

The 2011 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature was very productive. Below is a list of the Acts of Alabama that may be of interest to some of our members. In addition to the items noted below, there were numerous Acts adopted that affect specific local areas. For example, municipal limits may have been extended, local fees may have been increased, etc. For more information on all Acts adopted, please refer to the website of the Alabama Legislature at www.legislature.alabama.gov . Also, to review copies of any of the Acts, please refer to the Alabama Secretary of State's website at www.sos.alabama.gov .

ACT 2011-530 - Competitive bids, public works projects and contract, life cycle costs may be considered in determining lowest bid, definitions, local governments authorized to purchase goods and services from vendors with GSA contracts.

ACT 2011-531 – Finance Department, monthly financial reports regarding General Fund and Education Trust Fund, required, to be published on Finance Department's website.

ACT 2011-535 - Immigration Law

ACT 2011-544 – Ad valorem tax, classification of residential property, definition to include single family dwellings and lots under construction, Homeowners and Storm Victims Protection Act.

ACT 2011-551 – Income tax and financial institutions excise tax credit for employers creating additional jobs under certain conditions, Full Employment Act

ACT 2011-560 – Live saltwater bait license, shrimping areas for bait and quantity of shrimp baskets regulated, license fees increased, expiration of licenses, regulation of bull minnow traps

ACT 2011-563 – Sales and use tax, Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Commission established, compliance with federal Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement

ACT 2011-676 – Retirement, judges, education employees, including teachers, state employees, firefighters, law enforcement officers, correctional officers, and retirement contributions increased

ACT 2011-566 – Schools, Child Nutrition Program, and other current expense funds allocated in the education appropriation act for 2010-2011 fiscal year, other uses authorized, State Superintendent of Education to approve.

ACT 2011-616 – Taxation, Multistate Tax Compact, determination of state and local tax liability of multistate business taxpayers, business income, apportionment, sales, other than tangible personal property, apportionment based taxpayers market for sale

ACT 2011-583 – Public contracts, competitive bids, potential conflict of interest, members and officers of public entities may have financial interest in public contract under certain conditions

ACT 2011-677 – State Board of Education, redistricting pursuant to 2010 federal census

ACT 2011-618 – Municipalities, ordinances relating to planning, zoning, or licensing of businesses, publication or posting further provided

ACT 2011 – 680 – Municipalities, municipal ordinances, fines in certain cases designated and recodified

ACT 2011-295 – Notaries public, distinction between county and state at-large removed

ACT 2011 – 214 – Municipal annexations, validated and ratified under certain conditions

ACT 2011-27 – Retirement, Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), new participation prohibited, interest paid on accounts limited, Teacher and Public Employee Retention, Joint Interim Legislative Committee on, established

ACT 2011-215 – Industrial Development Authority, land transfers, requirement that fair market value may be received, removed

ACT 2011- 216 – Economic development, financial commitments to build or expand in Alabama, written contracts required within certain time period, existing commitments without written contract void after certain period of time

ACT 2011 – 206 – Public School and College Authority, bonds authorized by Act 99-348, 1999 Reg. Sess. And Act 2002-240, 2002 Reg. Sess., certain unused proceeds, premium income, and investment income of bonds, expenditure for additional public education purposes and administrative costs authorized.

ACT 2011-684 – Public contracts, awarding authority to issue secondary award to certain companies owned and operated by individuals certified under federal HUB Zone Program or small business enterprise, not to exceed certain percent of original contract value, exceptions

ACT 2011-679- General fund budget, appropriations for ordinary expenses of executive, legislative, and judicial departments

ACT 2011-688 – Motor vehicles, liability insurance, verification prior to registration, online insurance verification system established, Revenue Department and law enforcement to electronically verify

ACT 2011-147 – Elections, expenses of county reimbursable by state specified. Election Expense Reimbursement Committee, established

ACT 2011-689 – Municipalities, local neighborhood infrastructure authorities, establishment by homeowners and business owners, authorized to manage and coordinate financing for neighborhood projects, tax credits, expiration date, Neighborhood Infrastructure Incentive Plan Act

ACT 2011 – 294 – Boats, including outboard motors and parts, vessel trailer, identification numbers and registration, altering prohibited, penalties including legal possession, forfeiture

ACT 2011-631 – Education, local boards of education authorized to issue interest-bearing warrants for educational purposes, State Superintendent of Education to approve, warrants to be sold at public or private sale, warrants and interest to be tax exempt

ACT 2011-632 – Ethics law, public officers and employees and family members, clarification that prohibited offer, gift, solicitation, or receipt of anything pursuant to Section 36-25-7, Code of Alabama 1975, must be for corruptly influencing official action

ACT 2011-695 – Entertainment Industry Incentive Act of 2009, qualified production companies, income tax rebates further provided for, tax exemptions, limited to state portion of sales, use, and lodging tax

ACT 2011- 235 – Public schools, k-12 instructional days, local board of education with approval of State Superintendent of Education authorized to make up cancelled instructional days by adjusting the hours of actual instruction

ACT 2011-697 – Elections, electioneering communications and paid political advertising, disclosure of source of funding required, exceptions, contributions by political committees further provided for

ACT 2011-698 – State Employees’ Health Insurance Plan, employees retiring after December 31, 2011, required to have at least 10 years creditable service for retiree coverage, premiums subject to certain sliding scale calculations, employer contribution for non-Medicare retiree not to exceed contribution for active employee

ACT 2011-642 – Sales and use tax, collection, revenue from discount, distribution to Conservation and Natural Resources Department altered for two years

ACT 2011-644 – Homeowners, income tax, deductions for the lesser of 50 percent of costs or \$3,000 for retrofit improvements to homes to help withstand hurricane and windstorm damages, rate filings and related actuarial information for homeowners insurance coverage to be public information available on the internet

ACT 2011-703 – Examiners of Public Accounts Department, recovery audits of overpayments of state funds, exceptions, Chief Examiner authorized to contract for, funds recovered placed in separate fund for appropriation

ACT 2011-704- Public Education Employees’ Health Insurance Plan, employees retiring after December 31, 2011, subject to certain sliding scale premium calculations, limit on employer contributions, false information basis for disqualification of coverage, employer contribution for non-Medicare retiree not to exceed contribution for active employee

ACT 2011-678 – Indigent Defense Services Office, established as division of Finance Department, director, staff, duties, advisory board in each judicial circuit, compensations of appointed counsel, contract counsel system and public defender officers further provided

ACT 2011-648- Economic development, tariff tax credits of capital investment costs for qualifying projects, job creation a qualifying factor, Tariff Credit Act

ACT 2011-709 – Tax abatements, properties damaged or destroyed by April 2011 tornadoes, protected, Tornado Recovery Tax Incentive Protection Act

ACT 2011-710 – Ad valorem tax, property classified as residential or a homestead, tax not affected during repair after natural disasters