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## Final Legislative Report of the 2012 Special Session

### Governor Bentley calls Special Session of the Legislature

Governor Bentley called the Alabama Legislature into special session on May 17, 2012 to consider several issues: reapportionment of House and Senate districts; Constitutional Amendment to correct technical flaws in State general obligation debt limit; disposition of funds to General Fund Budget; and Immigration law revisions.

The Legislature adjourned sine die on May 24 after consideration and passage of the following bills.

#### **General Obligation Bond Issue – (Constitutional Amendment) HB12 by Rep. Love**

This bill proposes a constitutional amendment to provide (i) that the authority of the State to issue general obligation bonds (including, without limitation, general obligation refunding bonds) pursuant to said amendments No. 666 [Section 219.04] and No. 796 [Section 219.041] would not be subject to the aggregate principal amount limitations contained in said amendments provided that at no time shall the aggregate principal amount of any general obligation bonds then outstanding be in excess of \$750 million, and (ii) that general obligation refunding bonds may be issued to refund bonds issued under said Amendments No. 666 [Section 219.04] and No. 796 [Section 219.041] subject to certain savings thresholds and limitations on maximum average maturity. In all other respects, Amendments No. 666 [Section 219.04] and No. 796 [Section 219.041] would remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

*Act # 2012-567*

**Sales Tax Collections - HB13 by Rep. Love** changes the distribution of State sales and use taxes to allocate 75% of future collections from remote sellers and 25% of all current use taxes to the General Fund. *Act # 2012-599*

**House Reapportionment - HB19 by Rep. McClendon** provide for the reapportionment and redistricting of the state into districts for the purpose of electing the members of the Alabama House of Representatives at the General Election in 2014 and 2018 until the release of the next federal census; to provide venue in Montgomery County Circuit Court for any legal action, including any action pending in any court on the effective date of this act, challenging the validity of all or any portion of any House of Representatives reapportionment or redistricting plan adopted pursuant to this act; and to repeal conflicting law. *Act # 2012-602*

**Children First Trust Fund Allocation - HB25 by Rep. Barton** make an appropriation of \$35,990,322 from the Children First Trust Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, to the entities and for the purposes designated in Section 41-15B-2.2, Code of Alabama 1975; to provide for the deposit of tobacco settlement revenues into the Children First Trust Fund. *Act # 2012-600*

**Senate Reapportionment - SB25 by Senator Dial** provide for the reapportionment and redistricting of the state into districts for the purpose of electing the members of the Alabama Senate at the General Election in 2014 and 2018, until the release of the next federal census; to provide venue in Montgomery County Circuit Court for any legal action, including any action pending in any court on the effective date of this act, challenging the validity of all or any portion of any Senate reapportionment or redistricting plan adopted pursuant to this act; and to repeal conflicting law. *Act # 2012-603*