

# Legislative Review

Volume 21, Issue 1  
January 13, 2009

2009 Session  
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## Home Builders Association of Mississippi

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### State Senate Passes Homestead Exemption Bill

Legislation was adopted by the Mississippi Senate that would help the elderly with increasing taxes on their homes. The exemption threshold was raised from \$75,000 to \$100,000 for homeowners over 65.

Higher assessments by counties have increased the tax burden on older Mississippian's. Counties are increasing property values and therefore, increasing the taxes. In the past, property values below \$75,000 were not taxed.

HBAM supported this legislation because it helps create less tax on older homeowners and potential home buyers. Under homestead exemption, the state encourages people to own homes by exempting the houses from some property taxes

### Important Dates:

January 20-23	NAHB Convention & Builders Show, Las Vegas, NV
January 30	Deadline: Extravaganza Booth Payments
February 2	Deadline: Hall of Fame nominations
February 6	Deadline: Extravaganza Product Guide ad purchase
February 11	HBAM Executive Committee Meeting; HBAM State Build PAC Reception honoring Legislators of the Year, Jackson
February 12	HBAM Winter Board Meeting, Jackson
March 6 - 8	34th Annual Home & Products Extravaganza - Mississippi Trade Mart, Jackson
March 22 - 25	NAHB Legislative Conference
May 19	National Membership Day
May 26 - 31	NAHB Spring Board of Directors Meeting, Washington, D.C.

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# House Bills of Interest to the Home Builders Association of Mississippi

## Building

HB 163 Mayo  
Relating to providing that a homeowner who has paid a contractor shall not be liable for any claims by a sub-contractor of the contractor.

HB 385 Jones  
Relating to making an appropriation to the Department of Insurance for cost-benefit study on wind hazard mitigation construction measures.

## Eminent Domain

HB 313 Chism  
Relating to prohibiting the power of eminent domain for certain private, nongovernmental purposes.

HCR 3 Upshaw  
Relating to providing that private property shall never be taken for private economic development purposes.

## Finance

HB 392 Flaggs  
Relating to revising the definition of qualified bonds, notes and liquid securities.

## Housing

HB 379 Reynolds  
Relating to authorizing the commissioner of corrections to allow the volunteer working of offenders in support of the fuller center for housing, inc, and to exempt the fuller center for housing from the mortgage protection law.

## Insurance

HB 42 Formby  
Relating to providing an employer the right to require an autopsy in death cases, at the expense of the employer, under the workers' compensation laws.

HB 43 Formby  
Relating to providing that the results of drug and alcohol test, employer-administered or otherwise, are admissible in the determination of intoxication of an employee for workers' compensation purposes.

HB 53 Formby  
Relating to revising the criteria for drug and alcohol testing under the workers' compensation law.

HB 73 Formby  
Relating to providing that Workers' Compensation Law shall be impartially construed and applied and shall not be presumed to favor one party over another.

HB 168 Mayo  
Relating to making it unlawful for an employer to terminate the employment of any employee who has made a good faith claim under the MS Workers' Compensation Law.

HB 195 Formby  
Relating to increasing the amount of certain death benefits the workers' compensation commission is au-

thorized to award for death and to provide an employer the right to request autopsy in event of death of an employee.

HB 259 Upshaw  
Relating to removing review of workers' compensation commission decisions by circuit courts.

HB 400 Moak  
Relating to requiring that a member of the Workers' Compensation Commission shall be an attorney at law with a minimum of five years' active practice in the state of Mississippi.

## Licensing

HB 8 Warren  
Relating to providing for the licensing and regulation of residential builders and remodelers.

## Public Health

HB 77 Bondurant  
Relating to providing that a permit from DHS shall be required to operate a public swimming pool.

## Tax

HB 19 Warren  
Relating to extending the repealer on the MS Employer-Assisted Housing Teacher Program.

HB 46 Formby  
Relating to providing that a portion of the federal self-employment taxes assessed against self-employed individuals shall be allowed as an adjustment to gross income under the state income tax law.

HB 83 Chism  
Relating to increasing the exemption from ad valorem taxes for homesteads.

HB 86 Zuber  
Relating to deleting certain provisions under the MS Public Records Act of 1983 that authorize a public body to establish and collect fees for searching and reviewing public records.

HB 115 Zuber  
Relating to increasing the exemption from ad valorem taxes for homesteads.

HB 147 Zuber  
Relating to increasing the exemption from ad valorem taxes for homesteads.

HB 172 Mayo  
Relating to removing the provisions prescribing the manner in which the appraisal of affordable rental housing shall be made for the purpose of arriving at the true value of the property for ad valorem tax purposes.

HB 194 Dedeaux  
Relating to authorizing an income tax credit for costs incurred by a taxpayer for the purchase and installation of wind energy systems and solar energy systems in property that is the primary residence of the taxpayer or rented out by others.

HB 209 Denny  
Relating to providing an income tax credit for individual taxpayer who pays home security expenses for his primary residence.

HB 315 Jones  
Relating to providing that equipment that is attached to any owner-occupied residential building or swimming pool as a part of a solar energy system shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation, except taxes for school district purposes.

HB 346 Mayo  
Relating to authorizing the Commission on Environmental Quality to set environmental fees.

HB 362 Flaggs  
Relating to enacting the Mississippi S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2009.

HB 378 Mims  
Relating to increasing the ad valorem tax exemption for homesteads in counties that have completed an update in the valuation of class 1 property after January 1, 2008.

HB 388 Jones  
Relating to authorizing an income tax credit for costs of purchase and installation of wind energy solar energy systems.

# Senate Bills of Interest to the Home Builders Association of Mississippi

## Building

SB 2158 Baria  
Relating to requiring rate filings for residential property insurance to include discounts, credits of other rate differentials for properties on which construction techniques have been demonstrated to reduce loss.

ciency improvements to homestead property on income taxes.

SB 2271 Michel  
Regarding an act to authorize an income tax credit for taxpayers who are first-time homebuyers of a principal residence in this state, and to provide the amount of the credit.

## Finance

SB 2346 Frazier  
Relating to providing consumer protections from certain mortgage lending practices relating to balloon payments, negative amortization and prepayment penalties.

SB 2300 Hewes  
Regarding an increase in the Homestead exemption in counties that have completed an update in the valuation of Class I property after January 1, 2008.

SB 2378 Jackson (32nd)  
Relating to providing that the state shall compensate a landowner whose property is diminished in value due to development on the adjacent tract of land.

## Housing

SB 2076 Watson  
Relating to requiring residential landlords to change the locks of dwelling units between tenants.

SB 2399 Carmichael  
Relating to authorizing a partial ad valorem tax exemption for agricultural land that is converted to residential use.

SB 2303 Hewes  
Relating to authorizing nonprofit public housing authorities to establish for profit subsidiary corporations to provide housing and community development services to persons of all income levels.

## Immigration

SB 2144 Watson  
Relating to creating the Immigration Reform Act of 2009.

## Insurance

SB 2066 Baria  
Relating to making it unlawful for an employer to terminate the employment of any employee who has made a good faith claim under the MS Workers' Compensation Law.

SB 2158 Baria  
Relating to requiring rate filings for residential property insurance to include discounts, credits of other rate differentials for properties on which construction techniques have been demonstrated to reduce loss.

SB 2358 Hewes  
Relating to increasing the amount of compensation the Workers' Compensation Commission is authorized to award for serious facial or head disfigurements.

SB 2359 Hewes  
Relating to providing that the Workers' Compensation Law shall be impartially construed and applied and shall not be presumed to favor one party over another.

SB 2386 Baria  
Relating to the creation of the Mississippi Consumer Insurance Policy Bill of Rights.

## Tax

SB 2216 Baria  
Relating to providing a credit for certain energy effi-

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