

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS

Weekly Legislative Update
2019 Regular Legislative Session
March 29, 2019

SINE DIE

Understanding Conference Committee

Once a conference report on legislation has been adopted by both the House & Senate chambers, then the legislation will head to the Office of the Governor to be signed into law or vetoed.

Below Are Measures Whose Conference Report Has Been Adopted

Omnibus County Official Salary Increase

Senate Bill 2827: The adopted conference report creates a taskforce to study county government compensation and fee structure. The final report also provides a 3% pay raise for county supervisors, that the board will have to vote to approve. ([Conference Report Adopted](#))

Emergency Road & Bridge Repair Fund :

House Bill 779: This measure revises how the Emergency Road & Bridge Repair Fund (ERBRF) monies may be spent. The adopted conference report also allows counties to work on LSBP, ERBRF Projects, 2018 Transportation & Infrastructure Improvement Projects, and Gulf Coast Restoration Fund Projects during the last term of office. Once the Governor signs this measure, it will be in effect upon passage. ([Conference Report Adopted](#))

First Responders Defined Benefits Plan:

Senate Bill 2835: This measure creates a mandate that will require counties and municipalities to provide health benefits coverage for volunteer firefighters, professional firefighters, and law enforcement officers as it relates to diagnosis attributed to their occupational hazards. The adopted conference report was reduced down to a limited cancer plan only. This law will not take effect until July 1, 2021. ([Conference Report Adopted](#))

Tax Lien Properties:

House Bill 1307: This measure addresses land sold for nonpayment of ad valorem taxes. In essence, the adopted conference report closes a legal loop hole and protects counties from lawsuits by tax lien purchasers that abuse the tax lien purchasing system. ([Conference Report Adopted](#))

BCAP Program:

Senate Bill 3043: This measure makes an appropriation for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the State Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The adopted conference report funds the Beaver Control Assistance Program is funded at: \$1,100,000.00. This amount is level funded from the previous fiscal year. ([Conference Report Adopted](#))

Homestead Exemption Reimbursement:

Senate Bill 3024: This measure makes an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the counties, county districts and municipal separate school districts for tax losses incurred by reason of the exemption of the homes from certain ad valorem taxes. The adopted conference report funds the Homestead Exemption reimbursement at \$80,625,992.00. This funding level represents level funding from the previous fiscal year. ([Conference Report Adopted](#))

Omnibus Special Projects Bond:

Senate Bill 3065: This measure authorizes the issuance of bonds for various projects. As for state programs benefiting counties, the adopted conference report funds the following:

Local Government Rural Water Systems Improvement Revolving Loan and Grant Fund -

\$1,000,000.00

Mississippi Community Heritage Preservation Grant Fund - \$5,000,000.00

Limited Population Counties Grant Fund - \$5,000,000.00 ([Conference Report Adopted](#))

Due from The Governor

Rural Fire Truck Funding

House Bill 444: Provides funding for the Rural Fire Truck Program at \$3.5 million dollars in section three of this bill. This measure also authorizes another round for rural fire truck acquisition. ([This measure now awaits the Governor's signature](#))

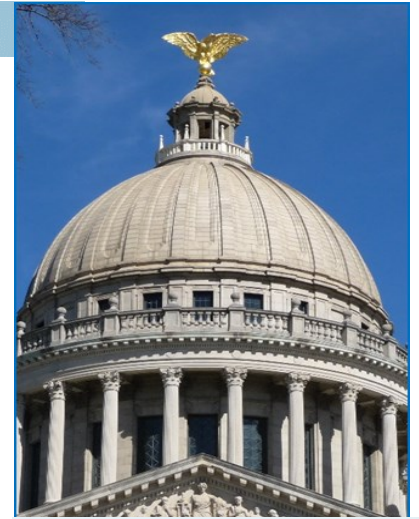
Signed by The Governor.

Debt Setoff Legislation

House Bill 991: This measure authorizes counties and municipalities to collect debts by setoff against a debtor's income tax refund.

Proclamation Authority

Senate Bill 2243: This measure will allow the president of a county board of supervisors to declare a local emergency by proclamation.



THE 2019 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

On Friday March 29th, The Mississippi Legislature has official adjourned Sine Die.

SAVE THE DATE

The 2019 Annual Convention registration is open. To register please open the following [link](#): <https://goo.gl/yLi1Qu>

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