

## **ACCA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE NOMINEE FORM**

On \_\_\_\_\_ (date), by majority vote of the  
\_\_\_\_\_ (county) County Commission,  
Judge / Chairman / Commissioner (circle one)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (name) was appointed to serve on the  
2018-2019 ACCA Legislative Committee.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
County Administrator

*Please return this form to Abby Fitzpatrick by email (afitzpatrick@alabamacounties.org) or fax (334-263-7678)  
before the August 1, 2018 deadline.*

## **2018-19 Development Process: Alabama County Platform**

The 2019 session will mark the start of a new legislative quadrennium, and the Association's advocacy efforts will be driven by the Alabama County Platform adopted by the membership at the December Legislative Conference. The Platform sets the Association's key "Foundation Principles" and establishes strategic goals and legislative policy positions for the 2019-2022 quadrennium.

Over the past 4 years, the Association has accomplished a great deal of its legislative goals; and the Legislative Committee's role in the development process is always vital to continuing that success. This fall, members of the Legislative Committee will thoroughly review the Platform to recommend any revisions and priorities ahead of the 2019 regular session. In reality, the entire legislative process evolves over the course of 5 months and involves the input of hundreds of county leaders from across the state. What follows is a quick, 3-step overview of the Legislative Committee's critically important role in guiding this process and ensuring the Association's membership and staff are speaking in *One Voice*.

### **STEP 1 – GETTING LOCAL FEEDBACK:**

#### **Immediately Following the Convention**

After the Convention, members of the Legislative Committee should return to their home county with the goal of involving their fellow commissioners, county officials and county employees in the legislative development process.

#### **Inaugural Legislative Committee Webinar**

During the Inaugural Legislative Committee Webinar, tentatively scheduled for mid-September, the Association staff will provide a brief review of the Committee's objectives for the next 11 months, as well as an overview of the Committee's agenda for its first meeting in October. This webinar is an important first step in ensuring Committee members are prepared to make the most of the 2019 Legislative Development Process.

### **STEP 2 – ENGAGING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP:**

#### **Affiliate Group & Minority Issues Steering Committee Meetings**

In many ways, the Association's affiliate groups are the foundation of the organization. The expertise and involvement of these county leaders in the legislative process has been a deciding factor in many of the Association's legislative battles over the years. Additionally, the Minority Issues Steering Committee will continue its tradition of meeting during the legislative program development process to review the policy positions and goals that have the most impact on Alabama's minority populations.

The affiliate groups and minority issues steering committee will meet throughout October to discuss and make recommendations regarding the legislative issues that specifically impact their day-to-day work.

#### **Legislative Committee Pre-Session Workshop**

The Legislative Committee Pre-Session Workshop, tentatively scheduled for late October, will be a detail-oriented, two-day work session in Montgomery. During this workshop, the committee will review existing policy, discuss anticipated legislative issues facing counties and develop a strategic process

for advocating during the legislative session. The workshop will also include a thorough review of the recommendations provided by the affiliate groups and minority issues steering committee.

Additionally, in the ongoing effort to improve communication with other county officials, the workshop will include meetings with leaders from both the Sheriffs and Tax Officials Associations to discuss shared issues of concern related to county government. Committee members should come to this workshop prepared to discuss the feedback they received at the local level and any pressing county issues that they feel could be addressed through general legislation during the 2019 session.

### **Legislative Committee Final Review of Platform Webinar (TBD)**

In November, the Association staff will provide the Legislative Committee with a draft of the proposed Platform based on the committee's recommendations, as well as those of the affiliate groups and minority issues steering committee. The Legislative Committee will then provide their feedback on the final draft of the proposed 2019 Alabama County Platform for consideration by the ACCA Board of Directors, followed by approval of the ACCA membership.

## **STEP 3 – APPROVING AND PROMOTING THE 2019 ALABAMA COUNTY PLATFORM:**

### **Board of Directors' Review of Platform: Annual Legislative Conference**

The Association staff will make a full revision to the current Alabama County Platform based on the Legislative Committee's final recommendations. During the Association's Annual Legislative Conference, on **Wednesday, December 5, 2018**, the Board of Directors will review and vote on the Committee's recommended Legislative Program for the 2019 session. The Platform, as adopted by the Board, will then be presented for final action to the full ACCA membership during its business session on **Thursday, December 6, 2018**.

### **District Meetings**

Due to this being the first year of the legislative quadrennium, the 2019 session will start in March 2019. As a result, the ACCA District Meetings will be held around the state throughout the months of January and February. This will provide an opportunity for Committee members and the Association staff to solicit specific feedback on the various policy positions and legislative proposals that will directly impact county government during the 2019 session.

### **Legislative Session**

The Association's membership and staff will utilize the 2019 Alabama County Platform and Priorities, as adopted by the full membership at the Legislative Conference, as a guidepost in its advocacy efforts during the 2019 Regular Legislative Session. Throughout the session, the membership and staff will also rely on the Legislative Committee members to play a central leadership role in the Association's advocacy efforts. The Association staff is even considering a special Legislative Committee Day on Goat Hill - which would include a full day of advocacy at the Statehouse!