



## MISSISSIPPI STATE LEGISLATURE WEEKLY REPORT

Legislators finished the second week of session a day early and adjourned for the week on Thursday afternoon. Legislators bank these unused days to have in the event of deadlock during debate or the conference committee process. If necessary, the days can be added to session at no cost to the taxpayers. During the second week of session, legislators continued to address administrative matters in both Chambers.

During the week, several Senate committees met to have an organizational meeting. These organizational meetings allow for the committee to elect a secretary who counts votes and takes attendance and adopt procedural rules. The Chair of the committee may also use this time to allow for interested parties to address the committee for a brief introduction. Organizational meetings will continue for the Senate during the beginning of next week. In addition to organizational meetings, committee work will begin next week. Currently, the Senate has 113 bills that have been assigned to the designated committee for the Chair to determine whether or not to bring the bill up for the committee's consideration.

Some bills of interest in the Senate are:

SB 2048 – Would allow for CRNAs with two years of practice in good standing to not participate in a collaborative agreement with a physician, nor would they be required to submit charts to the physician for review.

SB 2070 – Would modify the current laws for optometrists.

SB 2071 – Would prohibit the State Board of Health from requiring public water systems to fluoridate water.

Speaker of the House Philip Gunn faces the difficult task of making committee assignments for the 122 member House of Representatives. Due to the number of Representatives, the House Rules dictate the process for assigning committees based on seniority and preference. We anticipate House committees to be named by Friday of the upcoming week.

On Tuesday, Governor Tate Reeves was sworn in as the 65<sup>th</sup> Governor of Mississippi. During his inaugural speech, he vowed to clean up the prison system, to work to increase teacher salaries, and to implement a workforce training program.

Both Chambers will reconvene on Monday at 4:00 pm.