State Legislative Session Weekly Digest

Week 8 March 2-6, 2026

Prepared by the Hillsborough County Government Relations Team

Overview

Week 8 saw the conclusion of scheduled committee meetings and a pivot to full-time floor session to address bills and messages. At the end of the week both chambers signaled that budget conference would not begin right away and that differences remained over top-line budget numbers with the House and Senate remaining over $1 billion apart. This will make passing a budget by the end of the allotted 60 days of session on March 13, nearly impossible. The House Speaker and Senate President will need to decide whether to extend session or to return in a special session. The 2025 session was extended in order to form a budget agreement.

Going forward into Week 9, both chambers will meet continuously to hear bills, consider amendments, and receive messages. The beginning of the week will feature bills on the Special Order Calendar (2nd Reading) to place them in proper posture for 3rd Reading and final passage. The Senate will also take up a Local Bill Calendar this week to hear all local bills from around the state that have been passed and transmitted by the House. The Government Relations Team will remain vigilant and continue to report on the actions of the Legislature. This digest touches on legislative activities relevant to local government and residents of Hillsborough County that took place this week.

Major Issues Discussed *(by Committee and Date)*

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FISCAL POLICY

Monday, March 2, 2026

CS/CS/SB 682, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND PROTECTIVE INJUNCTIONS, BY SENATOR CALATAYUD

CS/CS/SB 682 amends and creates several sections of law to address domestic violence.

The bill amends s. 741.28, F.S., to define "military protective order" and "electronic monitoring."

The bill creates s. 741.2801, F.S., to provide penalty enhancements for crimes of domestic violence if the offender has a prior conviction for a crime of domestic violence.

The bill amends s. 741.281, F.S., to allow the court to order electronic monitoring supervision to a defendant who is found guilty of, has adjudication withheld on, or pleads nolo contendere to, a crime of domestic violence and the court enters a no contact order with the victim as a condition of his or her probation. Further, the court is required to order electronic monitoring supervision under certain conditions.

The bill amends s. 741.30, F.S., to add threating to injure or kill a family pet to the list of actions a respondent has engaged in which may be noted on a petition for a domestic violence injunction. The court is required to evaluate, if relevant, and consider these threats when determining whether a petitioner has reasonable cause to believe he or she is in imminent danger of becoming a victim of domestic violence. The court is also required to evaluate and consider whether there is a verifiable military protective order.

The bill amends s. 741.30, F.S., to include dating violence injunctions and sexual violence injunctions in the Domestic and Repeat Violence Injunction Statewide Verification System.

The bill amends s. 741.31, F.S., and s. 784.047, F.S., to allow the court to order a respondent who violates a protective injunction to electronic monitoring supervision for the duration of the injunction, regardless of whether there is criminal prosecution for the violation. The court must establish exclusion zones and include safety planning and informed consent for the petitioner. The respondent is responsible for paying for the electronic monitoring services.

The bill requires that when a law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that a person violated a domestic violence injunction and a military protective order entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) against the same person, the officer or his or her agency must notify the law enforcement agency that entered the military protective order into NCIC.

The bill amends s. 960.198, F.S., to increase the crime victim compensation awards to a one-time payment of up to $2,500 on any one claim and a lifetime maximum of $5,000 to a victim of domestic violence who needs immediate assistance to escape from a domestic violence environment.

CS/CS/SB 682 passed by a vote of 18-0.

CS/SB 1296, PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RELATIONS COMMISSION, BY SENATOR MARTIN

CS/SB 1296 amends several provisions relating to Ch. 447, F.S., which governs public employee unions in the state. Specifically, the bill:

- Updates the Public Employee Relations Commission's registration, certification, and recertification processes for employee organizations (unions).
- Requires a showing of interest form, signed by a bargaining unit employee within the last 12 months, to be submitted with an application for certification or recertification.
- Clarifies the bargaining unit process which allows determination of the unit after a change in case or statutory law.
- Institutes a two-tier voting threshold for the certification, recertification, and decertification of an employee organization where public safety employee organizations may be certified or recertified by a majority of the employees who vote in the election, and non-public safety employee organizations may be certified or recertified by a majority vote of the employees in the bargaining unit.
- Narrows paid union leave for non-public safety union members to only those situations where the union fully reimburses the public employer for the employee's time performing duties that are directly related to the union, such as engaging in collective bargaining, participating in grievances, or representing other employees in disciplinary proceedings. This does not apply to unions for public safety field workers, whose members may still engage in paid union leave for these activities without the union having to fully reimburse the public employer.
- Requires a public employer to allow equal access to any employee organization or not-for-profit organization to access its communal spaces or communications systems that it allows other employee organizations or its affiliate.
- Institutes a fast-track impasse process for local government salary increases as specifically appropriated by the Legislature which require modification of a bargaining agreement. This does not apply to public safety units.
- Conforms various hearing procedures and timeframes to those in ss. 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., of the Administrative Procedures Act.

AMENDMENT 323952 BY SENATOR SIMON

Requires higher voting thresholds for union certification and decertification and clarifies processes for modifying bargaining units.

- Mandates that, starting July 1, 2026, a 25% voter turnout and 60% vote is needed for certification or recertification in certain units.
- Retains a majority-vote model for public safety units.
- Creates s. 447.3076 to define procedures for clarifying bargaining units under specific conditions.
- Revises timelines for filing decertification petitions and applies a 60% threshold for decertification if at least 25% of employees vote

CS/CS/SB 1296 passed by a vote of 10-8.

CS/CS/SB 1510, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BY SENATOR MASSULLO

CS/CS/SB 1510 amends laws that govern the Acquisition and Restoration Council, septic system and wastewater restrictions, basin management action plans, the Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan, the Environmental Regulation Commission, and air pollution permitting.

Regarding the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC), the bill adds two new members. Additionally, the bill directs the ARC to administer the Florida Communities Trust to improve consistency and effectiveness in conservation-focused land acquisition and resource stewardship.

Regarding onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (septic systems), the bill:

- Removes a requirement that owners of residential properties within the Indian River Lagoon Protection program over ten acres must connect to sewer or upgrade their septic system.
- Allows a septic system remediation plan to require conventional septic system upgrades where central sewerage is unavailable for certain properties.
- Requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to notify new owners of a property with a septic system of certain applicable requirements.

Regarding BMAPs, the bill provides a 60-day waiting period before an approved BMAP is effective. The bill allows the installation of distributed wastewater treatment systems on lots of one acre or less in a BMAP, reasonable assurance plan, or pollution reduction plan if a sewer system is unavailable.

Regarding the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan, the bill provides that municipalities and counties that are rural communities will not need a minimum 50 percent cost share for projects in the plan.

Regarding the Environmental Regulation Commission (ERC), the bill repeals provisions establishing the ERC and removes all references to the ERC in statute.

Regarding air pollution permitting, the bill extends the due date for annual operating permits for major sources of air pollution.

Regarding solar facility approval process the bill creates best management practices for stormwater.

AMENDMENT 376678 BY SENATOR MASSULLO

Revises the applicability of graywater technology incentives for multifamily building projects.

- Removes the five-story height limit and shifts to a maximum height established by sections 125.01055 or 166.04151.

- Maintains that dwelling occupancy status does not affect eligibility for developer or homebuilder incentives.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1510 passed by a vote of 18-0.

SB 1548, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, BY SENATOR CALATAYUD

SB 1548 makes a variety of changes regarding the Live Local Act, passed during the 2023 Regular Session, to require the authorization of certain affordable housing developments by local governments under certain conditions. The bill:

- Provides that the preemptions of the Live Local Act permitting the development of affordable housing apply on any property owned by a county, municipality, or school district;
- Provides that a local government may not utilize other dimensional means such as setbacks to constructively restrict the height of a project authorized by the Live Local Act;
- Provides that farming and farm operations, including the packaging and sale of those products raised on the premises, are excluded from the definitions of commercial, industrial, or mixed-use zoning which would require the local government to approve affordable housing developments;
- Permits the utilization of the Live Local Act in the vicinity of airports when approved by the airport's governing body; and
- Clarifies language around the prohibition against discriminating against affordable housing development in land use decisions by a local government and waives sovereign immunity in cases based on such discrimination.

SB 1548 passed by a vote of 18-0.

Read the Committee Packet:

https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/8346

View the Committee Meeting:

https://www.flsenate.gov/media/VideoPlayer/6262

CS/CS/SB 532, CLERKS OF THE COURT, BY SENATOR SIMON

CS/CS/SB 532 allows the clerks of court to retain all the funds they collect above the Article V Revenue Estimating Conference's original revenue projection. This cumulative excess is derived from fines, fees, service charges, and court costs.

The bill also requires that a foreclosure case use the statutory foreclosure procedure, specifies that those procedures require that the clerk of court must conduct the sale, and provides conforming changes to related statutes.

The bill is estimated to provide the clerks with an additional $13.3 million in revenue for FY 2026-2027. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement. The bill is effective July 1, 2026.

CS/CS/SB 532 passed by a vote of 17-0.

CS/SB 576, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CYBERSECURITY, BY SENATOR HARRELL

CS/SB 576 creates the Local Government Cybersecurity Protection Program, which will be administered by the Florida Digital Service (FLDS), to provide information technology (IT) commodities and services to local government participants to develop and enhance their cybersecurity risk management programs consistent with s. 282.3185, F.S., and to assist local governments with mitigation and defense against cybersecurity threats, including ransomware incidents. The FLDS may use federal grants to further the program.

The program will be administered based on objective eligibility and evaluation criteria and will prioritize fiscally constrained counties.

The bill requires the FLDS to enter into data-sharing agreements with local governments as necessary to facilitate the collection, analysis, and exchange of security-related information to support the detection, prevention, and response to cybersecurity incidents.

CS/SB 576 passed by a vote of 17-0.

CS/SB 1178, FOREIGN INFLUENCE, BY SENATOR GRALL

CS/SB 1178 creates a "Foreign Interference Restriction and Enforcement Act," which amends and establishes numerous statutory provisions to reduce interference and influence by foreign countries of concern. Specifically, the bill:

- Expands the definition of "foreign source of concern" to also include a designated foreign terrorist organization or an agent acting on behalf of such organization.
- Creates a state-level framework for the registration of agents and organizations associated with foreign countries of concern and prescribes penalties for its violation.
- Expands restrictions on gifts to specified public officials, public employees, and candidates, and requires ethics training for specified public officials to include information on foreign countries of concern and their influence.
- Strengthens prohibitions on government contracting and procurement with vendors connected to foreign countries of concern.
- Prohibits the state protocol officer from encouraging a sister city or sister state affiliation with a foreign country of concern or its subdivision.
- Requires the Department of State to quarterly publish on its website specified information on all foreign consulate offices in Florida and all sister city and sister state affiliations.
- Revises provisions governing Florida linkage institutes to remove the Florida-China Institute from the list of authorized institutes, repeal the limited exemption for in-state residency tuition requirements, and prohibit a linkage institute from entering into an agreement or participate in activities with a foreign country of concern or any organization in such country.
- Expands a provision prohibiting specified state agencies or political subdivisions from entering an agreement or accepting a grant from a foreign country of concern under specified circumstances to instead make it a blanket prohibition against such agreements or grants.
- Creates a new section of law governing the protection of state critical infrastructure facilities.
- Reclassifies criminal offenses committed for the purpose of benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of a foreign government, a designated foreign terrorist organization, or an agent of such government or organization.
- Criminalizes the unauthorized enforcement of foreign law.
- Revises references to definitions of "foreign country of concern."

AMENDMENT 802316 BY SENATOR GRALL

Imposes new measures to restrict foreign influence and limit contracts, surrogacy, adoption, and lobbying involving foreign countries of concern.

- Requires lobbyists to disclose foreign principal ownership or control.
- Prohibits surrogacy and preplanned adoption agreements unless participants are U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.

- Bars certain contracts with foreign sources on infrastructure, technology, and data; ends sister-city and cultural agreements.
- Requires ethics training on foreign interference, reclassifies offenses aiding foreign powers, and expands penalties.

CS/CS/SB 1178 passed by a vote of 11-5.

CS/CS/SB 1614, LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING, BY SENATOR LEEK

CS/CS/SB 1614 provides that a local governmental entity is not eligible to receive state funds through a local funding initiative request if such entity was subject to an audit directed by the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee (JLAC) within the one-year period preceding the date of the submission of such request. However, a local governmental entity that was subject to such an audit may be eligible to receive such funds upon submitting with its funding request an affirmation stating that it is no longer the subject of such audit. The bill requires JLAC to notify the chairs of each legislative appropriations committee upon voting to direct an audit of a local governmental entity.

The bill also removes a current provision of law that authorizes a local government to use excess funds received from enforcing the Florida Building Code for the construction of a building or structure that houses a local government's building code enforcement agency.

AMENDMENT 339774 BY SENATOR LEEK

Removes local governments' authority to use excess building code fees for constructing new enforcement facilities.

- Directs excess funds toward fee rebates, technology upgrades, or training for code enforcement activities.
- Eliminates the provisions allowing local governments to carry forward construction-designated funds for up to four years.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1614 passed by a vote of 18-0.

HB 5203, GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION, BY STATE ADMINISTRATION BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

HB 5203 establishes a Florida Accountability Office (FAO) in the Legislature comprising of four divisions, reorganizes certain audit functions, and expands the audit mission to include investigations of whistleblower complaints and other matters. The bill also changes the appointment and term of the Auditor General to two-year terms corresponding to the biennial reorganization of the Legislature. The bill assigns to each division primary responsibility for particular types of audits and investigations and directs the Auditor

General and other legislative offices to review and report on the need for further definition and delineation of audit functions. Additionally, the bill revises a number of provisions in Ch. 216, F.S., relating to state planning and budgeting.

HB 5203 passed by a vote of 16-0.

HB 5501, Documentary Stamp Tax Distributions, by Transportation and Economic Development Budget Subcommittee

HB 5501 amends s. 201.15, F.S., to modify the distribution of documentary stamp taxes by redirecting a portion of the collections that are currently deposited in General Revenue Fund and deposits those revenues in the State Transportation Trust Fund.

The revised distribution of $60 million provided by the bill directs funding for the Florida Rail Enterprise, reinstating a revenue distribution that was eliminated during the 2025 Legislative Session. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

HB 5501 passed by a vote of 17-0.

HB 5701, Petroleum Cleanup Programs, by Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee

HB 5701 conforms current law to the proposed House of Representatives' Fiscal Year 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act (GAA). The bill amends the Petroleum Cleanup Participation Program (PCPP) and the Florida Petroleum Liability and Restoration Insurance Program (PLRIP) to remove program deductibles, copayments, and monetary caps for eligible parties and have the costs absorbed by the Inland Protection Trust Fund.

The bill will likely have a negative impact, estimated at $4.1 million, on the Inland Protection Trust Fund (IPTF) in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement. The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2026.

HB 5701 passed by a vote of 17-0.

SB 7046, Taxation, by Finance and Tax

SB 7046:

- Makes the following changes to property taxes:
    - For the Live Local exemption opt-out, requires a taxing authority to make a finding that Shimberg's annual reports for each of the 3 previous years identify a surplus of affordable housing rather than 1 report.

    - For the Live Local exemption opt-out, provides that an exemption may be granted to a project that received final site plan approval within 4 years before a taxing authority opted out and may continue receiving the exemption for each subsequent consecutive year that the same owner or successive owners apply for and are granted the exemption.
    - Revises the distribution of school taxes collected from a voter approved property tax levy by removing a reference which excludes certain charter schools.
- Makes the following changes to local taxes and assessments:
    - Prohibits counties, municipalities, and special districts from levying special assessments against more than 400 square feet of each RV parking space or campsite at RV parks.
- Regarding fiscally constrained counties:
    - Amends the criteria for being designated as a fiscally constrained county.
    - Changes the revenue source for the fiscally constrained counties distribution from the direct-to-home satellite service tax to sales tax.
    - Provides to fiscally constrained counties a distribution from sales tax in an amount equal to no less than $50 million each fiscal year.
    - Makes several changes to the fiscally constrained counties' distribution, including changing distribution factors for allocating revenue among counties and creating spending requirements.
- Makes the following changes to sales and use tax:
    - Permanently exempts liquified petroleum gas tanks with a capacity of 20 pounds or less.
    - Provides a sales tax holiday for hunting, fishing, and camping items. The items include ammunition, firearms, bows, crossbows, and certain accessories for firearms, bows and crossbows. Items also include certain fishing and camping supplies. The holiday is approximately 3.5 months from September 7, 2026, through December 31, 2026.
- Prohibits governmental entities from adopting or requiring the adoption of net-zero policies; expending government funds to support, implement, or advance net-zero policies; imposing taxes, fees, penalties, charges, offsets, or assessments to advance net-zero policies; and implementing, administering, or enforcing a program that functions as a cap-and-trade program.
- Changes tax administration by requiring taxing authorities that have not levied any millage rate in the prior year to adopt a rate either by a unanimous vote of the membership of the governing body, or by a three-fourths vote of the membership of the governing body if the governing body has nine or more members, or if the rate is approved by a referendum.

The bill is estimated by staff to reduce revenues in Fiscal Year 2026-2027 by $34.1 million and by an indeterminate amount recurring. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement for more information. Except as otherwise provided, the bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

AMENDMENT 782234 BY SENATOR GAETZ

Revise multiple tax, property, and local government provisions while prohibiting adoption of net zero policies.

- Authorize interest on certain tax refund claims and clarify the 60-day challenge period.
- Limit special assessments on recreational vehicle parks and expand exemptions for certain taxing authorities.
- Provide homestead inheritance exceptions for lineal descendants and adjust surviving spouse tax benefits.
- Impose taxes on electric vehicle charging and require listing platforms to estimate ad valorem taxes.
- Increase rural community investment tax credits from 25% to 50%.
- Prohibit governmental entities from enacting or funding net zero policies.
- Create a hunting, fishing, and camping sales tax holiday.

AMENDMENT 734878 TO THE AMENDMENT BY SENATOR GAETZ

Expand homestead exemption provisions to include property deemed abandoned under s. 193.155(3)(a)6.

- Exempt taxpayers from penalty or interest on certain erroneously granted homestead exemptions when property is deemed abandoned.
- Provide no back taxes if owners voluntarily disclose ineligibility before the property appraiser discovers the error.
- Impose back taxes if owners do not voluntarily disclose ineligibility.

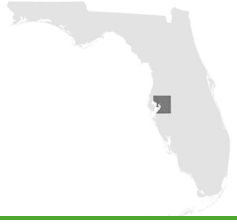
CS/SB 7046 passed by a vote of 12-5.

Read the Committee Packet:

https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/8352

View the Committee Meeting:

https://www.flsenate.gov/media/VideoPlayer/6261



CS/CS/SB 354, BLUE RIBBON PROJECTS, BY SENATOR MCCLAIN

CS/CS/SB 354 creates a framework for "Blue Ribbon Projects," large scale development projects which trade state preemption over local governments' comprehensive planning and land use regulations in exchange for a certain amount of "reserve area." Such projects must include at least 10,000 acres of land, with at least 60 percent reserved for uses such as environmental protection, agriculture, recreation, and utilities sites, while the remainder may be developed over 50 years into towns and cities regardless of underlying comprehensive planning and land use allocations.

The bill provides the requirements under which a plan for such a project must be crafted and administratively approved by the Department of Commerce. The bill also provides for an appeal procedure for a denied applicant or an individual impacted by an approval.

The bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact on private and governmental sectors. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement. The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

AMENDMENT 408320 BY SENATOR MCCLAIN

Creates new standards for large-scale "blue ribbon projects" to balance environmental conservation and economic development.

- Requires at least 15,000 contiguous acres, with at least 60% reserve area and up to 40% development area
- Mandates walkable mixed uses, minimum 10% nonresidential, and 20% affordable or missing middle housing
- Vests development rights for 50 years, extendable by 25 more if half the area is developed
- Provides local government approval via two public hearings and presumes plan compliance
- Grants dollar-for-dollar fee credits for providing public facilities and disallows stewardship districts

CS/CS/CS/SB 354 passed by a vote of 12-10.



SB 620, CANDIDATE QUALIFYING, BY SENATOR MAYFIELD

SB 620 adds an additional item to the current list of items that a candidate must submit to the relevant filing officer in order to qualify for nomination or election to a federal, state, county, or district office. Specifically, if a candidate is a citizen of another country, in addition to being a citizen of the United States, the candidate must submit a written statement disclosing any other country in which he or she is also a citizen.

Dual citizenship, or dual nationality, means that a person is a citizen or national of both the United States and a foreign country at the same time. In practical terms, this person owes allegiance to both countries and is required to obey the laws of both countries. If the foreign country places a claim on a dual citizen, conflicting obligations may arise. Under current law, no one qualifying for office is required to disclose if he or she has dual citizenship, and therefore, might have conflicting allegiance to another country. The requirement for a person to disclose his or her dual citizenship may make voters aware of a potential conflicting allegiance. The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

AMENDMENT 521902 BY SENATOR MAYFIELD

Requires candidates for federal office to disclose stock-trading intentions and any past stock trades while in office.

- Adds a new requirement that candidates seeking federal office must state whether they intend to trade stocks if elected.
- Requires candidates who previously served in federal office to disclose any stock trades made during their prior service.

AMENDMENT 693374 BY SENATOR MAYFIELD

Increases signature requirements for 2026 congressional candidates and revises qualification procedures.

- Requires collecting signatures equal to one-third of 1% of the ideal population per district.
- Allows signature collection from any registered Florida voter, regardless of district or party.
- Mandates filing qualification papers and paying fees to the Department of State within a specified window.

CS/SB 620 passed by a vote of 22-0.

CS/SB 1080, TRANSPORTATION, BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

CS/SB 1080 requires the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to adopt rules providing circumstances under which it may make direct payments to a first-tier

subcontractor, including specified conditions, with the amount paid to the subcontractor deducted from the amount paid to the contractor.

The bill also requires that, if due to default by the contract, the FDOT and the surety enter into a takeover agreement, such agreement must require the surety's completion contractor to meet the certificate of qualification requirements of the original contract bid solicitation and that the surety must follow the contract's procedures regarding the payment of subcontractors.

AMENDMENT 494040 BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

Updates traffic safety laws, speed limits, and enforcement procedures.

- Increases certain yellow-signal reaction times by 0.4 seconds.
- Expands school zone speed detection, requiring flashing beacons and adjusting enforcement deadlines.
- Authorizes private automated license plate readers with data-use restrictions.
- Extends violation payment windows and modifies hearing procedures, including for pregnant motorists.
- Allows lower residential speed limits and creates a modern traffic signal grant program.

CS/CS/SB 1080 passed by a vote of 21-0.

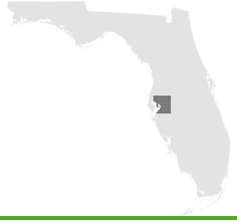
CS/CS/SB 1260, SERVICES DURING A STATE OF EMERGENCY, BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

CS/CS/SB 1260 requires the Department of Management Services to enter into and maintain one or more contracts with private providers of building code inspection services under s. 553.791, F.S., relating to alternative plans review and inspection.

The bill authorizes a person that is qualified for work in any state that has entered into a state term contract or a mutual aid agreement or who has held a valid license in any state for the five years immediately preceding the date of the declaration, to act under the direction of the local building official in certain positions relating to building inspections for up to one year from the declaration of a state of emergency for a natural, a manmade, or a technological emergency issued by the Governor.

The bill is not expected to negatively impact state government revenues and expenditures. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement. The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

CS/CS/SB 1260 passed by a vote of 21-0.



SB 1366, Claims Against the Government, by Senator Brodeur

SB 1366 revises the statutory cap, attorney fee, and filing timeframe provisions of s. 768.28, F.S., which is the state's limited waiver of sovereign immunity statute.

Under common law, the state and its agencies and subdivisions (i.e. the "sovereign") are immune from lawsuits for the tortious conduct of their agents and employees. However, the statute modifies the common law by generally allowing for suits in tort against the State of Florida (State) and its agencies and subdivisions but generally limits the payment of claims and the collectability of judgments absent the approval of a claim bill by the Legislature.

Specifically, the bill:

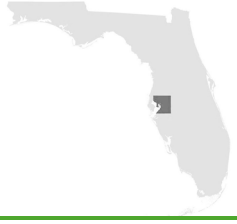
- Increases the statutory caps on payment of claims or the collectability of judgments against the state or its agencies or subdivisions, from $200,000 per person and $300,000 per incident, to $300,000 per person and $450,000 per incident.
- Requires the Department of Financial Services to adjust, beginning July 1, 2031, and every five years thereafter, the limitations of liability in the statute to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Provides that the Legislature has the sole discretion to determine attorney fees and costs that are payable from the proceeds of a claim bill.
- Revises certain statutes of limitation and pre-suit procedures for certain types of claims against government entities, including claims for negligence, contribution, medical malpractice, wrongful death, and sexual battery on victims under 16 years of age.
- Provides that it applies to causes of action accruing on or after October 1, 2026.

Amendment 491330 by Senator Brodeur

Increases sovereign immunity liability caps and modifies claim procedures.

- Raises per-claim and total liability caps from $200,000 to $350,000 and $300,000 to $500,000.
- Changes the deadline for written notice from 3 years to 18 months.
- Shortens the time for final disposition from 6 months to 4 months.
- Limits attorney fees to 25 percent of recovered funds.
- Allows certain sexual offense victims under age 16 to present claims anytime if not time barred before October 1, 2026.

CS/SB 1366 passed by a vote of 21-1.



CS/CS/SB 1452, Department of Financial Services, by Senator Truenow

Revising the subsystem used for a certain report of disbursements made; deleting the Department of Financial Services' authority to make semimonthly salary payments; revising eligibility requirements for a hurricane mitigation inspection under the My Safe Florida Home Program; revising the timeframe in which health care providers must petition the department to resolve utilization and reimbursement disputes; revising the timelines and conditions under which stock, other equity interests, or debt of a business association is considered abandoned, etc.

Amendment 341966 by Senator Truenow

Streamline CFO procedures, revise unclaimed property rules, refine licensing standards, and update My Safe Florida programs.

- Substitutes references to Florida Accounting with a new Financial Management Subsystem, removing obsolete references.
- Mandates replacement of lost or destroyed CFO warrants rather than duplication and addresses employing relatives as firefighters.
- Narrows dormancy definitions for unclaimed property, sets more robust due diligence steps, and aligns new notice deadlines.
- Adjusts My Safe Florida Home and Condominium eligibility, inspection, and grant requirements for hurricane mitigation improvements.
- Revises insurance license prerequisites, adds reexamination triggers, and updates claim processes for unclaimed property under the CFO.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1452 passed by a vote of 22-0.

SB 1548, Affordable Housing, by Senator Calatayud

SB 1548 makes a variety of changes regarding the Live Local Act, passed during the 2023 Regular Session to require the authorization of certain affordable housing developments by local governments under certain conditions. The bill:

- Provides that the preemptions of the Live Local Act permitting the development of affordable housing apply on any property owned by a county, municipality, or school district;
- Provides that a local government may not utilize other dimensional means such as setbacks to constructively restrict the height of a project authorized by the Live Local Act;
- Provides that farming and farm operations, including the packaging and sale of those products raised on the premises, are excluded from the definitions of commercial, industrial, or mixed-use zoning which would require the local government to approve affordable housing developments;

- Permits the utilization of the Live Local Act in the vicinity of airports when approved by the airport's governing body; and
- Clarifies language around the prohibition against discriminating against affordable housing development in land use decisions by a local government, and waives sovereign immunity in cases based on such discrimination.

SB 1548 passed by a vote of 21-0.

CS/CS/SB 1566, LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING, BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

CS/CS/SB 1566 provides that the act may be cited as the "Local Government Financial Transparency and Accountability Act."

The bill requires county and municipal tentative, adopted tentative, and final budgets, as well as budget amendments, be posted on their official websites to allow the public to search, review, filter, download, and compare data and view graphs. The bill revises timeframes for posting budget information and noticing public budget hearings.

AMENDMENT 484786 BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

Strengthens local government financial transparency by imposing new budget posting requirements, adopting stricter impact fee standards, and clarifying concurrency options.

- Requires counties and municipalities to post tentative, adopted, and final budgets and amendments online for specified durations.
- Mandates a budget workshop to identify 10% reductions without affecting critical services.
- Refines impact fee rules with a plan-based methodology and extraordinary circumstance criteria.
- Allows alternative transportation fee systems and tightens interlocal agreement requirements.
- Establishes new timelines, reporting, and notice measures for local government budget development.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1566 passed by a vote of 21-0.

Read the Committee Packet:

https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/8372

View the Committee Meeting:

https://www.flsenate.gov/media/VideoPlayer/6265

CS/HB 273, SPECIAL DISTRICTS, BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON

Provides that boundaries of downtown development district may only be changed in specified manner; requires adopted budget of downtown development district to contain specified information; prohibits certain expenditures from exceeding specified percentage of budget; requires budget be approved in specified manner; revises agency agreements that provide state financial assistance to recipients or subrecipients to include specified special districts as entity to which such agency may provide for payment of invoices.

CS/HB 273 passed by a vote of 83-28.

CS/CS/CS/HB 399, LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, BY REPRESENTATIVE BORRERO

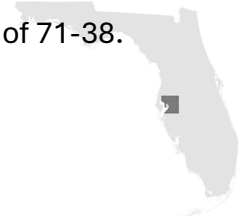
Requires amount of application fees associated with development permits or orders to reasonably relate to certain costs; requires public schools interlocal agreements to address reasonable access to certain public easements and public rights-of-way; requires local governments to administratively approve applications for minor special exceptions or variances submitted by large destination resorts; requires local government comprehensive plans and land development regulations to include factors for assessing compatibility of certain residential uses; requires land development regulations to incorporate measures for mitigating or minimizing potential incompatibility; authorizes placement of certain residential manufactured buildings on lots in recreational vehicle parks; requires off-site constructed residential dwellings to be permitted as of right in certain zoning districts; requires OPPAGA to conduct specified study; requires office to submit results of study to Legislature by specified date.

AMENDMENT 198601 BY REPRESENTATIVE BORRERO

Prohibits denying building permits for manufactured housing on certain mobile home or RV park lots and clarifies related obligations.

- Bars denial of building permits for placement of residential manufactured buildings on mobile home or RV park lots, or in mobile home subdivisions or cooperatives.
- Requires prior written approval from the park owner and treats these units as mobile homes under chapter 723, preserving associated rights and obligations.
- Mandates specified taxation and related fund payments for housing units on such lots.

CS/CS/CS/HB 399 passed by a vote of 71-38.



CS/CS/HB 433, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, by Representative Alvarez

Prohibits counties and municipalities from enacting or enforcing any law that restricts or prohibits use of gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment or that distinguishes such equipment from any other equipment; requires Acquisition and Restoration Council to determine whether certain surplus lands are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes; prohibits local governmental entity from transferring future development rights for surplus lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes; requires DEP, in coordination with DACS, to determine whether state-owned conservation lands are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes; authorizes DEP to surplus specified state-owned lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes; establishes Citrus Research and Field Trial Foundation, Inc., as a DSO of DACS; prohibits person from wearing or displaying item that displays words "concealed weapon permit" or "concealed weapon permit holder" with intent to mislead another to believe that person is authorized to wear or display such item; prohibits possession, manufacture, sale, importation, distribution, or use of signal jamming device.

CS/CS/CS/SB 290 is Substituted for CS/CS/HB 433

CS/CS/CS/SB 290, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, by Senator Truenow

Prohibiting counties from enacting or enforcing any law that restricts or prohibits the use of gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment or that distinguishes such equipment from any other equipment under certain circumstances; prohibiting an application for a development on an ecologically significant parcel in a low-density municipality from being administratively approved without an attestation provided by the developer; establishing the Florida Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program; revising the Florida Forest Service's powers, authority, and duties, etc.

CS/CS/CS/SB 290 passed by a vote of 94-10.

CS/HB 437, Public Records, by Representative Andrade

Provides that it is a violation of specified provisions to fail to acknowledge public records request promptly and respond to such request in good faith; revises various provisions relating to custodians of public records, agencies, fees, and penalties; requires written, detailed cost estimate be provided upon request to persons seeking to inspect or copy public record; requires courts to assess specified costs, fees, and penalties.

CS/HB 437 passed by a vote of 111-0.



CS/CS/CS/HB 543, TRANSPORTATION, BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

Revises and provides provisions relating to increasing minimum perception-reaction time for steady yellow signals, seaports, speed detection systems in school zones, automated license plate recognition systems, private school bus contractors, school bus infraction detection systems, lowering maximum speed limits, flashing beacons, school zones, radar and LiDAR units, disabled parking permits, golf carts, prevention of excessive or unusual noise, motor vehicle registration, license plate frames or decorative border devices, digital driver licenses and electronic credentialing system, digital imaged licenses, use of data by identity verification service providers, direct payments to subcontractors, metropolitan planning organizations, and takeover agreements; provides various penalties.

AMENDMENT 304287 BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

Expand enforcement of automated speed and license plate detection, strengthen privacy, revise hearing procedures, and allow lower local speed limits.

- Limit school zone speed detection to active flashing beacons; a grace period until 2028 for full compliance.
- Permit private property owners to install license plate systems, enforcing strict data rules and imposing fines for misuse.
- Revise hearing processes for school bus and speed enforcement, clarifying notice and extending times.
- Allow local speed limits lower than 30 mph in residential districts.
- Enable charter and private schools to contract for bus detection systems if the district does so.

CS/CS/CS/HB 543 passed by a vote of 107-1.

CS/CS/CS/CS/HB 657, COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS, BY REPRESENTATIVE PORRAS

Provides requirements for terminating dissolved HOA governing documents; provides requirements relating to easements of dissolved HOA; provides retroactive applicability; requires condominium and homeowners' associations to include specified statement in their governing documents or to hold meeting by date certain to vote to amend governing documents to include such statement; revises provisions relating to official records, electronic ballots, turnover inspection reports, and roofs; provides disclosure requirements for conflicts of interest; removes pre-suit mediation requirements; requires that specified arbitrators conduct arbitration proceedings; authorizes HOA's to be terminated; provides requirements for termination of HOA; provides duties and responsibilities of HOA board, and termination trustee; provides for distribution of HOA assets and paying lawful debts after termination; authorizes circuit court to create and administer community association court program; provides duties of chief judge; provides jurisdiction of community

association court program; authorizes community association court program to take certain actions; requires each judicial circuit to submit to Legislature specified report annually by specified date; provides duties of OSCA; provides for funding and additional judges.

AMENDMENT 909233 BY REPRESENTATIVE BARTLEMAN

Requires the homeowners' association board to notify the city in writing, including e-mail, that a plan of termination has begun, and to hold a meeting of the members.

- Mandates notice to the city in which the homeowners' association is located.
- Authorizes e-mail as a valid mode of written communication.
- Requires a meeting of the association's members once termination plans begin.

CS/CS/CS/CS/HB 657 passed by a vote of 108-2.

CS/HB 741, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

Exempts federal agencies from requirement that conveyance at less than appraised value must state that land will revert to board of trustees if land is not used for its intended purposes as military installation buffer or if military installation closes; revises definition of term "rural community"; repeals provisions, relating to Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program Act, legislative intent and purpose, definitions, Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Loan Guarantee Program, applications for grants, establishment of grant ceilings and maximum administrative cost percentages and elimination of population bias, rejection of grant applications and penalties for failure to meet application conditions, and general powers of department under s. 290.0401, respectively; designates Department of Commerce as state agency to receive federal funding from United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to administer Community Development Block Grant Program; provides that department shall administer additional federal funding in accordance with federal law and guidance from Department of Housing and Urban Development; authorizes Department of Commerce to adopt rules.

AMENDMENT 590771 BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

Remove references to a federal enterprise community and clarify population language for unincorporated areas or incorporated rural cities.

- Strikes "federal enterprise community."
- Replaces it with "area."
- Changes "with" to "that has" in describing the population condition.

CS/HB 741 passed by a vote of 102-1.



CS/CS/CS/HB 905, FOREIGN INFLUENCE, REPRESENTATIVE PERSONS-MULICKA

Requires agents of foreign countries of concern, foreign-supported political organizations, and certain entities to register with Division of Elections and Department of Commerce; provides registration and form requirements; prohibits specified persons from soliciting or accepting anything of value from certain organizations and countries; authorizes certain persons to revoke or refuse to renew certain receipts and to request specified affidavits; prohibits certain entities from entering into certain contracts with foreign sources of concern; provides exception; prohibits certain activities encouraging affiliations with foreign countries of concern; requires Department of Commerce to publish and update certain information on its website; revises certain information relating to linkage institutes; authorizes and provides requirements for Governor to suspend certain laws and rules relating to Cuba; requires certain agreements to be terminated by specified date; requires certain entities to provide specified affidavit to Department of Commerce; prohibits information technology from foreign source of concern from being used in critical infrastructure facilities; prohibits enforcement of certain laws of foreign government; provides civil and criminal penalties; provides for reclassification of criminal penalties.

AMENDMENT 942243 BY REPRESENTATIVE PERSONS-MULICKA

Require technology to be incapable of remote access or control and allow the department to identify violating technology.

- Introduces a requirement that technology must be incapable of remote access or control.
- Authorizes the department to maintain a non-exhaustive list of technology that violates the new requirement under s. 288.816, F.S.

AMENDMENT 231443 BY REPRESENTATIVE PERSONS-MULICKA

Prohibits preplanned adoption agreements and gestational surrogacy contracts involving parties from designated foreign countries of concern.

- Bars volunteer mothers from entering preplanned adoption agreements if they or the intended parents are from a foreign country of concern.
- Voids and disallows gestational surrogacy contracts if any party is from a foreign country of concern.
- Considers such agreements against public policy, rendering them unenforceable.

CS/CS/CS/HB 905 passed by a vote of 86-20.

CS/HB 925, CLERKS OF COURT, BY REPRESENTATIVE TRABULSY

Authorizes Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation, on behalf of clerks, to submit request for reimbursement to reimburse clerks for filing certain petitions, orders, appeals,

and summons; increases rate at which clerks may be reimbursed for filing certain petitions, orders, appeals, and summons; authorizes clerk to be reimbursed for certain fees and charges; increases percentage of certain penalties that must be deposited into fine and forfeiture fund and decreases percentage of certain penalties that must be paid to municipality.

CS/HB 925 passed by a vote of 111-1.

CS/CS/CS/HB 927, LOCAL LAND PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, BY REPRESENTATIVE SAPP

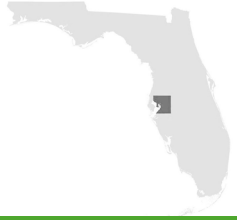
Requires certain counties and municipalities, respectively, to create pre-application consulting services program; requires certain local governments to establish registry of specified number of qualified contractors or qualified contractor firms to conduct certain reviews; requires local governments to use qualified contractor program for review plats or replats upon request of applicant; requires governing body of certain local governments and counties to include multi-phased developments in program that expedites process for building permits for planned unit developments or phases of community or subdivision; requires governing body to create two-step application process for stabilized access to roads that can support emergency vehicles; prohibits local government from conditioning, delaying, withholding, or denying issuance of certain permits; revises circumstances under which applicant has vested right in preliminary plat.

AMENDMENT 438269 BY REPRESENTATIVE SAPP

Streamlines and accelerates local land-planning approvals by requiring pre-application consulting programs, streamlined review processes, and a registry of qualified contractors.

- Mandates that counties of 75,000+ and municipalities of 10,000+ adopt preapplication consultation programs by 2027.
- Specifies shorter regulatory deadlines, with applications deemed approved if officials miss those deadlines.
- Requires maintaining at least four qualified contractors or two qualified contractor firms to expedite reviews.
- Allows partial building permits before final plat, subject to a performance bond and minimal infrastructure.
- Prohibits extraneous local requirements delaying approvals and clarifies vested rights in preliminary plats.

CS/CS/CS/HB 927 passed by a vote of 110-0.



CS/CS/HB 1009, Governmental Agency Publication of Advertisements and Public Notices, by Representative Griffitts

Expands definition of term "governmental agency"; revises definition of term "publicly accessible website"; requires that certain legal notices be continuously published for specified timeframe when notices are for specified purpose and provided under certain circumstance; authorizes certain counties or specified municipalities, school boards, clerks of circuit court, and tax collectors to use publicly accessible website to publish certain advertisements and legal notices under specified conditions; revises definition of term "special district"; requires that certain public bid advertisements on publicly accessible website be provided and accessible to general public without charge.

CS/CS/HB 1009 passed by a vote of 82-26.

CS/CS/HB 1085, Local Government Cyber Security, by Representative Miller

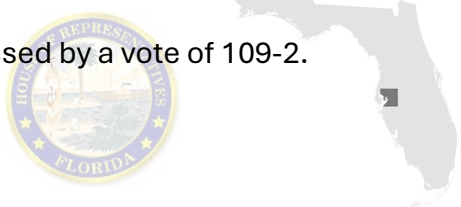
Creates Local Government Cybersecurity Protection Program at the University of South Florida, to be administered by Florida Center for Cybersecurity; requires Florida Center for Cybersecurity (FCC) to enter into data-sharing agreements with local governments and Florida Digital Service; requires FCC to administer grant program based on specified criteria to provide information technology commodities and services to local governments; requires FCC to contract for information technology commodities and services and award such commodities and services to local governments; requires a specified report to Governor's Office of Policy and Budget and chairs of legislative appropriations committees.

CS/CS/HB 1085 passed by a vote of 109-0.

CS/CS/HB 1139, Impact Fees, by Representative Gentry

Provides requirements for coordination mechanisms that are required for certain agreements required as part of intergovernmental coordination element of comprehensive plan; requires that plan-based methodology used for certain interlocal agreements be consistent with certain comprehensive plan requirements; requires that demonstrated-need study use plan-based methodology; prohibits local governments, school districts, and special districts from including certain deductions in certain impact fee increases and from increasing impact fee rates beyond certain phase-in limitations by more than specified percentage; provides that prevailing petitioner is entitled to impact fee overpayment refund, with interest; provides that certain prevailing petitioners are entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

CS/CS/HB 1139 passed by a vote of 109-2.



CS/CS/HB 1197, Information Technology Procurement and Contracting, by Representative Miller

Revises duties and requirements of Florida Digital Services; creates the Bureau of Enterprise Project Management and Oversight; provides duties and requirements of the bureau; requires state agencies include follow certain processes and use certain forms; requires certain information be included in specified contracts; revises requirements for certain contracts; requires DMS to create a repository for certain records; revises requirements for information technology competitive solicitations.

CS/CS/HB 1197 passed by a vote of 109-0.

CS/HB 1217, Prohibited Governmental Policies Regulating Greenhouse Gas Emissions, by Representative Snyder

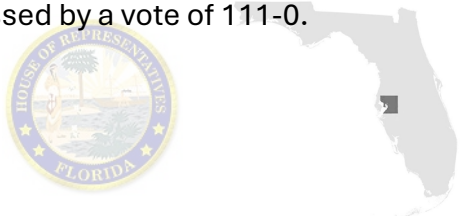
Prohibits governmental entities from adopting certain net zero policies; prohibits governmental entities from using public funds in any manner that supports, implements, or advances certain net zero policies; prohibits governmental entities from imposing any charge to advance certain net zero policies; requires each governmental entity to annually submit to Department of Revenue certain affidavit; prohibits governmental entities from implementing, administering, or enforcing certain programs.

CS/HB 1217 passed by a vote of 80-29.

CS/CS/HB 1245, Biosolids Management, by Representative Shoaf

Prohibits land application of Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products from exceeding appropriate agronomic rate; requires land application site owners and operators to maintain records; requires DEP to provide certain notice to such owners and operators and to adopt rules; requires University of Florida's IFAS to publish and make publicly available recommended agronomic rates for bulk Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products; authorizes bulk Class AA biosolids or biosolids products to be distributed or marketed as fertilizer and land applied if specified requirements are met; authorizes bulk Class AA biosolids compost products to be distributed or marketed as soil amendments and land applied if specified requirements are met; requires that certain bulk Class AA biosolids compost and fertilizer products be applied at certain land application sites; requires certain bulk Class AA products applied on certain lands meet certain requirements before application.

CS/CS/HB 1245 passed by a vote of 111-0.



CS/CS/HB 1285, Biosolids Management, by Representative Boyles

Prohibits DEP from issuing or renewing a permit for certain biosolids land application sites if there is a permitted wastewater treatment facility within a specified distance of the application site and which meets specified requirements.

CS/CS/HB 1285 passed by a vote of 110-0.

CS/CS/HB 1329, Local Government Spending, by Representative Benarroch

Revises length of time tentative budgets and final budgets must be posted on county, municipality, and special district websites; requires posting of such budgets to allow members of public to download and review certain information and data in specified formats; requires county and municipal budget officer to perform certain exercise before final adoption of budget; revises length of time adopted amendment must be posted on county's and municipality's website; requires posting of proposed amendment to meet certain requirements; provides exception for counties and municipalities that meet certain requirements; requires counties and municipalities that meet such exception to provide information in form and manner prescribed by DFS; authorizes counties and municipalities to apply for certain hardship waivers.

Amendment 863021 by Representative Chaney

Expands budget transparency, modifies notice periods, and sets new compliance rules for counties and municipalities.

- Mandates searchable online access to budgets, spending trends, salaries, and certain travel expenses for both counties and municipalities.
- Requires a 10% budget reduction exercise 14 days before final adoption, excluding essential services.
- Exempts counties under 10,000 residents and $10 million budgets, requiring DFS submission instead.
- Extends hearing and amendment posting deadlines from 2 days to 7 or 14 days for counties and municipalities.
- Allows hardship waivers for counties unable to meet new requirements

CS/CS/HB 1329 passed by a vote of 82-28.

CS/CS/HB 1389, Affordable Housing, by Representative Redondo

Authorizes multifamily and mixed-use residential uses as allowable uses for specified property; provides requirements for certain proposed developments; prohibits counties and municipalities from having certain restrictions or requiring certain setbacks; requires

adoption of certain ordinances relating to accessory dwelling units; prohibits such ordinances from including certain requirements; provides exception to certain local governments; removes requirement for specified affidavit in building permit application; prohibits owners of certain property from being denied homestead exemption; requires certain accessory dwelling units to be assessed and taxed separately; authorizes applicants for certain proposed developments to proceed under certain provisions of law; requires counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit revised applications, written requests, or notices of intent; provides that specified provisions of law relating to proposed developments do not apply to airport zoning regulations unless approved by governing body; authorizes local governments to provide certain incentives to landowners who donate property to provide affordable housing for military families; prohibits certain discriminatory practices based on financing of development for affordable housing; waiving state's sovereign immunity for certain causes of action; requires OPPAGA to evaluate certain methods to stimulate construction and use of tiny homes for specified purpose and submit to Legislature certain report.

CS/CS/HB 1389 passed by a vote of 76-29.

CS/CS/CS/HB 1417, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BY REPRESENTATIVE LAMARCA

Repeals, revises, and creates various provisions relating to Environmental Regulation Commission; solar facilities; stormwater management systems; central sewer system connections; wastewater treatment systems; coastal resiliency projects; and air pollution license fees.

CS/CS/CS/HB 1417 passed by a vote of 109-0.

CS/CS/HB 1451, UTILITY SERVICES, BY REPRESENTATIVE BUSATTA

Requires certain public meetings as condition precedent to effectiveness of new or extended agreement under which municipality will provide specified utility services in other municipalities or unincorporated areas; requires municipalities that provide specified utility services to report certain information by specified date, and annually thereafter, to PSC; requires PSC to compile such information and submit report by specified date, and annually thereafter, to Governor and Legislature; provides for state preemption over subject of certain regional utilities authorities created after specified date.

CS/CS/HB 1451 passed by a vote of 81-26.



HB 7031, TAXATION, BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Revising provisions related to taxation including special districts; ad valorem taxation, notice of disapproval, rental of homestead, affordable housing tax exemption, millage rate adoption, vacation rental transactions, sales tax exemptions, tax credits and deductions, corporate income tax, taxable income, license fee for permitholders, slot machine revenue tax, tax rates for alcoholic beverages, surplus lines tax, disclosure of estimated ad valorem tax, cardroom operation tax, and tax exemption for leased property.

HB 7031 passed by a vote of 105-2.

View the House in Session:

https://www.flhouse.gov/VideoPlayer.aspx?eventID=11197
https://www.flhouse.gov/VideoPlayer.aspx?eventID=11201
https://www.flhouse.gov/VideoPlayer.aspx?eventID=11205

SENATE FLOOR: WEEK 8 OF SESSION

CS/SB 86, COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES OPERATED BY UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS, BY SENATOR GAETZ

Declaring the policy of the state with respect to the operation of commercial motor vehicles by unauthorized aliens; requiring sworn law enforcement officers with certain authority to take into custody persons determined to be unauthorized aliens operating commercial motor vehicles and facilitate the transfer of such persons into the custody of a federal immigration agency; requiring the impoundment and removal of a commercial motor vehicle under certain circumstances; providing that motor carriers are liable for certain civil penalties, etc.

CS/SB 86 passed by a vote of 29-5.

CS/SB 218, LAND USE REGULATIONS, BY SENATOR GAETZ

CS/SB 218 limits the applicability of Section 28 of CS/CS/SB 180 (2025),1 enacted during the 2025 Regular Session to restrict local government authority to regulate land use following

specified hurricanes that affected the state in 2024. The bill narrows the geographic areas to which those land use regulation restrictions apply.

Section 28 of CS/CS/SB 180 generally prohibited counties and municipalities within the federal disaster declarations for Hurricane Debby, Hurricane Helene, and Hurricane Milton from proposing or adopting moratoriums or more restrictive or burdensome amendments or procedures in their land use regulations for 3 years. Because each of Florida's 67 counties were listed in at least one of these disaster declarations, all counties and municipalities in the state have been subjected to the restrictions.

The bill narrows the geographic area subject to CS/CS/SB 180's restrictions by defining what "impacted local governments" are and applying the restrictions only to them. Under the bill, "impacted local governments" are counties and municipalities listed in the federal disaster declarations and designated in them as eligible for individual and public assistance. As a result, 13 counties, and the municipalities within them, will no longer be subject to the restrictions. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.

CS/SB 218 passed by a vote of 36-0.

CS/SB 482, Artificial Intelligence Bill of Rights, by Senator Leek

Prohibiting a governmental entity from extending or renewing a contract with specified entities, beginning on a specified date; creating the "Artificial Intelligence Bill of Rights"; providing the rights of residents relating to the use of artificial intelligence; requiring companion chatbot platforms to prohibit a minor from becoming or being an account holder unless the minor's parent or guardian consents; requiring an educational entity to provide parents with specified notice before providing a student with access to an artificial intelligence instructional tool, etc.

Amendment 623028 by Senator Leek

Clarifies that de-identified data may be sold or disclosed when authorized by federal law and modifies requirements concerning artificial intelligence.

- Adds language stating data must be de-identified.
- Allows sale or disclosure of data if specifically authorized by federal law.
- Includes new requirements related to artificial intelligence.

Amendment 274134 by Senator Leek

Prohibits providing AI to students before grade 6 under limited exceptions and requires parental notice, opt-out options, and account access rights.

- Bars AI before grade 6 unless for teacher-directed activities, translation, or documented disability.

- Requires educational entities to notify parents, detail usage, and explain opt-out procedures.
- Obligates schools to offer alternative activities if parents opt out.
- Grants parents the right to access or request their child's AI account data.
- Exempts operators from creating transcripts beyond normal recordkeeping practices.

CS/SB 482 passed by a vote of 35-2

CS/SB 524, DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, BY SENATOR SIMON

Authorizing the Department of Law Enforcement to adopt rules relating to the Florida Medal of Valor and the Florida Blue/Red Heart Medal; authorizing eye banks, organ procurement organizations, and tissue banks, in order to facilitate anatomical gifts or transplantations, to view or copy specified autopsy reports under certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to accept and process fingerprints taken of natural persons who are control persons of a licensee or are applicants for licensure; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement's Criminal Justice Information Program to collect, process, store, maintain, and disseminate immigration detainer information, etc.

AMENDMENT 712722 BY SENATOR SIMON

Mandates FDLE to accept and process fingerprints for insurance licensees, clarifies definitions, and creates new rules for immigration detainers and law enforcement procedures.

- Defines 'adjuster,' 'agent,' 'control person,' and other insurance terms.
- Requires fingerprint submission for licensure applicants and 'control persons,' with FDLE exchanging criminal history records with DFS and OIR.
- Creates sections 624.341, 943.0417, and 943.0536 addressing new processes for insurance regulation, law enforcement apprenticeships, and immigration detainers.
- Expands administrative expunction eligibility for certain immigration detainer records.
- Clarifies staff support for the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission and modifies notice requirements for disciplinary complaints.

CS/SB 524 passed by a vote of 37-0.

CS/SB 554, NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS, BY SENATOR BERNARD

Renaming the "Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act" as the "Florida Nonprofit Corporation Act"; revising the circumstances in which a domestic or foreign corporation may correct a

document filed with the department; requiring all courts, public offices, and official bodies to receive all certificates issued by the department as prima facie evidence of certain facts; authorizing a corporation to register under a name that is not otherwise distinguishable on the records of the department under certain circumstances; prohibiting a corporation from paying any dividend and making distributions of any part of its net income or net earnings to its members, directors, or officers, etc.

CS/CS/HB 797 IS SUBSTITUTED FOR CS/SB 554

CS/CS/HB 797, NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS, BY REPRESENTATIVE TUCK

Conforms terminology for consistency with Model Nonprofit Corporation Act adopted by American Bar Association; aligns provisions with Florida Business Corporation Act; revises corporate powers; updates provisions on distributions, dividends, and board vacancies; revises who may answer DOS interrogatories; specifies acceptable methods of written notice; requires officers to act in good faith, with reasonable care, and in corporation's best interests; establishes requirements for judicial removal of directors; provides construction; allows board actions to satisfy meeting and voting requirements if no members exist; removes affiliate chapter registration requirement; ensures equal member rights and obligations; authorizes board to admit members for consideration and set payment terms; permits membership termination per terms; prohibits corporation from being its own member; allows fines or penalties if authorized; permits certain nonprofits to purchase membership interests; sets rules for buying interests of resigned or terminated members; revises meeting procedures and special meeting requirements; provides proxy voting rules and effects of incapacity; revises remote participation provisions; updates board composition, election, and term rules; grants liability immunity to all officers and directors; authorizes eligible mergers; requires statements for property held for charitable purposes.

CS/CS/HB 797 passed by a vote of 36-0.

CS/SB 620, CANDIDATE QUALIFYING, BY SENATOR MAYFIELD

Requiring a candidate for federal office to state in writing whether he or she intends to trade or has traded stock while serving in federal office; requiring certain candidates to provide the filing officer a statement disclosing dual citizenship for nomination and election to federal, state, county, multicounty, district, or judicial office or to a district school board; requiring candidates for representative to Congress seeking ballot position by petition to obtain a specified percentage of signatures to qualify for such office, etc.

AMENDMENT 864144 BY SENATORS PIZZO (NPA) AND GAETZ

Establishes additional disclosure, eligibility verification, and ballot access requirements for candidates seeking federal office.

- Requires candidates seeking federal office to state in writing, at the time of taking the oath, whether they intend to trade stocks if elected.
- Requires candidates to satisfy all constitutional requirements for the office they are seeking and allows a candidate, a political party with a candidate in the same race, or an affiliated party committee to challenge a candidate's compliance.
- Requires candidates for U.S. House of Representatives seeking ballot access through the petition process to obtain signatures equal to at least one-third of 1 percent of the ideal population of the congressional district.
- Provides that a candidate, political party, or affiliated party committee bringing an action for declaratory and injunctive relief is entitled to an expedited final hearing, and any appeal of the final hearing must receive expedited consideration by the appellate court.
- Requires candidates to submit a written oath stating whether they are a citizen of another country in addition to the United States and, if so, to disclose the other country of citizenship.
- Requires candidates to submit a written oath stating whether they previously held federal office and, if so, whether they traded stocks while serving in that office.

CS/SB 620 passed by a vote of 37-0.

SB 964, Financial Disclosures, by Senator Wright

Requiring reporting individuals and procurement employees to file annual reports listing certain gifts with the Commission on Ethics instead of with the required financial disclosure statement; requiring such individuals and employees who have left office or employment within a specified timeframe to file the annual report with the commission instead of at the same location as their financial disclosure statement; requiring reporting individuals and procurement employees to disclose the name, address, and affiliation of a person providing specified honorarium expenses with the commission instead of with the required financial disclosure statement, etc.

HB 6011 is Substituted for SB 964

HB 6011, Reporting the Receipt of Gifts or Honoraria, by Representatives Benarroch and Duggan

Since the Commission on Ethics has moved to the electronic filing system for Form 1 and Form 6, but not for Form 10—which is used to disclose certain gifts and honoraria—the bill decouples the filing of Form 10 from the filing of the financial disclosures Forms 1 and 6 by repealing language requiring Form 10 to be filed with Forms 1 and 6. The effective date of these changes is July 1, 2026.

AMENDMENT 300312 BY SENATOR WRIGHT

Expand and clarify financial disclosure reporting requirements by creating new reporting options and ensuring mandatory filings even when no disclosable interests exist.

- Require filing of financial disclosure statements even if no disclosable items exist.
- Provide two alternative methods for reporting income, assets, and liabilities.
- Mandate indicating which disclosure method is used on the statement.
- Allow attorneys to protect confidential client identities by writing 'Legal Client.'

HB 6011 passed by a vote of 36-0.

CS/CS/SB 1134, OFFICIAL ACTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, BY SENATOR YARBOROUGH

CS/CS/SB 1134 prohibits counties and municipalities from funding, promoting, or taking official actions such as adopting ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, programs, or policies, related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). It also prohibits a county or municipality from expending any funds, regardless of the source, to establish, support, sustain, or staff a DEI office or officer.

The bill provides that a member of a county or municipal governing body acting in his or her official capacity who violates the prohibitions commits misfeasance or malfeasance in office. It also prohibits counties and municipalities from allowing their funds to be used by employees, contractors, and others to promote DEI initiatives.

An action may be brought by a resident against a county or municipality that violates the bill's provisions. The bill does not prohibit official action required for compliance with general or federal law and includes a series of exceptions.

The bill also requires the potential recipients of a county or municipal contract or grant to certify that they do not and will not use local government funds to require employees, contractors, volunteers, vendors, or agents to ascribe to, study, or be instructed using materials related to DEI.

The statute created by the bill applies to any contract between a county or municipality and a diversity, equity, and inclusion officer which is in existence on January 1, 2027. With respect to all other contracts, the statute applies to contracts executed or renewed after January 1, 2027. The bill takes effect January 1, 2027.

AMENDMENT 648678 BY SENATOR YARBOROUGH

Prohibits municipalities from adopting or funding diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, declares existing programs void, and provides penalties and exceptions.

- Bars official DEI measures and any related funding, including DEI offices or officers.
- Voids existing DEI ordinances, programs, or policies.

- Defines violations as misfeasance or malfeasance, authorizing court actions and damages.
- Exempts compliance with state or federal laws, recognized holidays, certain nonprofits, and EEO materials.

CS/CS/SB 1134 passed by a vote of 25-11.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1220, TRANSPORTATION, BY SENATOR MASSULLO

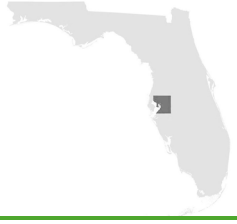
Revising the membership composition of the Florida Transportation Research Institute; requiring the Department of Transportation to coordinate with the Department of Commerce, specified ports, and the Federal Government for a certain purpose; revising the visible signals given by an approaching emergency vehicle upon which a driver must yield the right-of-way; prohibiting a personal delivery device from operating as otherwise authorized unless the personal delivery device meets certain criteria and a human operator is capable of controlling and monitoring its navigation and operation; prohibiting a political subdivision from withholding issuance of a business tax receipt, development permit, or other land use approval to certain drone delivery services and from enacting or enforcing ordinances or resolutions that prohibit drone delivery service operation; requiring commercial service airports to develop a plan for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources, etc.

AMENDMENT 469478 BY SENATOR MASSULLO

Updates personal delivery device rules, modifies emergency vehicle signals, clarifies communications facility regulation, and expands advanced air mobility.

- Restricts personal delivery devices in parks, theme parks, and detention facilities; clarifies operating rules.
- Removes digital driver license references; repeals s. 322.032.
- Alters sign height allowances if obstructed by noise barriers.
- Expands toll-sharing in specified South Florida counties in 2029.
- Adds autonomous vehicles to shooting and criminal mischief offenses.
- Updates paratransit contracts for persons with disabilities.
- Limits local permitting for communications and small wireless facilities.
- Authorizes advanced air mobility corridors and DOT airport operations.
- Increases traffic course election limit to eight times in 20 years.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1220 passed by a vote of 35-1.



CS/CS/SB 1224, Fraudulent Entry of Residential Dwellings, by Senator Rodriguez
Providing that fraudulent entry of a residential dwelling unit is an act of noncompliance for which a landlord may terminate a rental agreement; creating the crime of fraudulent entry of a residential dwelling unit; prohibiting a person from entering into and taking possession of a residential dwelling unit under specified circumstances, etc.

CS/HB 1293 is Substituted for CS/CS/SB 1224

CS/HB 1293, Fraudulent Entry of Residential Dwellings, by Representative Greco
Fraudulent Entry of Residential Dwellings; Creates crime of fraudulent entry of residential dwelling unit; prohibits person from entering into and taking possession of residential dwelling unit; provides criminal penalty; provides that fraudulent entry of residential dwelling unit is act of noncompliance for which landlord may terminate rental agreement.

CS/HB 1293 passed by a vote of 34-0.

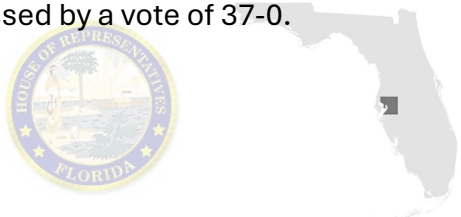
CS/CS/SB 1230, Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, by Senator Harrell
Citing this act as the "Joe Casello Act"; prohibiting certain use and the sale, purchase, or distribution of aqueous film-forming foam; prohibiting the possession and use of aqueous film-forming foam; requiring certain public entities disposing of domestic wastewater biosolids and treated effluent to quarterly conduct specified samplings and submit the results to the department, etc.

CS/CS/HB 1019 is Substituted for CS/CS/SB 1230

CS/CS/HB 1019, Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, by Representative Conerly
Prohibits, beginning on specified date, certain use and sale, purchase, or distribution of aqueous film-forming foam; requires certain entities to submit aqueous film-forming foam inventories and disposal plans to DEP; prohibits possession and use of aqueous film-forming foam; authorizes DEP to administer certain grants or cost share programs; provides penalties and injunctive relief; requires certain public entities disposing of domestic wastewater biosolids and treated effluent to quarterly conduct specified samplings and submit results to DEP; limits purpose such samplings until specified standards are established by EPA and adopted by DEP.

Amendment 719556 by Senator Harrell
Specifies that the relevant locations include airports as defined in s. 330.27.

CS/CS/HB 1019 passed by a vote of 37-0.



CS/CS/SB 1234, BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS, BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

Providing for expiration of certain building permits issued by a county after a specified timeframe; providing that any certified residential manufactured building may not be denied a building permit for placement on specified lots or property associations; prohibiting a local government from adopting or enforcing certain zoning, land use, or development ordinances or regulations; requiring the Florida Building Commission to adopt by rule uniform statewide building permit applications for commercial and residential construction projects; requiring certain persons who perform work on a property to file a notice of permit exemption with the local enforcement agency within a specified timeframe, etc.

CS/CS/HB 803 IS SUBSTITUTED FOR CS/CS/SB 1234

CS/CS/HB 803, BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS, BY REPRESENTATIVES TRABULSY AND OVERDORF

Provides for expiration of certain building permits issued by county and local government; prohibits DBPR from denying building permit for certain residential manufactured buildings; provides that under certain circumstances certain persons are not subject to discipline for performing job without applicable permits and inspections; prohibits local governments from requiring building permit for installation of certain walls or barriers; revises provisions relating to building code inspection services provided by private provider and private provider firms, including permit and administrative fees, responsibilities of private providers, permitting and inspection documents and reports, timeframes for issuing permits and notices, authority of local building official, notices of incomplete forms, authority of private providers acting as local building official, emergency inspection services, creation of uniform forms, audits, immunity, civil causes of action, posting of permits on specified websites, and adoption of specified registration system; requires Florida Building Commission to develop uniform commercial and residential building permit applications; provides permit requirements for backup power systems and distributed energy generation systems; prohibits association or certain committees from requiring building permit as prerequisite for certain review.

AMENDMENT 741396 BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

Streamlines building code oversight, expands private provider authority, and facilitates offsite-constructed housing.

- Requires DMS to create state contracts for building inspection services.
- Creates certification by endorsement for inspectors during emergencies.
- Shields contractors from discipline when permits are lawfully unnecessary.
- Prevents denial of certain manufactured building permits.
- Requires offsite-constructed dwellings in single-family zones be treated equitably.
- Adopts uniform permit applications statewide.
- Reduces permit fees and expands private provider rights.

- Eases local permitting for minor projects, retaining walls, and temporary flood barriers.

AMENDMENT 390734 TO THE AMENDMENT BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

Exempt certain owners from building permit requirements for small projects and temporary hurricane/flood barriers while clarifying local government responsibilities and permitting for multi-lot retaining walls.

- Exempts owners from building permit requirements for work valued under $7,500, with exceptions.
- Prohibits splitting construction projects to evade permit rules.
- Requires a written exemption request by owners or contractors.
- State local governments hold no legal duty for exempted work.
- Exempts temporary hurricane and flood walls from permits under certain conditions.
- Authorizes the Florida Building Commission to adopt related rules.
- Requires a single retaining wall permit for multi-lot projects.

CS/CS/HB 803 was placed on third reading.

CS/CS/SB 1296, PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RELATIONS COMMISSION, BY SENATOR MARTIN

Authorizing subpoenas to be served by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal service; revising application requirements for employee organization registration and renewal of registration; providing that a petition to clarify the composition of a bargaining unit may be filed with the commission under certain circumstances; providing that implementation of appropriations from the Legislature which are specifically directed to be disbursed as salaries for employees of local governments are considered a financial urgency; authorizing certain public employers, public employees, and employee organizations, or combinations thereof, to file certain charges with the commission, etc.

AMENDMENT 151210 BY SENATOR MARTIN

Strengthens certification and recertification rules for public employee organizations and eliminates certain financial reporting requirements.

- Deletes existing annual financial reporting and fee disclosure requirements.
- Requires at least 30% support from employees for petitions.
- Revokes certification for noncompliance, prohibiting re-petition for 12 months.
- Allows challenges to the validity of a petition's showing of interest.
- Makes commission decisions final yet reviewable.



AMENDMENT 553092 BY SENATOR MAYFIELD

Prohibit public employers from compensating employees for union activities but allow certain unpaid leave, personal leave, or reimbursed arrangements.

- Adds language prohibiting public employers from providing any compensation for union activities, with specified exceptions.
- Allows unpaid leave, personal leave, or representational activities if agreed upon by the employer and bargaining agent.
- Permits compensation and benefits when the public employer is reimbursed by the employee organization.
- Exempts public safety units from these compensation restrictions.

AMENDMENT 851520 BY SENATOR MARTIN

Expands union election options and imposes new majority-participation thresholds for certification and decertification of public employee unions.

- Authorizes mail, onsite, or combined elections, with mandatory mail elections if requested.
- Requires at least 50% of employees in the unit to vote for certification or decertification for petitions after July 1, 2026.
- Retains simple majority threshold for public safety units.
- Creates s. 447.3076 to clarify unit composition and allow dismissal of petitions expanding units by more than 25%.
- Revises decertification timing restrictions and procedures.

CS/SB 1296 passed by a vote of 20-14.

CS/CS/SB 1434, INFILL REDEVELOPMENT, BY SENATOR CALATAYUD

Creating the "Infill Redevelopment Act"; requiring that a local government permit qualifying parcels to be developed with residential uses; prohibiting a local government from using the subdivision process to restrict development in a certain manner; requiring developers of such parcels to pay double the parks and recreation facilities impact fees for a certain purpose and provide certain written notice to property owners; prohibiting a local government from adopting or enforcing certain local laws, ordinances, or regulations, etc.

CS/CS/SB 1434 passed by a vote of 36-0.

SB 1548, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, BY SENATOR CALATAYUD

Requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to authorize certain residential use on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district under certain circumstances;

revising the definition of the term “person”; revising a prohibition on discriminatory practices in land use decisions and in permitting of development to include housing that is affordable; waiving the state’s sovereign immunity for certain causes of action based upon housing discrimination, etc.

CS/CS/HB 1389 IS SUBSTITUTED FOR SB 1548

CS/CS/HB 1389, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, BY REPRESENTATIVE REDONDO

Authorizes multifamily and mixed-use residential uses as allowable uses for specified property; provides requirements for certain proposed developments; prohibits counties and municipalities from having certain restrictions or requiring certain setbacks; requires adoption of certain ordinances relating to accessory dwelling units; prohibits such ordinances from including certain requirements; provides exception to certain local governments; removes requirement for specified affidavit in building permit application; prohibits owners of certain property from being denied homestead exemption; requires certain accessory dwelling units to be assessed and taxed separately; authorizes applicants for certain proposed developments to proceed under certain provisions of law; requires counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit revised applications, written requests, or notices of intent; provides that specified provisions of law relating to proposed developments do not apply to airport zoning regulations unless approved by governing body; authorizes local governments to provide certain incentives to landowners who donate property to provide affordable housing for military families; prohibits certain discriminatory practices based on financing of development for affordable housing; waiving state's sovereign immunity for certain causes of action; requires OPPAGA to evaluate certain methods to stimulate construction and use of tiny homes for specified purpose and submit to Legislature certain report.

AMENDMENT 668106 BY SENATOR CALATAYUD

Promotes affordable housing by mandating flexibility in local zoning, protecting farmland from commercial classification, expanding anti-discrimination protections, and simplifying accessory dwelling unit approvals.

- Requires local governments to allow certain residential developments on public property with at least 40% affordable units for 30 years.
- Prohibits restrictive local height or approval processes, excludes farmland from commercial or industrial use.
- Expands 'person' definition for discrimination claims, bars discrimination based on a development's financing source.
- Requires local governments to adopt 2026 ordinances enabling accessory dwelling units without hearings or specialized permits.

- Directs OPPAGA to study mezzanine financing and tiny homes for affordable housing solutions.

CS/CS/HB 1389 passed by a vote 34-0.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1566, LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING, BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

Citing this act as the "Local Government Financial Transparency and Accountability Act"; revising the timeframe during which tentative budgets, and the length of time for which final budgets, must be posted on county websites; requiring counties to prepare certain quarterly compensation summaries; revising the length of time for which a public hearing for an amendment to a county budget must be advertised; specifying requirements applicable to local governments and special districts for impact fees adopted or increased after a specified date, etc.

CS/CS/HB 1329 IS SUBSTITUTED FOR CS/CS/CS/SB 1566

CS/CS/HB 1329, LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING, BY REPRESENTATIVE BENARROCH

Revises length of time tentative budgets and final budgets must be posted on county, municipality, and special district websites; requires posting of such budgets to allow members of public to download and review certain information and data in specified formats; requires county and municipal budget officer to perform certain exercise before final adoption of budget; revises length of time adopted amendment must be posted on county's and municipality's website; requires posting of proposed amendment to meet certain requirements; provides exception for counties and municipalities that meet certain requirements; requires counties and municipalities that meet such exception to provide information in form and manner prescribed by DFS; authorizes counties and municipalities to apply for certain hardship waivers.

AMENDMENT 399106 BY SENATOR DICEGLIE

Enhances local government fiscal transparency, extends budget posting timelines, and imposes new standards for impact fees.

- Establishes the "Local Government Financial Transparency and Accountability Act."
- Lengthens online budgets from 2 to 5 days before hearings and from 2 to 5 years after adoption.
- Mandates a 10% budget reduction workshop.
- Requires quarterly employee compensation summaries online.
- Defines plan-based methodology for "impact fee" increases and clarifies extraordinary circumstances.
- Encourages local governments to coordinate on transportation fees via interlocal agreements.

CS/CS/HB 1329 passed by a vote of 34-0.

CS/SB 1612, Electronic Payments Made to Units of Local Governments, by Senator DiCeglie

CS/SB 1612 amends s. 215.322, F.S., to require each unit of local government1 to accept payments by use of credit cards, charge cards, bank debit cards, and electronic fund transfers for financial obligations owed to the local government. Currently, local governments and certain subdivisions thereof are authorized, but not required, to accept payments by use of credit cards, charge cards, bank debit cards, and electronic fund transfers for financial obligations that are owing to such unit of local government. The bill additionally requires the local governments to have an online method to accept payments.

The bill has a finding and declaration of important state interest. The bill may require local governments to expend funds to make necessary technological updates and to maintain required websites. The bill takes effect January 1, 2027.

CS/HB 967 is Substituted for CS/SB 1612

CS/HB 967, Electronic Payments Made to Units of Local Governments, by Representative Buchanan

Requires units of local government to accept certain forms of payments; requires such local governments to accept payments online.

CS/HB 967 passed by a vote of 33-0.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1614, Enforcement of the Florida Building Code, by Senator Leek

CS/CS/CS/SB 1614 removes a current provision of law that authorizes a local government to use excess funds received from enforcing the Florida Building Code for the construction of a building or structure that houses a local government's building code enforcement agency. The bill has an indeterminate fiscal impact to local governments. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement. The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

CS/CS/CS/SB 1614 passed by a vote of 37-0.

CS/SB 1682, Local Administration of Vessel Restrictions, by Senator Trumbull

CS/SB 1682 authorizes counties and municipalities to administer laws relating to vessels at risk of becoming derelict, long-term anchoring permits, and derelict vessels within their jurisdictions. Local governments that elect to administer these laws must adopt ordinances and coordinate with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

CS/CS/HB 1103 IS SUBSTITUTED FOR CS/SB 1682

CS/CS/HB 1103, LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF VESSEL RESTRICTIONS, BY REPRESENTATIVES ANDRADE AND BASABE

Authorizes counties and municipalities to adopt ordinances authorizing code enforcement officers to administer enforcement of certain provisions relating to vessels at risk of becoming derelict and long-term anchoring permit requirements, respectively; provides that such ordinances may not take effect until reviewed and approved by FWCC; requires FWCC to adopt rules; revises exemption from anchoring limitation area requirements for certain vessels; authorizes municipalities and counties to adopt ordinances to extend boating-restricted areas under certain conditions; requires boundaries of such areas to be clearly marked with specified markers.

CS/CS/HB 1103 passed by a vote of 37-0.

CS/SB 1706, MY SAFE FLORIDA CONDOMINIUM PILOT PROGRAM, BY SENATOR PIZZO (NPA)

Revising eligibility requirements for participation in the My Safe Florida Condominium Pilot Program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to adopt rules to verify household income; specifying that condominium property with mixed-income occupancies is eligible to participate in the pilot program under certain circumstances; authorizing financial grants to be used by associations for a specified purpose; limiting the award of grant funds, etc.

CS/SB 1706 passed by a vote of 37-0.

CS/SB 7048, INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, BY APPROPRIATIONS

Revising the definition of the term “Internal Revenue Code”; providing for retroactive application; requiring the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules, etc.

HB 7031 IS SUBSTITUTED FOR CS/SB 7048

HB 7031, TAXATION, BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Revising provisions related to taxation including special districts; ad valorem taxation, notice of disapproval, rental of homestead, affordable housing tax exemption, millage rate adoption, vacation rental transactions, sales tax exemptions, tax credits and deductions, corporate income tax, taxable income, license fee for permitholders, slot machine revenue tax, tax rates for alcoholic beverages, surplus lines tax, disclosure of estimated ad valorem tax, cardroom operation tax, and tax exemption for leased property.

AMENDMENT 611560 BY SENATOR GAETZ

Revises the reference date for the Internal Revenue Code to January 1, 2026, except certain sections remain at 2025 or are excluded, applies changes retroactively, and grants rulemaking authority to the Department of Revenue.

- Updates the IRC definition from 2025 to 2026, with specified exceptions.
- Applies changes retroactively to January 1, 2026.
- Requires DOR to adopt rules and allows emergency rulemaking.
- Takes effect upon becoming law.

HB 7031 passed by a vote of 34-0.

View the Senate in Session:

https://www.flsenate.gov/Media/VideoPlayer/6269
https://www.flsenate.gov/Media/VideoPlayer/6273
https://www.flsenate.gov/media/VideoPlayer/6277

Key Information and Dates

The Week 9: March 9-13 calendar for the House and Senate combined as it is currently available is hyperlinked for your information. Please note that committee meeting agendas for Wednesday and beyond are not yet available and will be populated soon.

Here are other important session dates:

- March 9, 2026

  After the 55th day (March 8) of a regular session, the Special Order Calendar shall be published in one Calendar of the House and may be taken up on the day the Calendar is published

  After the 55th day (March 8) of a regular session: Main floor amendments must be submitted to the House Bill Drafting Service no later than 1 hour before the applicable filing deadline and approved with the Clerk not later than the earlier of the following deadlines: 8:00 a.m. on the day session is scheduled to convene on the day the bill appears on the Special Order Calendar in the Calendar of the House, or 2 hours before session is scheduled to convene on the day the bill appears on the

Special Order Calendar of the House. Amendments to main floor amendments, substitute amendments for main floor amendments, and amendments to substitute amendments must be approved for filing not later than 1 hour after the applicable main floor amendment deadline."

After the 55th day (March 8) of a regular session, no House bills on second reading may be taken up and considered by the House.

- March 12, 2026 — After the 58th day (March 11) of a regular session, the House may consider only: Returning Messages, Conference Reports, and Concurrent Resolutions
- March 13, 2026 — 60th day – Last day of Regular Session

Contact Information

For more information, or if we can be of assistance, please contact Brandon Wagner at WagnerB@hcfl.gov, and (813) 276-2640 or (813) 777-7232.

