

Hillsborough  
County Florida

## Florida Legislative Session Summary Report – 2023



Prepared by:  
Office of Government Relations  
& Strategic Services



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## Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation Members

### Senators

	Senator <a href="#">Boyd, Jim</a>	(R)	20	(850) 487- 5020	418 Senate Office Building
	Senator <a href="#">Burgess, Danny</a>	(R)	23	(850) 487- 5023	412 Senate Office Building
	Senator <a href="#">Collins, Jay</a>	(R)	14	(850) 487- 5014	305 Senate Office Building
	Senator <a href="#">Rouson, Darryl Ervin</a>	(D)	16	(850) 487- 5016	212 Senate Office Building

### Representatives

	Representative <a href="#">Beltran, Mike</a>	(R)	70	(850) 717- 5070	400 House Office Building
	Representative <a href="#">Driskell, Fentrice</a>	(D)	67	(850) 717- 5067	316 The Capitol
	Representative <a href="#">Hart, Dianne "Ms. Dee"</a>	(D)	63	(850) 717- 5063	1003 The Capitol
	Representative <a href="#">Koster, Traci</a>	(R)	66	(850) 717- 5066	214 House Office Building
	Representative <a href="#">Chaney, Linda</a>	(R)	61	(850) 717- 5061	200 House Office Building



**Representatives (continued)**



Representative  
McClure, Lawrence

**(R)**

68

(850) 717-  
5068

209 House Office  
Building



Representative  
Rayner-Goolsby, Michele K.

**(D)**

62

(850) 717-  
5062

1302 The Capitol



Representative  
Gonzalez Pittman, Karen

**(R)**

65

(850) 717-  
5065

1102 The Capitol



Representative  
Valdes, Susan L.

**(D)**

64

(850) 717-  
5064

1003 The Capitol



Representative  
Alvarez, Daniel Antonio  
"Danny"

**(R)**

69

(850) 717-  
5069

1101 The Capitol



## Utilizing This Report and Accessing More Information

This interactive report prepared by the Hillsborough County Office of Government Relations & Strategic Services is a comprehensive review of those issues passed by the Florida Legislature in the 2023 State Legislative Session that may have an operational or fiscal impact on Hillsborough County. This information is provided to educate and assist the County Commission, Administration, and the public in understanding and properly executing relevant new laws.

This report details outcomes regarding the 2023 Hillsborough County State Legislative Program along with a listing of key legislation by department in alphabetical order, and via index in numerical order. When a particular bill affects multiple county departments or constitutional officers, the bill is cited in each appropriate section to ensure attention by appropriate parties. Many parts of this report are hyperlinked to provide quick and easy access to additional information.

The easiest place to locate and view all legislation is on the [Florida House of Representatives](#) and [Florida Senate](#) websites, where you can enter a bill number to view actions taken, read the text of a bill, access a staff analysis of a bill's impact, and review other relevant information. Alternatively, you can visit [Online Sunshine](#) to access both the individual [Florida House of Representatives](#) and [Florida Senate](#) websites, along with other useful resources. When conducting your research, be sure to have the correct bill number and year, and keep in mind that all Senate bills are even-numbered and House bills are odd-numbered.

Should you need any assistance or have any questions, please contact [Brandon Wagner](#) or [Cameron Pennant](#) in the Office of Government Relations and Strategic Services at (813) 276-2640.



## Overview of the 2023 Legislative Session

The 2023 Legislative Session ended on time and with a record breaking 368 bills passed and passage of a balanced budget as mandated by the Florida Constitution – this year, a record budget of \$117 billion. This session Hillsborough County secured \$9.1 million in appropriation projects: African American Arts and Cultural Center-\$5,000,000, Hillsborough County: Emergency Operations Center Improvements-\$2,500,000, Hillsborough County Short Term Residential Treatment Beds-\$1,584,000.

The Hillsborough County Transportation Surtax issue was not settled due to the inability of leadership to reach consensus on how the funds would be refunded and/or distributed.

Legislation was also filed attempting to significantly raise the sovereign immunity caps. The Board opposed the unreasonable increase in, or outright elimination of, said caps that would have resulted in a tremendous negative fiscal impact to Hillsborough and all local governments.

Separately, there were several preemptions in this legislative session that will be an issue for the county. To be clear, each of these issues were set to have heavier and longer penalties and the resulting outcome showcases that compromise. To start, HB 1379 was the Department of Environmental Protection overhaul bill for this session. With the involvement of and coordination with our County's Utilities Services team, and others, the bill was vastly improved to eliminate a costly mandate and instead provide for a reasonable planning proposal. Although the county was spared from the terrible effects of Hurricane Ian, we were not spared from the serious backlash to some county's comprehensive land planning post-storm.

SB 250 was the post-hurricane season policy bill for this legislative session, and it will prohibit local governments within a 100-miles radius of where Hurricane Ian made landfall from adopting "more restrictive or burdensome procedures" to its comprehensive plan or land development regulation before October 1, 2024. Also, the bill will prohibit the county from increasing "building inspection fees" until October 1, 2024. This includes Hillsborough County. The final negotiated version of the bill was significantly less restrictive than first proposed.

Finally, The Live Local Act (CS/SB 102)) was a priority of the Senate President, making significant changes to affordable housing-related programs and policies, along with additional monetary investments in affordable housing upwards of \$811 million. Among its numerous provisions is the maintenance of most local siting requirements while preempting local governments' zoning, density, and height restrictions to allow for streamlined development of affordable housing in commercial and mixed-use zoned areas under certain circumstances. We will continue to advocate our priorities and positions as guided by the board. Our team is always grateful to do the hard work required on behalf of the county.



## 2023 Legislative Program Priorities Outcomes

### Appropriations Requests

**Appropriation:** Requested \$5,000,000 for Hillsborough County: African American Arts and Cultural Center

- **Report:** \$5,000,000 Budget Line 2341

**Appropriation:** Requested \$5,450,000 for Hillsborough County: Emergency Operations Center Improvements

- **Report:** - \$2,500,000 Budget Line 2710

**Appropriation:** Requested \$1,584,000 for Hillsborough County Short Term Residential Treatment Beds (SRT Beds)

- **Report:** \$1,584,000 Budget Line 378

### Policy Requests

**Policy:** Support the recommended expenditure plan approved by the Board as requested by the Florida Department of Revenue for the 2018 Hillsborough County Citizen-Led Transportation Surtax to be used within Hillsborough County.

- **Report:** *Though there have been efforts in previous years to reinstate this refund program, there was no legislation filed that directly addressed this issue.*

**Policy:** Support maximum funding of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and advocate for legislation that seeks to expand the percentage of funds allocated toward affordable housing.

- **Report:** *SB 102 is a priority bill for Senate President Passidomo and is the Senate's effort to enact a comprehensive statewide workforce housing strategy to increase the availability of attainable housing options in Florida.*

**Policy:** Support legislation creating the Targeted High Wage Production Program within the Department of Economic Opportunity, aimed at broadening the film, television, and digital media industry's impact on the state.

- **Report:** *Though there have been efforts in previous years to reinstate this refund program, there was no legislation filed that directly addressed this issue.*

**Policy:** Support a solution to the Seminole Gaming Compact that continues local government revenue sharing.

- **Report:** *No legislative or executive policy action completed this Legislative Session.*



### Policy Requests (continued)

**Policy:** Advocate for increased funding of the Florida Forever fund, which enables local governments to acquire additional lands for recreational and conservation uses.

- **Report:** *HB 1379-Environmental Protection passed this legislative session. This bill is the Department of Environmental Protection overhaul for this session; it dedicates \$100 million annually to DEP from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for the acquisition of lands through the Florida Forever Program.*

**Policy:** Support the state of Florida's ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

- **Report:** *No legislative or executive policy action completed this Legislative Session.*

**Policy:** Oppose legislation aiming to raise the statutory limits on liability for tort claims against the state and local governments.

- **Report:** *No legislative or executive policy action completed this Legislative Session.*

**Policy:** Oppose legislation that impedes home rule authority, thereby limiting the ability of local governments to address issues within its jurisdiction in a timely manner.

- **Report:** *With a supermajority in both the Florida House and Senate, this legislative session saw a slew of preemption/mandate legislation. Specifically, there were significant preemption measures filed and passed: SB 102-Housing, HB 1383-Specialty Contractors, SB 170-Local Ordinances, SB 1604-Land Use and Development Regulations, SB 346-Public Construction, HB 1417-Residential Tenancies, HB 1373-County Constitutional Officers, SB 264-Interests of Foreign Countries, SB 259-Prohibited Application on Government-issued Devices, SB 1068-Drone Delivery Services, SB 262-Technology Transparency, SB 1718-Immigration, just to name a few. We met with legislators, various stakeholders, the Florida Association of Counties (FAC), and others on these measures to explain our concerns with the real-world implications should some of these bills go into effect.*

**Policy:** Support efforts initiated by agencies and municipalities within Hillsborough County that aim to provide support and enrichment to the region. Additionally, communicate and work with such agencies and localities in their efforts to bolster programming and address funding needs of the county.

- **Report:** *Every session, we work to ensure that we are helping entities within Hillsborough County with their legislative goals to ensure that the community is enriched as much as possible. We spoke with representatives from HART, the Hillsborough County Clerk of Courts, Visit Tampa Bay, and others on both policy and appropriation initiatives that they were working toward. We offered our advocacy on various efforts and invited representatives from such entities to contact us should an issue arise that they need assistance with. We will continue to work with all regional entities during the offseason to identify common goals that we can strive toward in upcoming legislative sessions.*





## Budget Allocations Benefitting Hillsborough County

### Education

#### *County-wide Programs*

School Readiness Program/ Early Learning Coalitions	\$67,578,177
Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program	\$31,272,642
Workforce Education Programs	\$47,042,419
Student Success Incentive Fund	\$226, 141
Nursing Education	\$1,180,548

#### *Hillsborough Community College*

Renovation of Technology Building - Dale Mabry Campus	\$7,305,571
2+2 Student Success Incentive Fund	\$828,557
Work Florida Student Success Incentive Fund	\$453,396
Operating Funds and Approved Baccalaureate Programs	\$84,333,300
Regional Transportation Training Center	\$2,500,000
FinTech Program	\$500,000
Nursing Education	\$714,831

#### *University of South Florida*

(General authorization given for the following projects, rather than specific appropriations)

Environmental & Oceanographic Sciences Research & Teaching Facility	\$24,339,226
Multidisciplinary Educational Services Centers	\$1,450,000
Florida Mental Health Institute	\$1,737,249
Nursing Education	\$6,776,985
Educational Enhancement Trust Fund	\$344,300,137
St. Petersburg	\$31,906,477
Sarasota/Manatee	\$19,031,911
Student Financial Assistance	\$801,368
Functional MRI	\$3,000,000
Simulation Modeling to Reduce Opioid Overdose	\$2,900,500
Regional Perinatal Intensive Care Center	\$45,000
Disease Management	\$151,545
HIV/AIDS	\$222,932
HIV/AIDS	\$74,311
Comprehensive Children’s Kidney Failure Center	\$225,268
Tampa Referral Center	\$393,120
Behavioral Health	\$153,305



<i>WMNF-FM, Tampa/ St. Petersburg</i>	
Replace Main Generator and Fuel Tank	\$479,770
<i>WUSF-FM, Tampa</i>	
Replace Damaged Upper Guy Wires	\$172,134
<i>WUSF-FM, Tampa/St. Petersburg</i>	
Replace Obsolete Electrical Systems	\$392,750
<i>WEDU-TV, Tampa/St. Petersburg</i>	
Replace Mildewed and Unhealthy Ceiling Tiles	\$347,628
<b>General Government</b>	
Hillsborough Habitat for Humanity - Resilient Homes for Heroes	\$10,000
Hillsborough Habitat for Humanity - Resilient Homes for Heroes	\$490,000
City of Tampa - MacDill Air Force Base Access Improvements	\$1,289,308
Tampa Urban Area Security Initiative	\$3,901,670
<b>Criminal Justice</b>	
Ready4Work-Hillsborough Re-entry Program	\$1,000,000 (recurring)
AMIkids Gender Specific Prevention Programs - Hillsborough County	\$723,542 (recurring)
Tampa Jewish Community Preventative Security Initiative	\$372,000
Tampa Police Department Gun Shot Detection Technology	\$280,000
Tampa Police Department License Plate Reader Technology	\$200,000
<b>Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office</b>	
Child Protective Investigations	\$2,334,478
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Regional K9 Facility	\$2,000,000
<b>Human Services</b>	
Children's Network of Hillsborough	\$75,448,412
Central Florida Behavioral Health - Hillsborough County Baker Act Beds	\$2,045,110
Hillsborough High Risk Adoption Support Program	\$325,000
Cove Behavioral Health in Hillsborough County	\$600,000 (recurring)
Tampa General Behavioral Health Hospital	\$10,000,000
Feeding Tampa Bay Facility	\$2,500,000



**Natural Resources/Environment/Growth Management/Transportation**

Tampa Bay Watch Water Quality Improvements	\$1,500,000
Tampa Bay Water: Surface Water Treatment Plant Expansion Report	\$1,000,000
Tampa Water System Morris Bridge Continuity of Operations Center	\$2,500,000
Tampa Bay Water Morris Bridge Wellfield Improvements	\$2,500,000
ZooTampa Manatee Field Response and Release Vehicles	\$100,000
ZooTampa Manatee Rescue Center	\$1,500,000
Washington Street Improvements – Tampa	\$2,000,000
Tampa Fire Rescue South Tampa Rescue/Marine Unit	\$290,000
Tampa Theatre Restoration	\$1,000,000
Tampa Museum of Art Expansion Project	\$1,000,000



### **General Appropriations Act Budget Highlights**

Total State Budget:

\$117 billion (\$46.5 billion GR; \$70.5 billion TF)

- \$10.9 billion Total Reserves
- \$5.3 billion General Revenue Unallocated
- \$4.1 billion Budget Stabilization Fund
- \$1.4 billion added to the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund
- \$200 million to retire outstanding state debt.

#### **Education**

Total budget: \$27.9 billion

- Early Learning Services: \$1.6 billion
  - Voluntary Prekindergarten Program: \$427 million
  - School Readiness Program: \$1.1 billion
- Student Financial Aid: \$1 billion
- Florida College System: \$2.4 billion

#### **Health and Human Services**

Total budget: \$47.3 billion

- Agency for Health Care Administration: \$35.6 billion
  - Florida Medicaid Management Information System: \$182.6 million
- Department of Children and Families: \$4.7 billion
  - State Opioid Response Grant: \$110.6 million
  - Community-Based Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grants: \$156.3 million
- Department of Health: \$3.8 billion
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
  - Home and Community Based Services Waiver Waitlist - \$79.6million

#### **Criminal and Civil Justice**

Total budget: \$6.7 billion

- Department of Corrections: \$3.3 billion
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement: \$490.9 million
  - E-Verify Staffing - \$1 million; 11 positions.
  - Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Grants - \$5 million
- Department of Juvenile Justice: \$666.2 million
  - Children In Need of Services/Families in Need of Services (CINS/FINS) Provider Pay to \$19/hour - \$5 million.



### **Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development**

Total budget: \$21 billion

- Department of Economic Opportunity: \$1.8 billion
  - Housing: \$711 million
    - State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP): \$252 million TF
    - State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Programs: \$259 million TF, \$100 million for Florida Hometown Hero Housing Program
  - Workforce Projects: \$11.9 million
  - Housing and Community Development Projects: \$118 million
  - Job Growth Grant Fund: \$75 million
  - Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Funding and Broadband - Digital Capacity Grant Program - \$112.9 million
- Department of Transportation: \$15.2 billion
  - Transportation Work Program: \$13.6 billion
    - Local transportation Initiatives (Road Fund) Projects: \$400.7 million
  - Innovative Grant Program for Transportation Disadvantaged: \$8 million
- Division of Emergency Management: \$2.8 billion
  - Open Federally Declared Disaster (FEMA reimbursement and pass-through) - \$2.1 billion.
  - Community Recovery, Preparedness, and Critical Facilities Projects - \$93.5 million
  - Sargassum Clean-Up Grants - \$5 million

### **Agriculture, Environment, and General Government**

Total budget: \$11.3 billion

- Department of Environmental Protection: \$4.9 billion
  - DEP Everglades Restoration: \$574.6 million
  - Water Quality Improvements: \$1 billion
    - Wastewater Grant Program: \$200 million
  - Florida Forever and Land Acquisition: \$1 billion
  - Springs Restoration: \$50 million



## 2023 Enrolled Bills

*The following is a list of bills passed by the Legislature that are enrolled and are either awaiting action, or have already been approved by, the Governor. Bills are in numeric order.*

[HB 3- Government and Corporate Activism by Rep. Rommel](#) (SB 302 by Sen. Grall) passed this session. On May 2, 2023, the bill was approved by the Governor. The bill dictates that investment decisions, including written policies and the exercise of shareholder rights, for any funds invested by state or local governments must be driven solely by pecuniary factors, and may not sacrifice investment return to promote non-pecuniary factors. Social, political, and ideological interests are expressly precluded from consideration. Likewise for public procurement, state and local governments are prohibited from considering social, political, or ideological beliefs when evaluating prospective vendors. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 5- Economic Programs by Rep. Esposito](#) (SB 1664- Economic Development by Sen. Hooper) passed this session. The bill eliminates the Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI), and provides that all duties, functions, records, existing contracts, administrative authority, and unexpended balances of appropriations and allocations relating to the programs in EFI are transferred by a type two transfer to the Department of Commerce, which the bill creates by the renaming of the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). Duties related to international trade and development are transferred to a new direct-support organization under the department. The transition must be complete by December 1, 2023. The bill appropriates \$5 million to the new international trade direct support organization; \$5 million and 20 FTE to DEO; and \$2 million to EFI to implement the transition. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 21 - Transportation Facility Designations by Rep. Sirois](#) Provides honorary designations of certain transportation facilities in specified counties; directs DOT to erect suitable markers. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 27-Judgment Liens Rep. Benjamin](#) Specifies payment intangibles, accounts, & proceeds thereof are subject to judgment liens; removes provision specifying priority of liens; specifies validity & enforceability of liens against motor vehicles & vessels; prohibits issuing motor vehicle certificate of title under certain circumstances; specifies procedures for judgment lienholder to place lien on motor vehicles or vessels; revises authority of certain persons to demand & receive lien satisfaction; requires lienholder to enter satisfaction in certificate of title upon satisfaction or lapse of judgment lien. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HJR 31-Partisan Elections for Members of District School Boards Rep. Sirois](#) Proposes amendments to State Constitution to require members of district school board to be elected in partisan election. **Effective Date: Not Specified**



[SB 32-Florida Statutes Rep. Mayfield](#) Deleting provisions that have expired, have become obsolete, have had their effect, have served their purpose, or have been impliedly repealed or superseded; replacing incorrect cross-references and citations; correcting grammatical, typographical, and like errors; removing inconsistencies, redundancies, and unnecessary repetition in the statutes; and improving the clarity of the statutes and facilitating their correct interpretation, etc. **Effective Date: 07/04/2023 except as otherwise provided**

[HB 49- Abandoned and Historic Cemeteries by Rep. Driske](#) (SB 430 by Sen. Powell) passed unanimously this session. The bill creates the Historic Cemeteries Program within the Division of Historical Resources of DOS and appoints a State Historic Preservation Officer to oversee the program. The Officer is tasked with assisting state and federal agencies, local governments, and other stakeholders with inquiries related to abandoned cemeteries. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 50-Public Records/Judicial Assistants Rep. Wright](#) Adding current judicial assistants and their spouses and children to the list of specified agency personnel and family members to whom an exemption from public records requirements for identification and location information applies; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 89- Building Construction by Rep. Maggard](#) (SB 512 by Sen. Hooper) passed unanimously in both chambers this session. HB 89 passed (114-2) in the House and unanimously in the Senate. The bill prohibits local government from making substantive changes to plans after a permit has been issued unless such changes are required under the Building Code, or Fire Prevention Code. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 102- Housing by Sen. Calatayud](#) (HB 627- Affordable Housing by Rep. Busatta Cabrera/ Rep. Lopez(V)) was signed into law on March 29, 2023, and can be found in the Laws of Florida under Chapter 2023-17. The bill provides unprecedented funding for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) and State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) programs. Specifically, the package appropriates \$252 million in non-recurring funds toward SHIP and \$259 million in total (recurring and non-recurring) toward SAIL. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2023**

[SB 106- Florida Share-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network by Sen. Brodeur](#) (HB 915 by Rep. Botana) was signed into law on April 11, 2023. The bill discusses the development of “regionally significant trails” which are defined as trails crossing multiple counties; serving economic and ecotourism development; showcasing the state’s wildlife areas, ecology, and natural resources; and serving as main corridors for trail connectedness across the state. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 111- Flooding and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Studies by Rep. Hunschofsky](#) (SB 1170 by Sen. Calatayud) passed this session unanimously. The bill expands the requirement for public entities to conduct a sea level impact projection (SLIP) study before commencing construction of certain state financed coastal structures to apply the requirement to certain structures that are within any area that is at risk due to sea level rise, not just areas within the coastal building zone. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 119- Visiting County and Municipal Detention Facilities by Rep. Benjamin](#) (SB 1510 by Sen. Pizzo) passed unanimously this session. The bill authorizes specific personnel to visit county and municipal detention facilities, including: • Members of the governing body of the county or municipality, • Members of the Legislature, • State court judges, • The state attorney, • The public defender, and • The regional counsel. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 144- Lactation Spaces by Sen. Berman](#) (HB 87 by Rep. Gantt) passed this session. The bill would require each county courthouse to provide at least one lactation space, outside of a restroom, for members of the public to breastfeed. The lactation space must be provided by January 1, 2024, with specific requirements and exceptions. Further, the bill authorizes the person responsible for the operation of the facility housing each district court of appeal to use state-appropriated funds or private funding to provide a lactation space. Counties will potentially incur costs from retrofitting county court facilities for dedicated lactation space. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 154- Condominium and Cooperative Associations by Sen. Bradley](#) (HB 1395 by Rep. Lopez (V)) passed unanimously in both chambers this session. The bill revises the milestone inspection requirements for condominium and cooperative buildings that are three or more stories in height to: Limit the milestone inspection requirements to buildings that include a residential condominium or cooperative. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.**

[CS/HB 155-Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority by Rep. Holcomb](#) Dissolves TBARTA; provides for discharge of liabilities & assumption of outstanding liabilities; requires TBARTA to settle & close its affairs & transfer pending activities; requires closure & dispensing of federal & state funds; provides for distribution of TBARTA's remaining assets; requires notification of final dissolution; requires forwarding of TBARTA records. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 162- Water and Wastewater Facility Operators](#) (HB 23 by Rep. Bell) passed unanimously in both chambers this session. Under current law, Florida is the only state to not allow reciprocal licensing of water utility operators licensed in other federal, state, or territorial jurisdictions. The bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to issue reciprocal licenses to water utility workers licensed in other jurisdictions and other license applicants who meet certain requirements. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**





[SB 170-Local Ordinances by Sen. Trumbull](#) Authorizing courts to assess and award reasonable attorney fees and costs and damages in certain civil actions filed against local governments; providing certain procedures for continued meetings on proposed ordinances and resolutions for counties; requiring a county to suspend enforcement of an ordinance that is the subject of a certain legal action if certain conditions are met; providing certain procedures for continued meetings on proposed ordinances for municipalities, etc. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect October 1, 2023**

[HB 199 - Ethics Requirements for Officers and Employees of Special Tax Districts by Rep. Daley](#) (SB 620 by Sen. DiCeglie) passed this session. The bill clarifies the exception for public officers or employees of a water control district or a special tax district created by general or special law that is limited specifically to constructing, maintaining, managing, and financing improvements in the land area over which the agency has jurisdiction, by specifying that conduct that constitutes a misuse of public position or violates the prohibition on disclosing information that is not otherwise available to the public for their own personal benefit would be considered an impermissible conflict of interest. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 204-Task Force on the Monitoring of Children in Out-of-Home Care by Sen. Rouson](#) Creating the task force adjunct to the Department of Law Enforcement; providing requirements for member appointments, election of a chair, and meetings; requiring the Florida Institute for Child Welfare to conduct certain focus groups and individual interviews and submit its findings to the task force by a specified date; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit certain monthly reports to the task force through a specified date, etc. **Effective Date: 07/01/2023**

[SB 232 – Exploitation of Vulnerable Persons by Sen. Garcia](#) (HB 603 by Rep. LaMarca) passed this session. The bill creates s. 817.5695, F.S., which punishes exploitation of a person 65 years of age or older by: • Obtaining or using, through deception or intimidation, the property of a person 65 years of age or older with the intent to temporarily or permanently: • Deprive that person of the use, benefit, or possession of the property; or • Benefit someone other than the property owner; • Obtaining or using, through deception or intimidation, the property of a person 65 years of age or older through the intentional modification, alteration, or fraudulent creation of a plan of distribution or disbursement expressed in a will, trust instrument, or other testamentary device of the person 65 years of age or older; or • Depriving, with the intent to defraud and by means of bribery or kickbacks, a person 65 years of age or older of his or her intangible right to honest services provided by an individual who has a legal or fiduciary relationship with such person. **Effective Date: October 1, 2023**



[SB 238- Public Records/Protection from Discrimination Based on Health Care Choices](#) and SB 252- Protection from Discrimination Based on Health Care Choices by Sen. Burton (HB 1015 and HB 1013 by Rep. Griffiths, Jr.) passed this session. SB 238 passed in the Senate (31-4) and in the House (96-19). Providing an exemption from public records requirements for certain information held by the Department of Legal Affairs or the Department of Health relating to complaints or investigations regarding violations of provisions protecting from discrimination based on health care choices; authorizing the disclosure of such information under certain circumstances; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity, etc. **Effective Date: June 1, 2023**

[SB 250 – Natural Emergencies by Sen. Martin](#) (HB 7057 by House Commerce) passed this session after a series of amendments throughout the process. Prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from prohibiting temporary shelters on residential property for a specified timeframe under certain circumstances; requiring the Division of Emergency Management to post a model contract for debris removal on its website by a specified date; requiring the model contract to be annually updated by a specified date; requiring the division to administer a revolving loan fund for certain local government projects; increasing the timeframe to exercise rights under a permit or other authorization, etc. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2023**

[SB 254-Treatments for Sex Reassignment by Rep. Yarborough](#) Granting courts of this state temporary emergency jurisdiction over a child present in this state if the child has been subjected to or is threatened with being subjected to sex-reassignment prescriptions or procedures; providing that, for purposes of warrants to take physical custody of a child in certain child custody enforcement proceedings, serious physical harm to the child includes, but is not limited to, being subjected to sex-reassignment prescriptions or procedures; prohibiting certain public entities from expending state funds for the provision of sex-reassignment prescriptions or procedures; prohibiting sex-reassignment prescriptions and procedures for patients younger than 18 years of age; requiring the department to immediately suspend the license of a health care practitioner who is arrested for committing or attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit specified violations related to sex-reassignment prescriptions or procedures for a patient younger than 18 years of age, etc. **Effective Date: May 17, 2023**

[SB 256 - Employee Organizations Representing Public Employees by Sen. Ingoglia](#) (HB 1445 by Rep. Black) passed this session and was promptly signed into law by the Governor. The bill formally establishes Florida as a Right-to-Work state and enacts several new requirements of the employee organizations that represent public employees in collective bargaining. **Effective Date: 05/09/2023 except as otherwise provided.**



[SB 258- Prohibited Applications on Government-issued Devices by Sen. Burgess](#) (HB 563- Prohibited Applications on Government-Issued Devices by Rep. Amnesty) passed unanimously in the House and Senate this session. The bill requires governmental entities to block all prohibited applications on government-issued devices (cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices), restrict access to prohibited applications on a government-issued device, and remotely wipe and uninstall any prohibited application from a comprised government-issued device. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 262- Technology Transparency by Sen. Bradley](#) (HB 1547 by Rep. McFarland) passed this session. SB 262 passed unanimously in the Senate unanimously and in the House (110-2). The bill prohibits employees of a governmental entity from using their position or any state resources to communicate with a social media platform to request that it remove content or accounts. Additionally, a governmental entity cannot initiate or maintain any agreements with a social media platform for the purpose of content moderation. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2024**

[SB 264- Interests of Foreign Countries by Sen. Collins](#) (HB 1355 by Rep. Borrero) passed with a vote of (95-17) in the House and (31-8) in the Senate. The bill restricts both governmental entity contracting with certain foreign countries and entities of concern, as well as conveyances of agricultural lands and other interests in real property to foreign principals, the People's Republic of China, and other entities and persons that are affiliated with them. It also amends certain electronic health record statutes to ensure that such records are physically stored in the continental U.S., U.S. territories, or Canada. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 269 – Public Nuisances by Rep. Caruso](#) (SB 994 by Sen. Calatayud) passed the legislature this session before being promptly signed into law by the Governor as Ch. 2023-24, L.O.F. Prohibits person from distributing onto private property any material for purpose of intimidating or threatening owner, resident, or invitee; prohibits person from willfully & maliciously harassing, threatening, or intimidating another person based on person's wearing or displaying of any indicia relating to any religious or ethnic heritage; requires violations be reported as hate crimes; prohibits display or projection of images onto building, structure, or property without permission; prohibits person who willfully enters campus of state university or Florida College System institution for purpose of threatening or intimidating another person from remaining on such campus after being warned to depart. **Effective Date: May 1, 2023**



[SB 284- Energy by Sen. Brodeur](#) (HB 1025 by Rep. Caruso) passed unanimously this session. The bill revises the vehicle procurement requirements for the state purchasing plan. Specifically, the bill requires vehicles of a given use class to be selected for procurement based on the lowest lifetime ownership costs, including costs for operations, maintenance, and fuel when fuel economy data is available, rather than on the greatest fuel efficiency available, when fuel economy data is available. The current exemption to this requirement is continued for emergency response vehicles. The bill requires, when available, the use of ethanol and biodiesel blended fuels and natural gas fuel when a state agency purchases a vehicle with an internal combustion engine. The bill requires the Department of Management Services to make recommendations before July 1, 2024, regarding the procurement of electric vehicles and natural gas fuel vehicles and other vehicles powered by renewable energy. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 286-Legal Instruments by Sen. Powell](#) Requiring that a lien created by an assignment of rents be perfected against a mortgagor in addition to third parties under certain conditions; revising the types of expenses that may be paid by collected rents in foreclosure actions under certain circumstances; expanding the scope of a final judgment of foreclosure to include other liens; requiring the award of attorney fees in certain circumstances, etc. **Effective Date: 07/01/2023**

[SB 300-Pregnancy and Parenting Support by Sen. Grall](#) Citing this act as the “Heartbeat Protection Act”; requiring the Department of Health to contract for the management and delivery of parenting support services, in addition to pregnancy support services; prohibiting physicians from knowingly performing or inducing a termination of pregnancy after the gestational age of the fetus is determined to be more than 6 weeks, rather than 15 weeks, with exceptions; providing an exception if the woman obtaining the abortion is doing so because she is a victim of rape, incest, or human trafficking, subject to certain conditions; requiring that medications intended for use in a medical abortion be dispensed in person by a physician, etc. **Effective Date: Contingent**

[HB 301 – Emergency Response Mapping Data by Rep. Alvarez](#) (SB 212 by Sen. Collins) passed this session. To assist local first responders in responding to emergencies in public schools, the bill requires the Department of Education (DOE) to create a School Mapping Data Grant Program, in which public schools, including charter schools, can apply to receive funds for mapping each school in the district. The bill does not require school districts to use emergency response mapping data. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 327 – Fire Sprinkler System Projects by Rep. Bell](#) (SB 408 by Sen. Perry) passed this session. The bill allows for an expedited permitting process of fire sprinkler system projects, wherein a contractor would no longer need to submit plans or specifications in order to receive a permit for the project. Local estimates suggest up to 30% of plans are initially disapproved of. The bill also requires such contractors to maintain a copy of plans and specifications at the worksite, similar to the requirements for alarm system projects. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 331-Liens and Bonds by Rep. Overdorf](#) Revises liens & bonds laws, including provisions relating to when notices must be served; notarizing forms; alternative forms of security; direct contracts; computation of time; extent of certain liens; requirements for notice of commencement, notice of termination, & notice of contest of lien; transferring lien to security; service of documents; immunity to issuing authority; & release of liens; & authorizes attorney fees in certain actions. **Effective Date: October 1, 2023**

[HB 341- 911 Public Safety Telecommunicator Certifications by Rep. Amnesty](#) (SB 980 by Sen. Brodeur) passed this session. The bill allows the certification of a 911 Public Safety Telecommunicator to automatically revert to inactive status for up to six years if not renewed at the end of the two-year certification period. As a result, a certificate holder will no longer have to request their certification be placed on inactive status or pay the applicable \$50 fee required by current law. Additionally, the bill provides retroactive applicability to certificates that have expired or are set to expire in the six-year period preceding the effective date of the bill. This allows a prior certificate holder whose certificate expired between July 1, 2017, and the effective date of the bill to reactivate their certificate. **Effective Date: upon becoming a law.**

[SB 346- Public Construction by Sen. DiCeglie](#) (HB 383 by Rep. Griffiths, Jr.) passed this session. SB 346 passed unanimously in the Senate, and (83-29) in the House. Requiring that certain contracts provide the estimated cost to complete each item on a specified list; revising the timeframe within which proceedings must commence to resolve disputes between vendors and local governmental entities; requiring that undisputed portions of payment requests be paid within a specified timeframe; revising the conditions that require a public entity to pay or release amounts subject to certain disputes or claims, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 365 – Controlled Substances by Rep. Plakon](#) (SB 280 by Sen. Brodeur) passed this session. CS/CS/HB 365 amends s. 782.04(1)(a)3., F.S., to revise the causation requirement for death caused by the unlawful distribution of a controlled substance to require that such distribution is proven to “have caused or is proven to have been a substantial factor in producing the death of the user.” “Substantial factor” is defined to mean the “use of the substance or mixture alone is sufficient to cause death, regardless of whether any other substance or mixture used is also sufficient to cause death.” **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 411/SB 444 Residency of Local Elected Officials by Rep. Steele/Sen. Ingoglia](#) passed (87-25) and (29-7) respectively. The bill prohibits changes to county commissioner district boundaries 270 days before a regular general election. Additionally, the bill prohibits the consideration of residential addresses for incumbents and candidates during the district-drawing process for boards of county commissioners. The provisions also apply to city commissioners and school board members. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 425-Transportation by Rep. Andrade](#) (SB 64 by Sen. Hooper) passed unanimously this session. This massive transportation legislation contains a preemption that requires that, notwithstanding any law, rule, or ordinance to the contrary, a local governmental entity must accept electronic proof of delivery as an official record for a material delivery on the local governmental entity's transportation project. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 477- Term Limits for District School Board Members by Rep. Rizo](#) passed this session. HB 477 passed in the House (79-29) and in the Senate (30-7). The bill revises district school board members' term limits from 12 to 8 years. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 485-Veterans' Services and Recognition by Rep. Salzman](#) Creates Division of Long-term Care within DVA; revises qualifications for county & city veteran service officers; creates "Veterans' Adult Day Health Care of Florida Act"; provides for appointment, qualifications, duties, & responsibilities of program operator; establishes nondiscrimination policy; provides program admittance eligibility & priority; provides for audits, inspections, & operational standards; designates "Veterans Week." **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 508 – Problem Solving Courts by Sen. Rouson](#) (HB 1227 by Rep. Maney) passed this session. The bill revises three statutes that govern admission to, and participation in, the state's "problem-solving courts." The problem-solving courts are pre-trial intervention court programs that afford a defendant the opportunity to participate in getting the help he or she needs and avoid a criminal conviction. This bill expands eligibility for pretrial intervention programs, creates consistency within the criteria of the programs, and revises data reporting requirements for the programs. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 538-Provisional Child Care Licensing by Rep. Trumbull](#) Requiring a local licensing agency or the Department of Children and Families, as applicable, to issue a provisional license or registration for a family day care home under certain circumstances, etc. **Effective Date: 06/16/2023**

[SB 540- Local Government Comprehensive Plans by Sen. DiCeglie](#) (HB 359 by Rep. Duggan) passed this session. The bill passed in the House with a vote of (87-30) and in the Senate with a vote of (29-10). The bill provides that in challenges to the comprehensive plan and plan amendments, including small scale plan amendments, the prevailing party is entitled to recover attorney fees and costs, including reasonable appellate attorney fees and costs. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 543- Public Safety by Rep. Brannan](#) (SB 150 by Sen. Collins) passed the legislature this session, before getting the Governor's seal of approval as Ch. 2023-18, L.O.F. Under current law, a person is prohibited from carrying a concealed weapon or concealed firearm (CWCF) on or about his or her person unless he or she has a valid license to carry a concealed weapon (CWL). Carrying a concealed weapon without a CWL is a first-degree misdemeanor. Carrying a concealed firearm without a CWL is a third-degree felony. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 552- Public Records/Broadband Opportunity Program by Rep. Hooper](#) (HB 1437 by Rep. Esposito) passed unanimously this session. The bill makes confidential and exempt from public record inspection and copying requirements certain information relating to communications services locations, project proposals, and challenges submitted to the Department of Economic Opportunity (department) under the Broadband Opportunity Program, or pursuant to a federal broadband access grant program implemented by the department. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 596-Board of Governors of the State University System by Sen. Martin](#) Granting the Office of the Inspector General of the Board of Governors additional authority to take certain actions in carrying out its duties, etc. **Effective Date: 07/01/2023**

[SB 600-Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors by Sen. Martin](#) Revising requirements for the commencement of proceedings for general assignments; authorizing assignees to rely on certain orders, judgments, decrees, rules, and documents; limiting the assets a creditor or other party in interest may pursue in an action against an assignee; providing requirements for a creditor or other party in interest in certain actions against an assignee, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 605 – Expunction of Criminal History Records by Rep. Smith](#) (SB 504 by Sen. Rodriguez) passed this session Under the bill, a person who receives a court-ordered expunction for an offense committed when the person was a juvenile will be treated the same way as a person who received a juvenile diversion expunction, automatic juvenile expunction, or early juvenile expunction when seeking a subsequent court-ordered expunction. The court still retains discretion on whether to expunge a criminal history record and the state attorney is still provided with notice of a petition to expunge and the opportunity to object to such a petition, which is unchanged from current law. The bill also makes a person ineligible for a court-ordered expunction if the case giving rise to the criminal history record was dismissed by a court because. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 625-Children's Initiative Projects by Rep. Bracy Davis](#) Revises objectives for specified working groups within Florida Children's Initiatives; provides that initiatives are administratively housed in DCF; exempts initiatives from control, supervision, or direction by DCF or any state department; requires initiatives to be managed by not-for-profit corporations. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 639-Issuance of Special Beverage Licenses by Rep. Esposito](#) Revises requirements for issuing special beverage licenses to certain food service establishments & entities operating certain clubs. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 641- Restoration of Osborne Reef by Rep. LaMarca](#) (SB 546 by Sen. Avila) passed this session unanimously. The Osborne Reef, an artificial reef, is located off the coast of Fort Lauderdale and is overrun with old tires. Beginning in 2007, efforts have been made to remove the tires; however, due to the magnitude of the project and its projected cost, not all of the tires have been removed. The bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the status of the Osborne Reef cleanup and tire removal project by December 1, 2023. By July 1, 2024, the bill requires DEP to develop a comprehensive coral reef restoration plan for Osborne Reef to be commenced, subject to appropriation, upon the completion of the cleanup and tire removal project. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 645- Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act by Rep. Brackett](#) (SB 908 by Sen. Rodriguez) passed unanimously in both chambers this session. HB 645 amends s. 330.41, F.S., to expand the definition of “critical infrastructure facility” to include: • A water intake structure, water treatment facility, wastewater treatment plant, or pump station; • A liquid natural gas or propane gas terminal or storage facility, regardless of capacity; • A refinery; • A gas processing plant including a plant used in the processing, treatment, or fractionation of natural gas; • A seaport; • An inland port or other facility serving as a point of intermodal transfer of freight; • An airport; • A spaceport territory; • Certain military installations and armory; and • A dam or other structures such as locks, floodgates, or dikes, which are designed to maintain or control the level of navigable waterways. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 657 - Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits by Rep. Koster](#) Authorizes county or municipality to enforce speed limit in school zone through speed detection system; requires DOT to establish specifications; requires notice to public; requires law enforcement agency to administer School Crossing Guard Recruitment & Retention Program; provides for issuance of traffic citations by traffic infraction enforcement officer; provides notification requirements & procedures; provides photographs or video & evidence of speed are admissible in proceedings; requires reports; requires law enforcement agency to maintain log & perform tests of speed detection systems; provides penalty for speed limit violation in school zone; prohibits points from being imposed against driver license; prohibits infractions from being used to set insurance rates. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**





[SB 666 - Form of Candidate Oath by Sen. Collins](#) Revising the address that certain candidates must provide on the form of candidate oath; revising the address that judicial candidates must provide on the form of candidate oath, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 678- Disposal of Property by Sen. Powell](#) (HB 763 by Rep. Edmonds) passed unanimously this session. Providing that the use of property as affordable housing qualifies as use for a public purpose in the context of the authorization of the Department of Transportation to convey property without consideration to a governmental entity, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 708-Estoppel Letters by Sen. Burgess](#) Revising the timeframe within which a mortgagee or mortgage servicer must send or cause to be sent an estoppel letter containing specified information; requiring notice to the mortgagor of a request for an estoppel letter under certain circumstances; revising requirements for an estoppel letter; prohibiting certain actions by the mortgagee or mortgage servicer; prohibiting the mortgagee or mortgage servicer from denying the accuracy of certain information provided in an estoppel letter under certain circumstances; prohibiting payments received pursuant to an estoppel letter from being returned and requiring such payments to be promptly applied to any unpaid balance of the loan properly due under or secured by a mortgage, etc. **Effective Date: 10/01/2023**

[SB 718- Local Government by Sen. Yarborough](#) (HB 653 by Rep. Canady) passed this session. SB 718 passed with a vote of (35-4) in the Senate and (91-26) in the House. The bill requires a municipality to conduct a feasibility study before conducting an annexation or contraction. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 726 – Library Cooperative Grants by Sen. Rodriguez](#) (HB 643 by Rep. Porras) passed this session. Current law authorizes that the administrative unit of a library cooperative may receive a grant of up to \$400,000 from the state for the purpose of sharing library resources. The bill removes this cap. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 752- Temporary Commercial Kitchens by Sen. Calatayud](#) (HB 415 by Rep. Porras) passed unanimously this session in both chambers. The bill defines the term “temporary commercial kitchen” to mean “any kitchen that is a public food service establishment, used for the preparation of takeout or delivery-only meals housed in portable structures that are movable from place to place by a tow or are self-propelled or otherwise axle-mounted, that include self-contained utilities, including, but not limited to, gas, water, electricity, or liquid waste disposal.” The bill includes a preemption of counties on the licensing, registration, permitting, and fees associated with these temporary commercial kitchens, often referred to as “ghost kitchens.” **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 774 – Ethics Requirements for Public Officials by Sen. Brodeur](#) (HB 37 by Rep. Roach) passed this session. The bill makes the following changes to ethics requirements for public officials: • Requires specified local officers to file a Form 6 financial disclosure, beginning January 1, 2024, instead of the Form 1 they are currently required to file. • Mayors • Elected members of the governing body of a municipality • Members of the Commission on Ethics • Maintains and makes permanent requirements for e-filing of financial disclosures as specified in the current year implementing bill, by • Maintaining the requirement that Form 6 filers submit their financial disclosures via the Commission on Ethics electronic filing system beginning January 1, 2023, and requiring Form 1 filers to submit their disclosures electronically beginning January 1, 2024. • Allowing filers to submit federal tax returns for purposes of showing income. **Effective Date: 05/11/2023**

[HB 783 – Emergency Opioid Antagonists by Rep. Caruso](#) (SB 704 by Sen. Boyd) passed after a number of amendments. The bill revises the definitions of the terms “authorized health care practitioner,” and “caregiver,” in the context of emergency opioid antagonist administration. The changes broaden the definitions of these terms to eliminate unintended restrictions on how and by whom emergency opioid antagonists may be dispensed and administered. The bill creates the Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement within the Department of Children and Families for the purpose of enhancing the development and coordination of state and local efforts to abate the opioid epidemic and to support the victims of the opioid crisis. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 829 – Operation and Administration of the Baker Act by Rep. Silvers](#) (SB 938 by Sen. Davis) passed this session in its original form. The bill requires DCF to annually update the Baker Act handbook and to maintain a FAQ repository. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 847- Vessel Regulations by Rep. Stark](#) (SB 1082 by Sen. DiCeglie) passed this session. HB 847 passed in the House with a vote of (113-2) and in the Senate with a vote of (39-0). The bill revises the ERP permitting exemption for floating vessel platforms and floating boat lifts to specify local governments may only require a one-time registration for a floating vessel platform where the owner of such platform self-certifies compliance with the ERP exemption criteria to ensure compliance with ordinances, codes, state-delegated or state-mandated plans or programs, which may not be applied more stringently than, or inconsistent with, the ERP exemption criteria for certain floating vessel platforms. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 881- My Safe Florida Home Program \(MSFH\) by Rep. LaMarca](#) (SB 748 by Sen. Boyd) passed this session. This bill makes various changes to the statutory framework for the MSFH Program, including changes to inspection and grant eligibility requirements, program management, and technical, conforming, and statutory structure. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[SB 892-State Minimum Wage by Sen. Martin](#) (HB 917 by Rep. Yeager) passed this session, without the language that included a wage preemption in the House version (HB 917). The bill passed unanimously in the Senate and with a vote of (86-30) in the House. The bill amends s. 448.110, F.S., the Florida Minimum Wage Act (FMWA), to incorporate the federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) “as amended.” This will incorporate two exemptions from the FLSA’s minimum wage requirements that became law after the Florida Legislature adopted the FMWA and were therefore not incorporated as part of the FMWA. This bill will exempt border patrol agents and salaried baseball players from the Florida Minimum Wage Act. **Effective Date: Upon becoming a law.**

[SB 914 – Suicide Prevention by Sen. Garcia](#) (HB 655 by Rep. Trabulsy) passed this session. The bill modifies statutory provisions governing confidentiality for peer support communications between a first responder and a first responder peer. The bill allows certain first responder organizations to designate first responder peers and clarifies that first responder peers include active, volunteer, and retired first responders. The bill also permits diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder in first responders via telehealth for the purposes of obtaining worker’s compensation benefits. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 942- Authorization of Restrictions Concerning Dogs by Sen. Calatayud](#) (HB 941- Rep. Busatta Cabrera) passed this session with a vote in the Senate of 39-1 and unanimously in the House. The bill allows public housing authorities to adopt ordinances, rules, or policies to address dogs, however, the rule or policy may not be breed, weight, or size specific. Additionally, the bill removes the grandfather provision in Florida statute, allowing for breed specific regulations, if the ordinance was adopted prior to October 1, 1990. **Effective Date: 10/01/2023**

[HB 949-Operation of a Golf Cart by Rep. Stevenson](#) Operation of a Golf Cart: Authorizing a water control district to designate certain roads for use by golf carts; requiring county approval before making such a designation; prohibiting a person under 18 years of age from operating a golf cart on certain roadways unless he or she possesses a valid learner’s driver license or valid driver license; prohibiting a person 18 years of age or older from operating a golf cart on certain roadways unless he or she possesses a valid form of government-issued photographic identification; providing a penalty, etc. **Effective Date: October 1, 2023**

[HB 977- Clerks of Court by Rep. Botana](#) (SB 1130 by Sen. Hutson) passed unanimously in both chambers this session. CS/HB 977 makes several changes to Florida law to close the funding gap between the clerks’ current revenues and anticipated expenditures so that they can provide essential court-related functions. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1047-Offenses Against Certain Animals by Rep. Killebrew](#) Prohibits offering or doing violence to police horse or police canine in certain circumstances; increases classification of specified criminal offenses committed against police canines, fire canines, SAR canines, or police horses. **Effective Date: October 1, 2023**



[SB 1068- Drone Delivery Services by Sen. Collins](#) (HB 1071 by Rep. Duggan) passed this session unanimously in both chambers. The bill prohibits a political subdivision from withholding the issuance of a business tax receipt or enacting or enforcing an ordinance or resolution prohibiting a drone delivery service's operation based on the location of the delivery service's drone port but does allow them to enforce generally applicable minimum setback and landscaping regulations. The drone ports are also exempt from the Florida Building Code and Florida Fire Prevention Code. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1069-Education by Rep. McClain](#) Defines "sex" for Florida Early Learning-20 Education Code; provides requirements relating to titles & pronouns; revises provisions relating to instruction & materials for specified instruction relating to reproductive health; provides additional requirements for instruction regarding human sexuality; provides district school boards are responsible for materials used in classroom libraries; revises provisions relating to objections of certain materials & process related to such objections; revises school principal, school district & district school board duties & responsibilities relating to certain materials & processes. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1105-Rapid DNA Grant Program by Rep. Temple](#) Creates Rapid DNA Grant Program within FDLE for county jails or sheriffs' offices; requires department to annually award grant funds to county jails or sheriffs' offices; provides funding requirements; authorizes department to establish criteria & set specific time periods for acceptance of applications & selection process for awarding grant funds. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1191- Use of Phosphogypsum by Rep. McClure](#) (SB 1258 by Sen. Trumbull) passed this session. HB 1191 passed with a vote of (81-25) in the House and (34-4) in the Senate. The bill authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to undertake demonstration projects using Phosphogypsum (PG) from phosphate production in road construction aggregate material. The bill requires DOT to conduct a study to evaluate the suitability of using PG as a construction aggregate 31 materials. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1209- Economic Development by Rep. Shoaf](#) (SB 1482 by Sen. Simon) passed this session. HB 1209 passed unanimously in both chambers. The bill specifies that an agency agreement that provides state or federal financial assistance to local government entities within a rural area of opportunity (RAO) must allow the agency to provide for the payment of invoices to the county or municipality for verified and eligible performance that has been completed in accordance with the terms and conditions in the agreement. This provision is included to alleviate the financial hardships that certain rural counties and municipalities encounter when administering agreements and must be exercised by the agency when a county or municipality demonstrates financial hardship, to the extent that federal or state law, rule, or other regulation allows such payments. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 1221- Broadband Internet Service Providers by Rep. Tomkow](#) (SB 626 by Sen. DiCeglie) passed unanimously this session. The bills provide explicit authority for rural electric cooperatives in Florida to provide specified communications services in the following circumstances: • The cooperative provides broadband Internet service directly or in partnership with a third party; or • The cooperative receives broadband grant funding pursuant to the Florida Broadband Opportunity Program or from any other federal or state program offering grants to expand broadband Internet service to unserved areas of the state. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1277-Pub.Rec./Persons with Disabilities Registry by Rep. Plasencia](#) Exempts from public records requirements all records & personal identifying information relating to enrollment of persons in special persons registry & persons enrolled in special persons registry held by local law enforcement agency; authorizes local law enforcement agencies to disclose confidential & exempt information to certain persons under certain circumstances; provides for exempt status of such information held by those individuals & entities to be maintained. **Effective Date: on the same date that HB 1275 or similar legislation takes effect**

[HB 1281- Preemption Over Utility Service Restrictions by Rep. Buchanan](#) (SB 1256 by Sen. Collins) passes this session. HB 1281 passed (98-16) in the House and (33-4) in the Senate. Prohibits certain local governmental entities, subject to specified exceptions, from enacting or enforcing resolution, ordinance, rule, code, or policy or from taking any action that restricts or prohibits or has effect of restricting or prohibiting use of appliances. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1305-Department of Transportation by Rep. Abbott](#) Increasing the maximum amount of debt service coverage that must be transferred from the State Transportation Trust Fund to the Right-of-Way Acquisition and Bridge Construction Trust Fund; authorizing the department to provide up to 100 percent of project costs for certain eligible projects in rural areas of opportunity; authorizing installation of an automated license plate recognition system within the right-of-way of any road on the State Highway System for a specified purpose; prohibiting use of such system for certain purposes, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 1310 - Substitution of Work Experience for Postsecondary Education Requirements by Sen. DiCeglie](#) (HB 1109 by Rep. Barnaby) passed during the final week. The bill requires public employers (state agencies and branches, state universities and public colleges, counties, cities, special districts, school boards, and all other governmental entities) to prioritize direct work experience over postsecondary education in their hiring considerations. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 1373/SB 1490- County Constitutional Officers by Rep. Fernandez-Barquin](#) and Sen. Garcia passed this session. HB 1373 passed in the House (113-3) and passed unanimously in the Senate. The bill prohibits a county from creating or expanding the powers or authority of any office, special district, or governmental unit if the purpose of such creation or expansion is to exercise any power or authority allocated exclusively to a county constitutional officer by the Florida Constitution or general law. Under the bill, a county commissioner who votes in favor of a proposed ordinance for such a creation or expansion of powers is guilty of misfeasance or malfeasance in office. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1379- Environmental Protection by Rep. Overdorf](#) (SB 1632 by Sen. Brodeur) passed this session. The bill passed unanimously in both chambers. The bill is the Department of Environmental Protection overhaul for this session; it makes significant changes to the Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems (OSTDSs) siting process, changes to the Wastewater Grant Program, updates to the Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvement Element, establishes the Indian River Lagoon Protection Program, and more. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1383- Specialty Contractors by Rep. Trabulsy](#) (SB 1570 by Sen. Hooper) passed unanimously in both chambers this session. Revises date on which local government licensing of certain occupations expires; requires Construction Industry Licensing Board to establish certified specialty contractor categories for voluntary licensure; prohibits local governments from imposing new licensing requirements for specialty contractors; authorizes critical state concern county to offer license for certain job scopes; prohibits local government from requiring license as prerequisite to submit bid for public works projects. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1387 – Department of Health by Rep. Porras](#) passed this session. The bill prohibits research concerning “potential pandemic pathogens” from being conducted in the state. The bill also requires researchers applying for state or local funding to disclose in the application for funding whether the research involves enhanced PPPs. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1397-Regional Transportation Planning by Rep. McClure](#) Provides legislative findings & intent; requires DOT to conduct study of the organizational structure and operation of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority; specifies requirements of study; requires DOT to submit specified report to Governor & Legislature. **Effective Date: upon becoming a law**

[HB 1405- Biosolids by Rep. Tuck](#) (SB 880 by Sen. Brodeur) passed this session. The bill passed unanimously in both chambers. The bill establishes a biosolids grant program within DEP and provides that, subject to the appropriation of funds by the Legislature, DEP may provide grants to counties, special districts, and municipalities to support projects that: • Evaluate and implement innovative technologies and solutions for the disposal of biosolids; or • Construct, upgrade, expand, or retrofit domestic facilities that convert wastewater residuals to Class AA biosolids, nonfertilizer uses or disposal methods, or alternatives to synthetic fertilizers. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**



[HB 1417- Residential Tenancies by Rep. Esposito](#) (SB 1586 by Sen. Trumbull) passed this session. HB 1417 passed (81-33) in the House and (29-8) in the Senate. The bill preempts local governments from any regulation of the landlord/tenant relationship. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 1418 – Emergency Communications by Sen. Bradley](#) (HB 745 by Rep. McFarland) passed this session. The bill revises the distribution formula for the Emergency Communications System Fund. To fund E911 systems around the state, voice communications service providers charge a fee to their subscribers. These fees are deposited into the Emergency Communications System Fund, before being distributed to counties, among other entities. Under current law, counties receive 76% of the distributions for the wireless category of voice communication services. The bill would increase this allocation to 95% for counties. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1419 – Real Property Fraud by Rep. Robinson](#) (SB 1436 by Sen. Bradley) passed unanimously in both chambers this session. The bill: • Requires the clerks of the circuit court to create, maintain, and operate a free recording notification service on or before July 1, 2024, to provide property owners who register for the service with early notice that a land record, such as a deed, has been filed on their property. • Prescribes the form for a quitclaim deed. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 1438-Protection of Children Rep. Yarborough](#) Prohibiting a governmental entity from issuing a permit or otherwise authorizing a person to conduct a performance in violation of specified provisions; providing criminal penalties; authorizing the Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to fine, suspend, or revoke the license of any public lodging establishment or public food service establishment if the establishment admits a child to an adult live performance; specifying that the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation is given full power and authority to revoke or suspend the license of any person issued under the Beverage Law when it is determined or found by the division upon sufficient cause appearing that he or she is maintaining a licensed premises that admits a child to an adult live performance; prohibiting a person from knowingly admitting a child to an adult live performance, etc. **Effective Date: May 17, 2023**

[SB 1478-Criminal Sentencing by Simon](#) Prohibiting points from being assessed for violations of community sanctions which are resolved under an alternative sanctioning program for purposes of calculations under the Criminal Punishment Code; providing for the resolution of low-risk violations of probation through an alternative sanctioning program in certain circumstances; requiring the court to release the probationer or offender without bail under certain conditions; authorizing the court to impose nonmonetary conditions of release under certain conditions, etc. **Effective Date: 10/01/2023**



[SB 1550 – Prescription Drugs by Sen. Brodeur](#) (HB 1509 by Rep. Chaney) passed this session, and has been signed by the Governor as Ch. 2023-29, L.O.F. Citing this act as the "Prescription Drug Reform Act"; specifying additional prohibited acts related to the Florida Drug and Cosmetic Act; requiring certain drug manufacturers to notify the Department of Business and Professional Regulation of reportable drug price increases on a specified form on the effective date of such increase; requiring the Division of Consumer Services of the Department of Financial Services to designate an employee as the primary contact for consumer complaints involving pharmacy benefit managers; providing a grandfathering provision for certain pharmacy benefit managers operating as administrators; requiring pharmacy benefits plans and programs, beginning on a specified date, to annually submit a certain attestation to the Office of Insurance Regulation, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1575- Public Safety Emergency Communications Systems by Rep. Brackett](#) (SB 1614 by Sen. Rodriguez) passed unanimously this session in both the House and Senate. Provides requirements for two-way radio communication enhancement systems including submission of design, installation of such system, required assessments & consents, & modifications; prohibits local authority from withholding temporary certificate of occupancy; requires State Fire Marshal to incorporate changes made by this act into Florida Fire Prevention Code; exempts installations of two-way radio communication enhancement systems from certain prohibition. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 1580- Protections of Medical Conscience by Sen. Trumbull](#) (HB 1403 by Rep. Rudman) passed this session. Providing that health care providers and health care payors have the right to opt out of participation in or payment for certain health care services on the basis of conscience-based objections; providing requirements for a health care provider's notice and documentation of such objection; providing whistle-blower protections for health care providers and health care payors that take certain actions or disclose certain information relating to the reporting of certain violations; prohibiting boards, or the Department of Health if there is no board, from taking disciplinary action against or denying a license to an individual based solely on specified conduct, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[HB 1595 – Law Enforcement Operations by Rep. Yarkosky](#) (SB 1588 by Sen. Burgess) passed this session. The Florida Constitution provides that each county shall have a sheriff elected by the electors 1418 of the county to a four-year term. A county charter may not abolish the office of sheriff or provide an alternative method for selecting the sheriff, with the exceptions of Miami-Dade and Broward counties. This bill extends this requirement to all counties, effective January 7, 2025. **Effective Date: upon becoming a law.**





[SB 1604- Land Use and Development Regulations by Sen. Ingoglia](#) (HB 439 by Rep. McClain) was approved by the Governor on Sine Die, May 5, 2023. SB 1604 passed (75-34) in the House and (27-13) in the Senate. The bill increases the length of the required planning period from a 10-year period and a 20-year period (current law is 5 year and 10 year) and revises the comprehensive plan evaluation and appraisal process. The bill requires land development regulations adopted by a local government to establish minimum lot sizes consistent with the maximum density authorized by the comprehensive plan and to provide standards for infill residential development. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2023**

[SB 1718- Immigration by Sen. Ingoglia](#) (HB 1617 by Rep. Michael) passed this session. SB 1718 passed in the Senate (27-10) and in the House (83 - 36). Among many other provisions, the bill prohibits a county or municipality from providing funds to any person, entity, or organization for the purpose of issuing an identification card or other document to an individual who does not provide proof of lawful presence in the United States. The bill heads to the Governor's desk for final approval. **Effective Date: 07/01/2023 except as otherwise provided.**

[SB 2500-Appropriations](#) Providing moneys for the annual period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, and supplemental appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2023, to pay salaries, and other expenses, capital outlay - buildings, and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government, etc. **Effective Date: 07/01/2023 except as otherwise provided**

[HB 5101-Education by Rep. Tomkow](#) Revises provisions relating to Just Read, Florida! Office, K-12 funding & FEFP, developmental research schools, FLVS, charter schools, & Family Empowerment Scholarship Program; & creates heroes in classroom sign-on bonus. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 7006- OGSR/Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network by Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability](#) (HB 7001 by Rep. Yarkosky) passed this session. The bill saves from repeal the current public records exemption which makes information relating to the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (FirstNet) held by an agency confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying requirements. Unless saved from repeal by the Legislature, the exemption for information relating to FirstNet is scheduled to repeal on October 2, 2023. This bill removes the scheduled repeal to continue the confidential and exempt status of information held by an agency that relates to FirstNet. **Effective Date: October 1, 2023**



[SB 7008 - OGSR/Building Plans, Blueprints, Schematic Drawings, and Diagrams by the Governmental Oversight and Accountability](#) (HB 7009 by Holcomb) passed unanimously this session. SB 7008 saves from repeal the current public records exemption for building plans, blueprints, schematic drawings, and diagrams, including draft, preliminary, and final formats, which depict the internal layout or structural elements of an attractions and recreation facility, entertainment or resort complex, industrial complex, retail and service development, office development, health care facility, or hotel. **Effective Date: October 1, 2023**

[SB 7024 – Retirement by Appropriations](#) passed in the House (113-0) and in the Senate (39-0). The bill makes several substantive changes to the Florida Retirement System (FRS) and provides the 2023-24 Contribution rates by class. The total County impact of SB 7024 will be \$325 M, compared to an estimated \$1.187B in HB 239, the House companion. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.**

[HB 7027- Ratification of Rules of the Department of Environmental Protection by Rep. Overdorf](#) (SB 7002) passed this session. In 2020, the Legislature passed the Clean Waterways Act (Act) to address a number of environmental issues relating to water quality improvement. In pertinent part, the Act expanded requirements for onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDSs) by requiring a remediation plan to be included in the development of a basin management action plan for nutrient-impaired water bodies if: OSTDSs contribute at least 20 percent of the nutrient pollution; or The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) determines that remediation is necessary to achieve the total maximum daily load. The Act also created new regulations for wastewater treatment facilities related to the prevention of sanitary sewer overflows and underground pipe leaks. **Effective Date: upon becoming a law.**

[SB 7050- Elections by Senate Ethics and Elections Committee](#) (HB 7067 by House State Affairs) passed this session. SB 7050 passed (28-12) in the Senate and (76-34) in the House. The 96-page bill makes changes to campaign finance deadlines, speeds up when local officials must scrub voter 42 rolls for deceased and ineligible voters and increases fines on voter registration groups if they break the law. **Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2023**

[HB 7061 - Sheriffs Providing Child Protective Investigative Services by Rep. Koster](#) passed, after being substituted for the Senate companion, SB 7056, a committee bill by HHS appropriations. Currently, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) performs child protective investigative services in 60 counties and local sheriffs' offices do so in the other seven, comprising nearly 25% of the child protective investigations in the state at a cost of \$59 million. Four sheriff's offices are required by statute to perform child protective investigations, while three others have voluntary agreements with DCF to do so. HB 7061 requires the transfer of child protective investigation services by sheriffs back to DCF, making DCF the sole entity performing child protective investigations in Florida. **Effective Date: January 1, 2024**



[HB 7063-Ways and Means' Comprehensive Tax Package](#), passed both chambers unanimously. The bill contains the following provisions pertaining to counties: • Limits County authority to levy special assessments on land classified as agricultural, with the exception of bonded assessment revenues. This prohibition does not apply to non-agricultural structures on the property. • Requires counties to go to referendum to impose additional tourist development tax levies. It also extends statutory authority to use a percentage of tourist development revenues for public safety/law enforcement purposes to all fiscally constrained counties. • Increases the discrepancy thresholds for a property appraiser to challenge a value adjustment board (VAB) decision in circuit court. • Requires that any referendum for specified taxes must coincide with a general election and may only take place once within 48 months prior to reenactment/increase of the tax. **Effective Date: July 1, 2023**

[SB 7064-Human Trafficking](#) Increasing criminal penalties for specified offenses involving adult theaters; providing a civil cause of action for victims of human trafficking against certain entities or persons; authorizing judicial circuits to establish educational programs for persons convicted of or charged with certain violations; creating the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human Trafficking Data at the University of South Florida, etc. **Effective Date: 07/01/2023**