

1 **RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**
2 **LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION**
3 **Last Amended and Adopted December 17, 2012**
4 **For Consideration and Adoption on February 1st, 2023**
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7 **RULE ONE**
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9 **COMPOSITION, QUORUM, VOTING**

10 1.1 – Effective midnight, February 1st, 2023, the Hillsborough

11 Legislative Delegation shall be comprised of the following Senate and House districts: Senate:
12 14, 16, 20, and 23 and House: 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69 and 70. The
13 membership shall be adjusted at the organizational meeting of the Delegation immediately
14 following redistricting of the Legislature or as may otherwise be required.

15 1.2 – A quorum of the Delegation shall consist of not less than two members of the
16 Senate and not less than five members of the House, and no official business may be conducted
17 by the Delegation without such quorum.

18 1.3 – A majority vote shall be not less than one-half plus one of the members of the
19 Senate members present and not less than one-half plus one of the members of the House
20 present.

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22 **RULE TWO**

23 **OFFICERS**

24 2.1 – A Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be elected at the organizational meeting of
25 the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall
26 continue in office for a period of one (1) year or until their successors are appointed at the next
27 organizational meeting. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be staggered in a manner which

1 would permit two (2) House members to serve consecutively as Chairman for a period of one (1)
2 year each, followed by a Senator for a period of one (1) year. During the time that a House
3 member serves as Chairman, a Senator shall serve as Vice Chairman; and, during the time that a
4 Senator serves as Chairman; a House member shall serve as Vice Chairman.

5 2.2 – A majority of the Senate members shall select their designee for Chairman or Vice
6 Chairman, and a majority of the House members shall select their designee for the Chairman or
7 Vice Chairman.

8 2.3 – When the Chairman is absent from any meeting, the Vice Chairman shall perform
9 the duties of the Chairman. In case of the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the
10 Chairman shall designate who shall perform the duties of the Chairman.

11 2.4 – In the event the incoming Chairman is no longer a member of the Hillsborough
12 Delegation at the time of the annual Organization Session of the Legislature (as set forth in
13 Section 3 of the Florida Constitution), the Vice Chairman shall automatically become the
14 Chairman, and take on all responsibilities pertaining to the Delegation for the upcoming year.
15 The Delegation shall elect a new Vice Chairman at their next regularly scheduled meeting, and
16 said Vice Chairman shall be from the opposite chamber (Senate/House) as the Chairman, as
17 described in Section 2.1, above.

18 2.5 – The Chair shall, with the advice and consent of the members, call any meeting
19 deemed necessary, and designate the date, time and place of said meeting. The Chair shall set
20 the agenda for each meeting and hold the gavel, except as may be necessary to temporarily pass
21 it in the conduct of the immediate business, until final adjournment.

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RULE THREE

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VOTING

1 3.1 – The voting requirements on all matters, except the introduction of a local bill, a
2 waiver or amendment of these rules shall be a majority vote as defined herein.

3 3.2 – The Chairman shall declare all votes, but if any member rises to doubt a vote, the
4 Chairman shall take the sense of the Delegation by oral roll call in alphabetical order, except that
5 the Chairman’s name shall be called last, all of which shall be recorded and made a part of the
6 public records of the Delegation.

7 3.3 –Introduction in the Senate or House of any local bill by a member of the Delegation
8 shall require the signature on the jacket of the bill or an appropriate form designated by the
9 Chairman of two (2) members of the Senate and five (5) members of the House. No
10 local bill shall be introduced by a member of the Delegation that does not have the requisite
11 number of signatures prior to introduction.

12 3.4 – Matters upon reconsideration must be considered no later than the next meeting. If
13 a matter for reconsideration is not taken up by the next meeting, it shall be considered
14 abandoned. A motion to reconsider must be made by a member who was on the prevailing side,
15 and a matter may be reconsidered one (1) time.

16 3.5 – A waiver or amendment of these rules shall be obtained by a two-thirds vote of the
17 members of the Senate present and voting and a two-thirds vote of the members of the House
18 present and voting.

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RULE FOUR

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

1 4.1 – The Delegation shall hold an organizational meeting as soon as is practicable
2 following each general election, or at the call of the Chairman in years during which there is no
3 general election, to consider the following matters:

- 4 (a) Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman;
- 5 (b) Rule amendments; and
- 6 (c) Other matters deemed appropriate.

7 4.2 – At the organizational meeting following each general election, the Delegation shall
8 adopt rules for the biennium by majority vote of the members present and voting.

9 **RULE FIVE**

10 **MEETINGS OF THE DELEGATION**

11 5.1 – All requests for meetings with the Delegation, except those of a strictly social
12 nature where public issues will not be formally discussed, shall be made by the deadline set for
13 such requests, and all such meetings shall be set at the time designated for public hearings,
14 provided that the Delegation may meet at other times and places upon request to view public
15 facilities, both existing and proposed, and to attend dedication ceremonies and like events. It is
16 the policy of the Delegation, sitting as a Delegation, to hear all matters affecting the public at
17 public hearings upon due notice to the public.

18 **RULE SIX**

19 **GENERAL**

20 6.1 – No local bill shall be introduced by any member of the Delegation which has not
21 been afforded a public hearing in Hillsborough County, Florida, unless such a bill is deemed to
22 be an emergency, and then only by unanimous consent of the members of the Senate and the
23 House.

1 6.2 – A proposed local bill may be submitted to the Delegation for its official
2 consideration only if at least one member of the Delegation has agreed to sponsor said bill.

3 6.3 – When a general bill affects one or more of the special boards or authorities which
4 have been established in Hillsborough County, including but not limited to the Expressway
5 Authority, the Children’s Board, the Historic Preservation Board, and the Sports, Aviation, Port
6 and Hospital Authorities, it shall be discussed at a local Delegation meeting, whenever possible,
7 in order that the Delegation may attempt to reach a consensus on the issue.

8 6.4 – To the extent not in direct conflict with these Rules, the Rules of the Florida House
9 of Representatives shall apply to the extent applicable to the proceedings of the Delegation.