2003 2nd Special Session - Final Report

The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Special Session of 2003 adjourned sine die on September 26. The session was called by Governor Riley for the purpose of adopting the General Fund Budget and the Education Budget and various appropriation bills for the new fiscal year which begins on October 1. The Legislature enacted a $1,204,370,187 General Fund Budget and a $4,238,839,660 Education Budget. This Final Report lists those bills of interest to municipalities that were enacted during the special session.

General Bills Passed

The following is a brief summary of each of the general bills enacted during the special session that impact cities and towns.

General Fund Budget (HB1, Act 2003-437). This bill provides appropriations for ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative and judicial departments. This bill contains a League-supported appropriation of $568,598 to the Water Pollution Control Authority to continue the State Revolving Fund for Wastewater Treatment.

Pardons and Paroles/Restoration of Voting Rights (HB3, Act 2003-415). To amend the law relating to the board of pardons and paroles by providing for four special board members to serve for three years, by allowing the board to sit in panels of three for the purpose of determining pardons, remission of fines and forfeitures, paroles and the restoration of rights of convicted felons and by providing a procedure for the restoration of eligibility to register to vote of former probationers, parolees, and inmates who have satisfactorily completed conditions of their sentence, including probation, parole, incarceration, and community corrections as determined by the board of pardons and paroles based on court records, records of the department of corrections, and the board of pardons and paroles; to create a legislative oversight committee for the board of pardons and paroles; and to provide for an effective date.

Education Budget (SB8, Act 2003-438). This bill provides appropriations for the support, maintenance, and development of public education.

requested by the department; to eliminate the Alabama Underground and Aboveground Storage Tank Trust Fund Advisory Board and replace it with a nine-member board to manage the trust fund, to be called the Alabama Underground and Aboveground Storage Tank Trust Fund Management Board.

**Utility Service Vehicles** (SB22, Act 2003-478). To amend Section 32-9A-2, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to commercial motor vehicles and the application in this state of U.S. Department of Transportation motor carrier safety regulations; to provide certain exceptions for utility service vehicles and other motor vehicles engaged solely in intrastate commerce, to vehicles responding to emergency situations, and under certain other conditions.

**Driver’s License – Notification of Suspension, Cancellation or Revocation** (SB39, Act 2003-430). This bill amends Section 32-6-17 of the Code of Alabama 1975, to repeal the provision requiring the Department of Public Safety to notify by certified mail any person whose driver’s license has been suspended, cancelled, or revoked.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

- **HB14, Act 2003-408** – Economic & Industrial Development powers for Etowah County & municipalities located therein
- **HB28, Act 2003-409** – Economic & Industrial Development powers for Baldwin County & municipalities located therein
- **SB1, Act 2003-414** – Elected officials of Mobile County allowed to participate in Employees’ Retirement System
- **SB9, Act 2003-433** – Greene County bingo
- **SB38, Act 2003-413** – Tom Bevill Reservoir Management Area Authority

**Local Bills**

- **HB27, Act 2003-425** – Baldwin County tobacco taxes
- **HB50, Act 2003-469** – Mobile County Judge of Probate
- **HB52, Act 2003-470** – Escambia County Commission compensation
- **HB70, Act 2003-481** – Talladega County subdivision regulation
- **HB79, Act 2003-532** – Authorizes wet-dry referendums in Monroe County municipalities of 5,000 or more inhabitants
- **HB85, Act 2003-527** – Bibb County Sheriff – Service of Process Fund
- **HB86, Act 2003-435** – Prattville Sales and Use Tax distribution in Elmore County portion of city
- **HB87, Act 2003-467** – Butler County Commission single-member districts
- **HB89, Act 2003-431** – Madison County – Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages
- **SB3, Act 2003-439** – Dallas County Board of Registrars compensation
- **SB 7, Act 2003-466** – Dallas County Judge of Probate compensation
- **SB12, Act 2003-530** – Authorizes wet-dry referendums in Clarke County municipalities of 5,000 or more inhabitants
- **SB13, Act 2003-531** – Authorizes wet-dry referendums in Monroe County municipalities of 5,000 or more inhabitants
Annexation Bills

HB41, Act 2003-423 – Daleville
HB53, Act 2003-427 – Atmore
HB74, Act 2003-429 – Lincoln
SB14, Act 2003-426 – Atmore