

MAS' WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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The 2022 Regular Legislative Session

The Twelfth week of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session is complete. The deadline for concurrence or nonconcurrence in amendments from other house to general bills, constitutional amendments, revenue and appropriation bills has passed. The deadline for final adoption of conference reports on appropriations and revenue bills and for conference reports on general bills and constitutional amendments to be filed is Monday, March 28th.

The Following Important Measures are in Conference Committees

Homestead Exemption Reimbursement:

Senate Bill 3024: This measure appropriates from the State general fund to the MS Department of Revenue for the purpose of reimbursing counties, for tax losses incurred by reason of the exemption of homes from certain ad valorem taxes. Section 7 of this measure provides for an appropriation of \$90,600,000.00.

NOTE: The follow conferees will negotiate the final outcome of this measure.

SENATE: Hopson, Michel, McCaughn

HOUSE: Read, Bounds, Beckett

Rural Fire Truck Funding:

House Bill 842: This measure funds and authorizes two additional rounds for counties regarding the Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Assistance Program.

NOTE: The follow conferees will negotiate the final outcome of this measure.

SENATE: Hopson, Michel, Hill

HOUSE: Lamar, Carpenter, Massengill

Purchasing Threshold Increase:

Senate Bill 2371: This measure increases from 50k to 75k for purchases from the lowest and best bidder without publishing or posting advertisement for bids, provided that at least two competitive bids have been obtained.

NOTE: The follow conferees will negotiate the final outcome of this measure.

SENATE: Polk, Butler (36th), Parks

HOUSE: Bell (21st), White, McCarty

Beaver Control Assistance Program (BCAP)

Senate Bill 3015: This measure contains the appropriation funding for the Mississippi Department of Agriculture. Section 4 of this measure provides funding for the Beaver Control Assistance Program at approximately \$1,100,000.00.

NOTE: The follow conferees will negotiate the final outcome of this measure.

SENATE: Hopson, DeLano, Butler (38th)

HOUSE: Read, Pigott, Mangold

POTENTIAL OMNIBUS BOND PACKAGE:

Senate Bill 3153: This measure authorizes the issuance of bonds to assist in paying costs of IHL, Community and Junior colleges, and state agencies capital improvements.

NOTE: The follow conferees will negotiate the final outcome of this measure.

SENATE: Harkins, Johnson, Sparks

HOUSE: Lamar, Steverson, Massengill

Mississippi House Leadership Amends Original Position for Tax Relief Plan

On Wednesday, March 23rd, the Mississippi Speaker of the House held a brief press conference highlighting a change in the House's position regarding their initial tax relief plan. The new proposed direction would reduce the state income tax by \$100 million a year until the tax has been eliminated. In addition, there will also be a six (6) year repealer included in the measure to revisit the issue to see if any adjustment need to be made. The House leadership will now await the Senate's position regarding this amended version of the House's tax plan.

House and Senate will reconvene on Saturday, March 26.

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