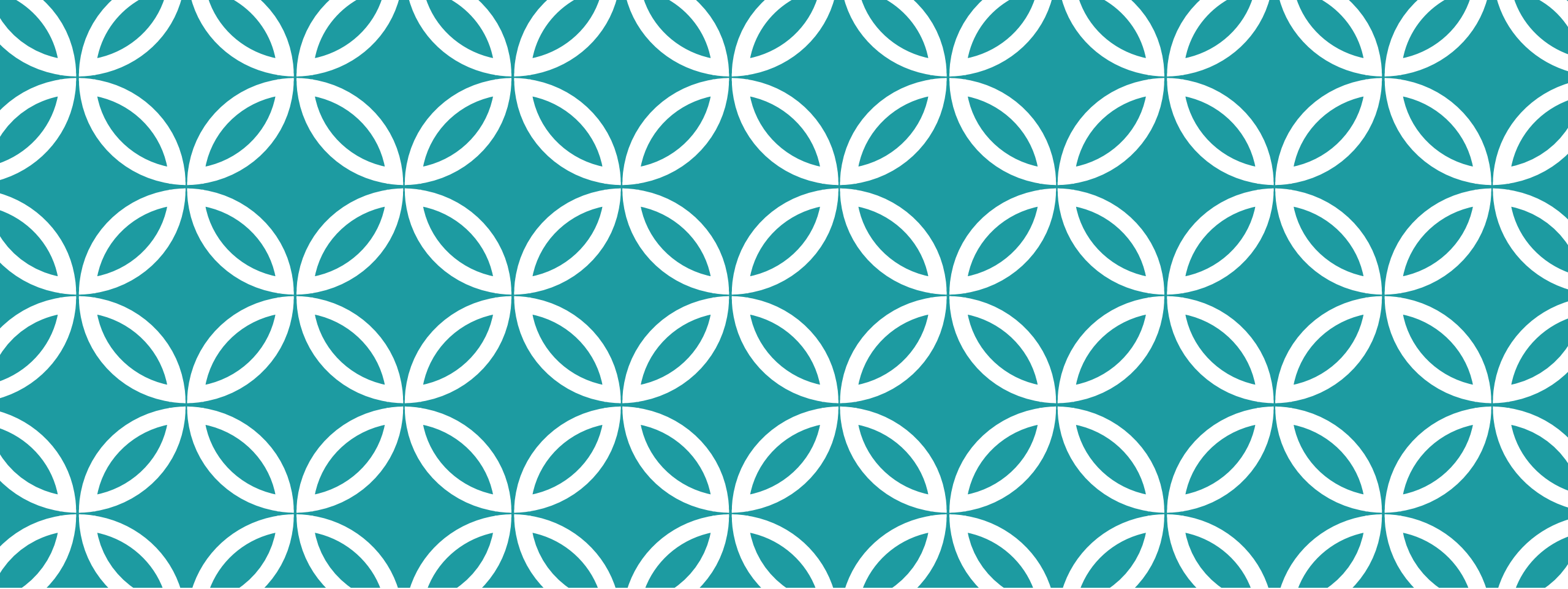
## **Yamaiky Gamez**

▪ *Legislative Affairs*

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51 Total Years of State  
Government Relations Experience



**QUESTIONS?**

