



THE 2020 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Third week of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session has passed. The Deadline for making requests for general bills and constitutional amendments to be drafted is Thursday, February 20, 2020

MS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE HIGHLIGHTS THE BEGINNING DISTRIBUTION OF THE USE TAX DIVERSION REVENUE

On Wednesday January 22, the Mississippi Department of Revenue presented before the Senate Finance Committee regarding their agency structure and operations in addition to revenue collections by the department. One of the major highlights of the discussions pertained to the state's use tax collections. The department director (Herb Frierson) informed the Senate Finance Committee that the first round of the use tax diversion revenue to local governments were issued on January 15th. Mr. Frierson also noted that a second round of revenue distributions will be issue in the month of July.

NOTE: As a reminder, this revenue distribution comes from House Bill 1 that was passed in August during the Special Legislative Session of 2018. The revenue diversion consists of 3 different diversions: a 15% use tax diversion for counties that will be phased in over a 4-year period; a 5% use tax diversion for the Local Systems Bridge Program (LSBP) that will be phased in over a 4-year period and a 15% use tax diversion for municipalities that will be phased in over a 4-year period.

CHIEF-OF-STAFFS OFFICIALLY NAMED FOR HOUSE & SENATE CHAMBER EXECUTIVES

On Wednesday January 22, 2020, The Speaker of the House (Representative Philip Gunn) named Mr. Trey Dellinger as his official Chief of Staff. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Dellinger has spent the majority of his professional career in private law. Earlier in the month, Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann named Nathan Upchurch as his official Chief of Staff. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Upchurch served as Chief of Staff for Lt. Governor Hosemann when he was the Mississippi Secretary of State.

HOUSE CHAMBER ANNOUNCES COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

On Thursday January 23rd, the House chamber announced its committee assignments/leadership for the next four years. Although all committees are important, the following committees often work on public policy that has significant impact to county government: Ways and Means – Chairman Rep. Trey Lamar; Appropriations – Chairman Rep. John Read; County Affairs – Chairman Rep. Larry Byrd; Accountability Efficiency & Transparency – Chairman Rep. Randy Boyd; Transportation – Chairman Rep. Charles Busby.

Please click the following link to view the full list of House committees and its chairs: [Committee List](#).

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE INTRODUCED THAT IMPACTS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Senate Bill 2006: This measure provides counties the discretion to determine the interval of time for providing notice to financial institutions of the opening of the bidding process for serving as depositories of county funds.

NOTE: No action has been taken on this measure

The House and Senate will reconvene Monday, January 27 at 4:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

2020 Annual Convention

The 2020 Annual Convention will be at the MS Coast Coliseum & Convention Center June 15—18, 2020.

Huber Days Pac-Mac Expo:

This event is scheduled January 29-30, 2020 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Gulfport, MS. Huber Corporation and Pac-Mac Vacuum Products will be exhibiting their new features on their trucks. For more information or to register, please visit www.keithhuber.com

NACo Legislative Conference:

The 2020 NACo Legislative Conference will be at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. February 29 - March 4. MAS Caucus reception is scheduled for **Sunday, March 1** beginning at 5:00 pm at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

HELPFUL TECHNOLOGY

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