



## Police Jury Association

# NEWS LETTER

707 NORTH 7TH STREET • BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802-5327 • (225) 343-2835 • FAX (225) 343-0050 or 336-1344

June 10, 2005

TO: Executive Board Members  
Parish Presidents/Chairmen  
Secretary Treasurers & Council Clerks  
Parish Managers/Administrators  
Region Presidents

FROM: Roland J. Dartez, Executive Director



### **2005 REGULAR SESSION REPORT NO. 7 ONLY 13 DAYS REMAIN**

Less than two weeks remain in the session, but a lot can still happen. On May 27<sup>th</sup>, Governor Blanco signed SB 258, the Liability Cap, into law! The Governor's Hospital Provider Fee passed narrowly on the House Floor, and the Tobacco Tax is still pending. As with every session the last days will be frantic.

**BUDGET NOTES:** HB 1 - Being considered by Senate Finance; HB 2 - Being considered by Senate Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (make sure your projects stay in the bill)

#### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS EXCISE TAX**

Our vote count on HB 688 is looking better, but we need a few more solid commitments. It has been made clear to us by the undecided legislators that they need to hear from you, the people in their districts.

**MAKE A PERSONAL CONTACT TODAY!** Ask for their vote and let us know their response. We cannot pass HB 688 without your personal participation. Parishes have been shutout of telecommunications revenue for too long. **HBB 688 IS FAIR TO EVERYONE!**

#### **COMING UP IN THE WEEK OF JUNE 13<sup>th</sup> - JUNE 17<sup>th</sup>**

- HB's 273 & 274 limit the revenues realized from a millage roll-forward to the Consumer Price Index, despite the actual increase in property values. It will be heard in Senate Revenue and Fiscal Affairs. Contact Sens. Mount, Adley, Nevers, Nick Gautreaux, Kostelka, Dupre, Malone, Marionneaux, Michot, Murray, and Duplessis and **URGE OPPOSITION TO HB'S 273 & 274.**  
Contact your Senator to urge their **SUPPORT OF HB 625.**
- HB 415 would repeal the January bond election date. It will be heard in Senate Governmental Affairs Comm. this week. Contact Sens. Jones, Dupre, Dardenne, Ellington, Fields, Marionneaux, and Ullo and **URGE THEM TO OPPOSE HB 415.**
- SB353, the RR Crossings Bill, will be in the House Transportation Comm. We need to keep the PJAL and LMA supported amendments on the bill. The Governor has agreed to do so.
- SB 98 will mandate collective bargaining with public employee unions and subject us to binding arbitration. The bill is hanging around on the Senate calendar. **REMINDE YOUR SENATOR TO OPPOSE SB 98**
- SB 126 will unilaterally change the consensus agreement on the limitations on local government providing cable or telecommunications service. It will be heard in House Commerce on Monday. **URGE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO OPPOSE SB 126.**

#### **THE WEEK IN REVIEW - JUNE 6<sup>th</sup> - JUNE 10<sup>th</sup>**

- HB's 273 & 274 - The only millage roll-forward bills to make it out - The House unanimously passed these bills to limit millage roll-forward to allow only for an increase in revenue to not exceed the Consumer Price Index.
- HB's 173 and 237 - The bills by Rep. Burns to dramatically alter millage roll-forward and property assessment laws were rejected by the House Ways and Means Committee and appear dead for the session.
- **Special Assessment For The Disabled** - HB 's 370 and 573 and SB's 89 and 165 provide a freeze in assessments for the disabled. The bills are moving through the process with little opposition.
- **HB 625** - The bill to resolve the IRS problems with JP's and Constables and off-duty officer witness fees has passed the Legislature! **"THANKS", Rep. Charley DeWitt and Sen. Nick Gautreaux** for their efforts on our behalf.
- **HB 415** - The bill to eliminate the January bond election date overwhelmingly passed the House.
- **SB 353** - The RR Crossing bill has been reworked, with the DOTD accepting our proposals. The current proposal does not impact the Parish Transportation Fund and was passed off of the Senate Floor.
- **HB 517** - The bill intended to protect the PGRMA from some ongoing litigation Failed in House Labor. But we may have a deal in the works.
- **SB 108** - The bill to provide better notice of millage roll-forward meetings passed House Committee with our agreement with the LA Press Association to limit the newspaper charges for the additional notices.

**SECRETARY TREASURERS/COUNCIL CLERKS. PLEASE MAKE AND DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THIS REPORT TO YOUR JURORS, COUNCILMEN AND OTHER OFFICIALS**