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April 29, 2011

Deadliest Day in 80 Years Brings Perspective

Retailers Dig Out, Reach Out and Carry on in Wake of Alabama Tornado Destruction

Everything stopped Wednesday, even the Alabama Legislature, as Alabama watched the deadliest tornado day in almost 80 years unfold in front of their homes and businesses or live on television for those out of the path of the destruction.



Tuscaloosa's McFarland Boulevard, the day after deadly tornado. City of Tuscaloosa photo

When dawn broke Thursday, more than 200 Alabamians had died, thousands had been injured, a half million were left without power and the bright sun revealed destruction that spread throughout the northern half the state, cutting wide paths through metropolitan areas and obliterating entire small towns. Both chambers of the Alabama Legislature met briefly Thursday, then adjourned to allow lawmakers to return to their storm-ravaged districts.

The thoughts and prayers of the Alabama Retail Association and its members are with the families of those who lost their lives and those whose homes and businesses have been destroyed. The tornadoes began early and continued throughout the day, many touching down during business hours when both employees and customers were inside buildings that no longer exist.

ARA member businesses suffered damage and injuries as a result of the tornadoes. **Great Steak Delivery Inc.**, dba Steak Out, and a **CVS** pharmacy were among the businesses destroyed on McFarland Boulevard, the major business artery in Tuscaloosa. **Doodles Cajun Cuisine** on the Decatur Highway in Fultondale also was destroyed in one of the hard-hit areas in Jefferson County. *"We got hit really bad. It is a total loss. Thanks to all of our loyal customers. It has truly been a wonderful 20 years. : ("* was the message left on Doodles' facebook page. More ARA members affected by the tornadoes are sure to come to light as the days unfold.

Since Wednesday evening, ARA has posted vital information related to the storms on the [Emergency Preparedness Page](#) of its website as well as on its [facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages, including who to call to get and offer assistance (2-1-1), an explanation of Alabama's price gouging law and notices from the Alabama Department of Public

CRR EXTRAS

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TOP ISSUES

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Health for pharmacies. We will continue to post updates there and will pass along notifications by email to pharmacies as we receive them. **[Any open pharmacies able to dispense medications in the 19 Alabama counties most affected by Wednesday's storms should inform the Health Department.](#)**

ARA members also have been on the forefront of offering goods, services and donations to the affected areas. Many have made valiant efforts just to stay open. Generators kept stores open in areas that remain without power. Huntsville's **Mullins Drive In** served three times the number of customers it ordinarily does Thursday because it cooks with gas. That restaurant and many others said they would stay open until the food gives out.

Stores and restaurants also have been feeding emergency workers and serving as drop off points for supplies. Retailers with Alabama stores but based in other states also have been sending water and other supplies to Alabama as well as making donations to the Red Cross for the Southern Storms and other relief agencies. If your business would like to make a large shipment of supplies to Alabama, ARA can provide you with the proper contact information. The American Red Cross in the affected areas has asked for 24 hours notice of large shipments.

ARA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA IN ACTION

**Alabama Retailers Unite!
Tell Senators to Vote 'Yes' on HB 365**
Together You CAN End Internet Retailers' Tax Advantage

At 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, the Senate Commerce, Transportation and Utilities Committee will vote on **[HB 365](#)** by Rep. Jamie Ison, R-Mobile, vital legislation aimed at ending the tax advantage online retailers have over your local store. You can help Alabama become the next state to wipe out the remote retailers' no-tax advantage by contacting members of the committee and/or your senator and asking them to stand with local, Alabama retailers in support of HB 365.

IF YOU ARE IN THEIR DISTRICTS, ASK COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO ATTEND TUESDAY'S MEETING & SUPPORT HB 365.

The committee members are:

[Gerald Allen, R-Tuscaloosa](#)
[Greg Reed, R-Jasper](#)
[Billy Holzclaw, R-Madison](#)
[Shadrack McGill, R-Woodville](#)
[Quinton Ross, D-Montgomery](#)
[Clay Scofield, R-Arab](#)
[Harri Anne Smith, I-Slocumb](#)

**[>> More on Sales Tax Fairness, HB365
and contacting your Senator](#)**

Now is your last chance to weigh in with your senator on this issue before lawmakers break for two weeks for reapportionment hearings. Should the committee approve HB 365 on Tuesday, it could reach the Senate for final approval next week.

HOUSE

- **[HB 3](#)**
- **[HB 56](#)**
- **[HB 86](#)**
- **[HB 102](#)**
- **[HB 124](#)**
- **[HB 195](#)**
- **[HB 228](#)**
- **[HB 230](#)**
- **[HB 236](#)**
- **[HB 239](#)**
- **[HB 251](#)**
- **[HB 312](#)**
- **[HB 365](#)**
- **[HB 427](#)**
- **[HB 478](#)**
- **[HB 548](#)**
- **[HB 555](#)**
- **[HB 582](#)**

SENATE

- **[SB 70](#)**
- **[SB 109](#)**
- **[SB 166](#)**
- **[SB 184](#)**
- **[SB 187](#)**
- **[SB 192](#)**
- **[SB 207](#)**
- **[SB 212](#)**
- **[SB 256](#)**
- **[SB 347](#)**
- **[SB 373](#)**
- **[SB 384](#)**
- **[SB 430](#)**
- **[SJR 106](#)**

IN THE NEWS

[Death toll rises to 228](#)

[Alabama tornadoes: Small stores, big industry hit](#)

[Some Huntsville restaurants open till food is gone or spoiled](#)

[Alabama AG warns against price gouging](#)

[Tornadoes shut Mercedes, other southern automakers](#)

[Unemployment help is made available to storm-](#)

Resolution Supports Main Street Fairness Act

Meanwhile this week, [Sen. Marc Keahey, D-Grove Hill](#), introduced a joint resolution urging Congress to pass legislation requiring online businesses to collect and remit sales taxes for all their customers, not just those where the retailer also has a brick-and-mortar store.

"*Untaxed sales made via catalogue or the Internet put Alabama-based businesses that must collect sales tax at a competitive disadvantage*," Keahey states in [SJR 106](#). If passed, the resolution is to be provided to every member of the Alabama congressional delegation.

Brick-and-mortar and online retailers based in Alabama or with stores in Alabama HAVE TO collect Alabama sales taxes, while certain out-of-state online retailers continue to REFUSE TO collect the taxes for our state, counties and cities. Nineteen years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court said those out-of-state retailers without a presence in our state didn't have to collect the taxes because at the time collection for multiple states, cities and counties was too complicated and the technology didn't exist to make it easy. The court threw the issue back to Congress to resolve, but after almost two decades, Congress hasn't acted. Keahey's resolution asks Congress to act now.

U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., is expected to introduce the Main Street Fairness Act soon. His federal legislation would require ALL retailers to collect and remit sales taxes, whether online or in store, solving the issue HB 365 seeks to begin to address in Alabama. Even if Congress acts now, it would be years before the federal law could be implemented. HB 365 provides immediate assistance.

[>>> Read more about Main Street Fairness](#)

Senate Panel to Take up Late Fee Fairness Next Week; Final Senate Vote Possible

If the Senate Commerce, Transportation and Utilities Committee approves [HB 3](#) by [Rep. Craig Ford, D-Gadsden](#), during its Tuesday meeting, the bill could make it to the Senate floor before the Alabama Legislature takes a two-week break for reapportionment hearings.

Ford's bill ties the minimum late fee retailers and other businesses can charge on delinquent consumer credit transactions under the Mini-Code to the amount allowed under the Alabama Small Loan Act, which if enacted would mean a modest \$8 increase in late fees. The minimum late fee allowed under the Small Loan Act has been \$18 since 2007, while the Mini-Code minimum has remained at \$10, even though larger loans are allowed under the Mini-Code. Furniture, appliance and other stores offering in-house financing will benefit the most from the change.

Let your senator know you support HB 3 as the vehicle for bringing about late fee fairness.

The Senate companion, [SB 70](#) by [Sen. Gerald Dial, R-Lineville](#), also awaits consideration by the full Senate.

[>>>Read more about Late Fee Fairness](#)

House Judiciary Moves Tort Package onto House

[displaced workers](#)

[Best things to send Alabama tornado victims? Money, water and snacks](#)

[Tornadoes leave residents uncertain about power, fuel and food](#)

[Possibly one of five deadliest sprees in U.S. weather history](#)

[DeKalb County path of destruction 25 miles long](#)

[Arab killer tornado breaks hearts, wrecks lives](#)

[A chaotic flurry of twisters that spread devastation fast and wide](#)

[Obama says devastation unlike any he ever saw](#)

[President Obama signs disaster declaration](#)

[Legislators to seek public input on redistricting in May](#)

[Alabama Senate committee OK's immigration bill](#)

[Alabama Senate approves Bentley jobs bill](#)

[Senate passes jobs bill](#)

[Business owners look to state for help](#)

[Senate committee OKs bill to ban texting while driving](#)

For more stories concerning legislative action and news of interest to retailers, go to [In the News](#)

ARA CONTACTS

[Rick Brown](#)
President

[Alison Wingate](#)
Vice President

The four-bill tort reform package supported by the Alabama Civil Justice Reform Committee (ACJRC) and ARA is ready for final consideration in the last week before the Alabama Legislature breaks for reapportionment hearings. The House Judiciary Committee approved all of the bills Wednesday on voice votes.



The only bill that encountered any opposition was [SB 187](#) by [Sen. Ben Brooks, R-Mobile](#), which requires Alabama to apply a stricter standard for determining whether to admit scientific expert testimony. Heard voting against the bill were [Reps. Thad McClammy, D-Montgomery](#); [Daniel Boman, R-Sulligent](#); [Chris England, D-Tuscaloosa](#); [Mike Jones, R-Andalusia](#); and [Allen Treadaway, R-Morris](#). The House Judiciary Committee has yet to vote on the companion bill, [HB 239](#) by [Rep. Steve McMillan, R-Bay Minette](#).

The other bills moving with SB 187 onto the House for final passage are:

- [SB 184](#), also by Brooks, which restricts product liability lawsuits to the makers of a hazardous product. The bill prohibits such suits against retailers, wholesalers and distributors who merely sold a product that somehow caused the owner harm. The House companion, [HB 251](#) by [Rep. Wes Long, R-Guntersville](#) also awaits House consideration.
- [SB 212](#) by [Sen. Clay Scofield, R-Guntersville](#), which prohibits forum shopping of wrongful death actions by requiring that such lawsuits can only be brought in the county where the deceased could have filed suit. The House companion, [HB 228](#) by [Rep. Ron Johnson, R-Sylacauga](#), also awaits House consideration.
- [SB 207](#) by [Sen. Cam Ward, R-Alabaster](#), which changes the rate of interest on judgments in Alabama from 12 percent to 7.5 percent. The Southeast average is 8 percent. The House companion, [HB 236](#) by [Rep. Greg Canfield, R-Vestavia Hills](#), also awaits House consideration.

Panel Delays Vote on Taxpayers' Bill of Rights II

After conducting a public hearing this week, the Senate Judiciary Committee carried over the Alabama Taxpayers' Bill of Rights II, [HB 427](#) by [Rep. Paul DeMarco, R-Homewood](#), until its 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 4, meeting. Judiciary Co-Chairman [Cam Ward, R-Alabaster](#), asked that the 102-page bill be carried to give members more time to review it. The legislation has the support of the Business Associations' Tax Coalition, a 30-member business trade association group that ARA President Rick Brown chairs, the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Alabama Bar Association and the Council on State Taxation among others. It creates an independent and qualified tax appeals court in Alabama. DeMarco told the committee the bill is "*fair to everyone in the tax appeals process.*" An attorney for the Alabama Education Association argued that the current system of using an administrative law judge who is a state merit system employee to oversee appeals is already an independent system for tax appeals. The Senate Judiciary Committee has not acted on the Senate companion, [SB 347](#) by the other Judiciary co-chairman, [Sen. Ben Brooks, R-Mobile](#).

[>>Learn more about the Taxpayer Bill of Rights II](#)

[Nancy Dennis](#)
Dir. of Public Relations

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LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

To contact members of the Alabama Legislature:

WRITE:

Alabama State House
11 South Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130

CALL:

HOUSE: (334) 242-7600
SENATE: (334) 242-7800

E-MAIL:

Most representatives can be reached through the House e-mail system by using the following format:

[firstname.lastname@alhouse.org](#).

Those without e-mail addresses can be reached through the general e-mail address:

[house3@alhouse.org](#)

There is no general e-mail address for senators. [Click here](#) for a roster of the state senators with their complete contact information.

LINKS GO TO CONTACT INFO:

The link to each lawmaker mentioned in this publication goes to their individual websites, which have contact information. You can also find out whose legislative district you live or work in under [Find Your Lawmaker](#) in the [Political Affairs](#) section of [alabamaretail.org](#).

IMMIGRATION

Committee Moves House Version of Immigration Bill to Senate for Final Passage; Senate Bill Unassigned

On Thursday, the Senate Job Creation and Economic Development Committee approved [HB 56](#), by [Rep. Mickey Hammon, R-Decatur](#), one of two dueling bills moving this session that address illegal immigration in Alabama. It appears lawmakers have chosen Hammon's bill as the immigration vehicle. The bill now awaits action by the full Senate and possible final approval as early as next week. The Senate-approved immigration bill, [SB 256](#), by [Sen. Scott Beason, R-Gardendale](#), has not been assigned to a House committee.

[>>>Read a detailed legal analysis of SB 256](#)

FOOD SERVICE

Senate Panel to Consider Bill Preventing Local Menu Nutrition Labeling

At noon Wednesday, the Senate Health Committee will consider [HB 195](#) by [Rep. Ken Johnson, R-Moulton](#), which would prevent Alabama from having a patchwork of local food nutrition labeling laws and save small restaurants from unnecessary and costly regulation. Under the bill, restaurants could not be subjected to menu labeling requirements without a statewide law passed by the Alabama Legislature. If the Senate committee approves it, the bill could receive final passage as early as next week. The Senate already is in a position to hear the Senate companion, [SB 166](#) by [Sen. Gerald Allen, R-Tuscaloosa](#). [ARA backs the efforts of the Alabama Restaurant Association to support this legislation.](#)

POINT-OF-SALE FEE COLLECTIONS

Vote Soon on E-911 Fees Bill Retailers to Receive 4% Collection Allowance

House Boards, Agencies and Commissions Committee Chairman [Howard Sanderford, R-Huntsville](#), said the next time his committee meets, it will vote on [HB 312](#) by [Rep. Mike Millican, R-Hamilton](#), which would regulate E-911 services and fees.

The committee conducted its second week of public hearings on the bill Wednesday and negotiations continue on the legislation that among other provisions would require retailers to collect E-911 fees from prepaid wireless customers. The bill as it stands now mandates a single flat fee be collected from each cell phone, prepaid wireless and land-line customer. While most cell phone carriers have been collecting and remitting E-911 fees, many prepaid services have not, and face lawsuits seeking back payment of the fees. Cell phone users now pay a flat 70-cent monthly fee for E-911 services, while the monthly fee for landline users can be as high as \$5.08. Landline fees, which by law are variable based on the coverage area, have increased as more and more phone users have dropped their landlines and are using cell phones exclusively for



For committee assignments and clerk contacts for the Alabama Legislature, see [ARA's 2011 Legislative Roster](#).

BENEFIT FROM THE VALUE

Now, Even More Benefits from ARA



Your Business Can Save Thousands

ARA constantly strives to increase the Value its members received from membership. Many members have been using our low-cost workers' comp program for years, but were asking for more. In January, we announced more savings. ARA members now have access to:

Cost-Saving Credit Card Processing:

Through a partnership with Huntsville-based **CHECKredi**, ARA members get rates normally reserved for only the largest stores.

**Discounted
Inbound and**

their phone needs. Sonny Brasfield, executive director for the Association of County Commissions of Alabama, told the committee that applying a flat fee to all phone users to cover the cost of providing 911 emergency services would be a significant, but not a groundbreaking, change.

Under the current bill, retailers, rather than carriers, would begin collecting the E-911 fees for wireless communications services at the point of sale, with the fees noted separately on the after-tax price of the service on invoices or receipts. The retailer also would be allowed to deduct and retain 4 four percent of the prepaid wireless 911 charges collected from consumers to cover the retailer's expenses for collecting and remitting the fees, along with sales taxes, to the Alabama Revenue Department.

A second substitute is expected to be offered to the House committee before it votes on the legislation. The Senate companion, **SB 438** by **Sen. Del Marsh, R-Anniston**, has been assigned to the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

Outbound Shipping:

Through our arrangement with **PartnerShip** ARA members can save up to 27% on FedEx services and up to 70% on other shipping needs.

Budget Friendly Email Marketing

Constant Contact brings ARA members cutting edge e-mail marketing technology for as low as \$15 a month; members save up to 25%

TAXES AND TAX INCENTIVES

Committee Approves Bill That Allow Localities to Drop Sales Tax from Food

On a vote of 7-4 Wednesday, the Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund Committee amended and approved **SB 109** by **Sen. Arthur Orr, R-Decatur**, which would allow a county or a municipality to exempt the local sales tax on food. Orr's amended bill would give county or city officials the authority to exempt food, as defined by federal food stamp regulations or as defined by the county commission or municipal governing body, from their local sales taxes. In many areas of the state this could reduce sales taxes by as much as 6 percent. The original bill defined food as set out in the Federal Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, or WIC. **ARA sought the amendment to instead define food based on the broader food stamp definition.**



Senate Approves Mercedes-Style Incentives

During its all night session Tuesday, the Alabama Senate voted 34-0 for **SB 373** by **Sen. Phil Williams, R-Rainbow City**, legislation supported by the governor and the Alabama Development Office that creates tax breaks similar to those used in 1993 to attract Mercedes to our state. The House Economic Development and Tourism Committee is set to consider the Senate bill at its 11 a.m. Tuesday meeting. The House companion, **HB 478** by **Rep. Barry Mask, R-Wetumpka**, awaits consideration by the full House. Under the bills, a new or expanding industry could withhold up to 90 percent of state income taxes taken from the paychecks of its fulltime employees. A plant that is modernizing in order to keep jobs could withhold up to 75 percent. The State Industrial Development Authority will approve the companies and negotiate the size of the tax breaks. The tax break would end once the entire incentive package offered by the state

equals the cost of building the new plant or expansion. Kentucky, Georgia and Mississippi have similar legislation.

Amended Full Employee Act Heads to the Full Senate

Thursday, the Senate Job Creation and Economic Development Committee amended and approved [HB 230](#) by [Rep. Blaine Galliher, R-Gadsden](#), the governor's tax incentive legislation for small business known as the Full Employment Act. If the Senate approves the bill, it will have to go back to the House for concurrence. The legislation provides a one-time, \$1,000 income tax credit for each new \$10 or more per hour job created by businesses with 50 or fewer employees. The credit can be applied after the employee has worked for a business for 12 consecutive months, starting with this tax year. The Senate companion, [SB 173](#) by [Sen. Arthur Orr, R-Decatur](#), received Senate committee approval April 7.

House Panel to Vote on Legislative Fix for Gross Income Tax 'Loophole'

At 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, the House Ways and Means Education Committee will consider [HB 548](#) by [Rep. Jay Love, R-Montgomery](#). The bill had been on the committee's agenda this week, but did not come to a vote. Love's bill attempts to close what the governor perceives as a "loophole"; in the state's tax structure and what the Alabama Revenue Department has tried to rectify with a proposed change in gross income tax regulations. The Revenue Department has set a public hearing for May 5 on its proposed rule change.

This legislation deals with pass-through entities, such as partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability companies and S corporations. Love's bill corrects problems, which the business community has tried to offer solutions for in the past, with a legislative fix that is more equitable than the regulation change proposed by the Revenue Department.

[>>>For details on HB 548/SB 425](#)

The Senate companion, [SB 425](#) by Sen. Del Marsh, R-Anniston, has been assigned to the Senate Finance and Taxation Education Committee.

House Did Not Vote on Occupational Tax Ban

The Alabama House of Representatives debated, but did not vote on [HB 124](#) by [Rep. John Merrill, R-Tuscaloosa](#), a constitutional amendment that asks voters to forbid cities and counties from implementing future occupational taxes. Merrill said employees in 26 Alabama localities pay an occupation, or a local income tax, on wages even if they don't live in the city or county where they work. Any local occupational tax that existed before Jan. 1 would be unaffected by this constitutional ban. Jefferson County's occupational tax was struck down in 2009 and a new one approved. But the Alabama Supreme Court ruled in March that the Jefferson County tax was unconstitutional. At one point during the debate Wednesday, an amendment was offered to repeal all existing occupational taxes within five years after voters approved the ban of future taxes. The House adjourned Wednesday afternoon without finishing its debate.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Possible Senate Floor Amendment Would Send Texting Bill Back to House

The Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday approved [HB 102](#) by [Rep. Jim McClendon, R-Springville](#), which would make texting while driving a primary traffic offense, meaning it could be the sole reason a motorist gets ticketed. If the Senate approves the bill as is, the measure would have final approval and be sent to the governor to sign into law. [Judiciary Co-Chairman Cam Ward, R-Alabaster](#), told the sponsor he wants to amend the bill on the Senate floor to exempt mounted GPS devices. If he does, the bill will have to go back to the House for concurrence with the amendment. Similar legislation died in the Senate last year. Currently, there is no specific prohibition against operating a vehicle while text messaging. The legislation would make it illegal to send a text message, email or instant message while driving. Voice-operated text messaging would be exempted from the ban. The bill levies a \$25 fine for the first offense, \$50 for the second offense and \$75 for the third. An offense would put two points on a motorist's driving record. Thirty states, the District of Columbia and Guam ban text messaging while driving, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Greeson Proposes Loosening Handgun Regulations

[Rep. Todd Greeson, R-Ider](#), this week introduced [HB 582](#), which would loosen many of the regulations of handguns and the requirements for concealed carry permits in Alabama. While ARA has no position on much of the bill, there are provisions that could violate the rights of business owners to secure their property. **ARA will monitor these provisions and any others that will affect our members.** The bill awaits action in the House Judiciary Committee.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

Panel Carries Over Equal Pay Bill; Back on Agenda for Wednesday

The Senate Judiciary Committee this week carried over [SB 384](#), The Equal Pay Remedies and Enforcement Act, by [Sen. Vivian Figures, D-Mobile](#), but the bill is back on the committee's 1 p.m. Wednesday agenda. The bill being pushed by Alabama Arise creates an Equal Pay Commission to study wage disparities and report its findings and recommendations to the House speaker, governor and Alabama Legislature. Several committee members questioned why the legislation wasn't handled as a resolution, rather than a bill. According to the legislation, the bill's purpose is to help the state enact more effective laws to eliminate wage disparities between men and women, minorities and non-minorities. The ultimate result of this legislation could be exposure to regulations and laws broader than those required by the federal government.

ALCOHOL

Brew Pub and Alcohol Server ID Bills to Get Committee Hearing Next Week

On Tuesday, the Alabama House Economic Development and Tourism Committee will hold public hearings on two pieces of alcohol-related legislation. The hearing is scheduled for 11 a.m. The committee will consider:

- **SB 192** by **Sen. Bill Holtzclaw, R-Madison**, often referred to as the "*Brewery Modernization Act*." The legislation allows brew pubs to produce an unlimited amount of beer and sell it on premise or to a distributor. On April 6, the committee approved a substituted and amended version of the House companion, **HB 86** by **Rep. Joe Hubbard, D-Montgomery**, which awaits consideration by the full House.
- **HB 555**, by **Rep Mike Ball, R-Huntsville**, to require anyone who serves, dispenses or provides alcoholic beverages at any licensed, on-premise liquor location to register with the state and obtain a \$35 server ID card good for four years. It also creates the ABC Board Law Enforcement Licensing Fund, which will be the depository for fees and penalties associated with the ID cards.

Prattville Draft Beer Bill Ready for Senate OK

The Senate Local Legislation Committee has approved **SB 430**, by **Sen. Bryan Taylor, R-Prattville**, which authorizes the Prattville City Council to provide for the sale of draft beer. The bill was amended to allow only on-premise draft beer sales. The bill now awaits action by the entire Senate.

NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY:

**The House will meet at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, 2011,
for the 21st meeting day of the 2011 regular session.
The Senate meets at 2 p.m. The Legislature is
expected to meet for three days next week.**

The *Capitol Retail Report* is another **Benefit from the Value** of **Alabama Retail Association** membership. For more benefits, go to www.alabamaretail.org