

# **ACCA 2010 PRIORITY LEGISLATION**

## **PAY-AS-YOU-GO ROAD FUNDING PROGRAM**

This proposed bill would authorize a county commission to hold a local referendum for approval to impose a temporary local gas tax to pay for specified local road and bridge projects. The tax could be renewed every five years with public approval in a subsequent local referendum on renewal.

## **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT APPEALS**

Counties frequently file claims with the Board of Adjustment when a state agency (such as the Department of Corrections or Comptroller's office) denies a claim for reimbursement of expenses. Current law does not provide any specific procedures or guidelines for the Board to follow in considering a county's claim for reimbursement. This bill would establish guidelines for the Board of Adjustment to follow under these circumstances.

## **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) PROGRAM**

A committee of stakeholders from across the state is working diligently to establish policies related to the use of geographic information, geospatial data, and related technologies to ensure cooperation from and access to such information by federal, state, and local government agencies. This bill would provide statutorily for the work of this committee and the policies adopted for the benefit of all state and local governmental entities.

## **GOVERNMENT TAGS AND REGISTRATION**

Current law requires that state and local governments pay automobile tag and registration fees equal to the actual cost of producing the tag as determined by the Department of Revenue. This bill would provide that governmental entities not pay more than the fees charged for standard passenger vehicles, decreasing the cost paid by state and local governments.

## **PROCEDURES FOR RELEASE OF 9-1-1 TAPES**

This bill would develop procedures and standards for the release of 9-1-1 tapes to the public. County government and 9-1-1 districts are extremely concerned about the unprotected release of emotionally-charged 9-1-1 calls and propose this legislation to establish a process for release of 9-1-1 tapes that both provides protection to 9-1-1 districts and respects the privacy of 9-1-1 callers.

### **EXEMPTION ON JOINTLY-OWNED PROPERTY**

This bill would amend Alabama law to make clear that, in the event a person eligible for an exemption on his or her homestead due to age or disability owns the property jointly with a person or persons not eligible for the exemption, the exemption shall only apply to his or her proportionate share of the homestead.

### **TRANSPORTATION OF BODIES FOR AUTOPSY**

There is currently no clear procedure in the law addressing the duty and cost of transporting bodies to state forensic laboratories for autopsy. This bill would amend Alabama law to provide that the person, agency, or governmental entity requesting an autopsy shall be responsible for the cost of transporting the body to the forensic laboratory that will perform the autopsy.

### **SHARED COST OF AD VALOREM TAX COLLECTION**

Currently, the county assumes all cost associated with the collection of ad valorem taxes. This bill would amend Alabama law on ad valorem tax collection to apportion the costs of collection between all non-education entities entitled to a portion of the proceeds of the tax.

### **LITTER ENFORCEMENT**

Alabama has a strong criminal littering statute with stiff penalties for litter violations. However, the enforcement of this law is severely lacking, in part because law enforcement does not have adequate interest and/or resources for issuing citations. This bill would amend Alabama law to authorize the county license inspector or solid waste officer to enforce Alabama's litter laws and to issue citations against violators of those laws, allowing another avenue of enforcement.