



Miami-Dade County 2012 State Legislative Report May 2012

***Board of
County
Commissioners***

***Office of
Intergovernmental
Affairs***





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I. Executive Summary



2012 State Legislative Report Executive Summary

The 2012 Legislative Session came to a close near midnight on March 9, 2012. This year's session began two months earlier than usual due to reapportionment, as is required after every Census. Along with redrawing Congressional and State Legislative voting maps, legislators once again faced a budget shortfall, this time to the tune of \$2 billion. Also, Governor Scott asked legislators to find \$1 billion in increased funding for education during his State of the State speech on the opening day of session.

In terms of major policy issues in Tallahassee, all eyes seemed to have been on destination resort casinos. The Florida Chamber of Commerce and Walt Disney World led the charge against this perceived expansion of gaming, while the Associated Industries of Florida and various gaming entities, such as the Genting Group, were intent on getting the legislation passed. In the end, what some called the most talked about issue leading into a legislative session was dead before the session reached its halfway point.

Miami-Dade County was able to find success this session in several critical areas that will be elaborated on later in this report, such as:

- Minimal cuts in funding to the Jackson Health System, despite the large shortfall
- Preservation of funding for the Deep Dredge project, as well as legislation which expedites the administrative review process
- Defeat of legislation that would have had a large, negative fiscal impact, such as pretrial release and repeal of the local business tax
- Strengthening of penalties for human trafficking
- Defeat of a proposed constitutional amendment which would have allowed members of the local delegation to propose changes to the County Charter
- Preservation of funding for elderly meals

One major loss sustained by Miami-Dade County, as well as the other 66 counties, is legislation related to Medicaid billing, which will be elaborated on later in this report. In

an effort to fight this extremely disadvantageous language, a lawsuit has been filed by the Florida Association of Counties that includes Miami-Dade and 52 other counties.

The following report will provide insight into issues that the Board of County Commissioners found necessary to include as "Critical Priorities" and other major issues of interest. The report also includes a summary of resolutions passed by the Board, reports from our contract lobbyists, and a summary of major budget issues.

II. Issue by Issue Review



County Priorities

Below, please find the final outcome of Miami-Dade County's 2012 State Legislative Priorities, as approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

State Funding/Budget: Despite a \$2 billion budget shortfall, Miami-Dade County was able to secure and preserve funding for its most important projects in the areas of transportation, human services, and economic development, as well as the Jackson Health System. These items will be elaborated on further in the budget section of this report.

Pretrial Release: For the fourth year in a row, Miami-Dade County was able to lead the charge to defeat a bill that would have drastically altered our pretrial supervision programs to the benefit of the bailbond industry. This item was a critical priority for the county via a resolution sponsored by Commissioner Heyman. The bills this session were sponsored by Senator Rene Garcia and Representative Carlos Trujillo. The economic impact to the county, had this bill passed, is estimated to be approximately \$4 million, a number dependent on how many defendants remain in jail without bonding out.

Elderly Services: As stated earlier, despite the nearly \$2 billion shortfall in the state budget, the final state budget included \$7.6 million for elderly meals and Local Service Providers (LSPs), which are commonly known as "comedores". This number is consistent with funding that has been received in the past. Members of our local delegation played an integral role during the budget conference of securing this funding.

Jackson Health: This year's version of the state budget, which was signed into law by Governor Scott on April 17, includes a Medicaid rate, to hospitals, of 7.5 percent. This is mitigated by one-time revenues that adjust the first year impact of the cut to 5.6 percent, reducing Jackson's Medicaid reimbursement by \$35 million. Federal buy-backs would allow Jackson to further reduce the impact by \$17 million. The potential also exists for Jackson to be reimbursed for overpayment of the prior year's intergovernmental transfer (IGT), which could be as high as \$16 million, further reducing the impact to Jackson. Jackson executives praised the Legislature, our

local delegation in specific, for minimizing their damage despite another trying fiscal situation.

Port of Miami Deep Dredge: While the item in the Critical Priorities passed by the Board of County Commissioners makes specific mention of the \$75 million funding for the deep dredge project, which was maintained, language was also included into two transportation bills which would expedite the administrative review process on the deep dredge project, as well as other seaport projects. Without this language, the port would have to wait a significant amount of time before engaging in the review process. The port feels this action by the legislators, which was signed into law by the Governor, will help bring the petitioners to the table and agreement can be reached, allowing work to begin on the project. Despite passage of the bill, an agreement was reached after session by the Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and several environmental groups that will allow the project to proceed.

Human Trafficking: Legislation passed this session, that was signed into law by the Governor, that increases penalties for individuals engaged in human trafficking from a second degree felony to a first degree felony. The bill also provides additional powers to the Statewide Prosecutor to pursue human trafficking cases. This issue became a county priority via a resolution sponsored by Commissioner Diaz, who spent time in Tallahassee working on the issue, including testifying in the Senate Criminal Justice Committee, and participating in a press conference with Attorney General Pam Bondi and the bill sponsors, Senator Anitere Flores and Representative William Snyder.

Scrap Metal: This issue became a county priority via a resolution sponsored by Vice-Chair Audrey Edmonson, who spent time in Tallahassee meeting with legislators and testified before the Senate Community Affairs Committee. The bill that passed, sponsored by Senator Chris Smith and Representative Clay Ford and signed into law by the Governor, increases penalties for secondary metals recyclers who buy stolen copper and other metals without proper documentation, for cash or in violation of other provisions of state law. The bill also preempts local ordinances, but grandfathers existing ordinances, and provides an extension for Miami-Dade County to amend its relevant ordinance through July 2013.



Other Issues of Interest

Below, please find a listing of other issues that were important to Miami-Dade County. Some of these issues were included in the county's "2012 State Legislative Agenda", others were bills or amendments filed as the session progressed.

HB 5301, County Medicaid Billing, House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee – This budget conforming bill contains language that rose to the level of being a top priority during the final weeks of the legislative session. The bill would require monthly deductions from the county's revenue sharing funds equal to 85 percent of unpaid county Medicaid billings going back to the last month, through April 30, 2012. The deductions will take place for five years, with a higher amount being paid in the first year. The amount would reach 100 percent if the county chooses to appeal the billing, with payments reduced if the appeal is won. County Medicaid billing will now be deducted, monthly, from revenue sharing based on AHCA estimates. The fiscal impact to Miami-Dade County is expected to be \$31 million. The bill was signed into law by Governor Scott on March 29, and since then several counties, in conjunction with the Florida Association of Counties (FAC), have sued the state challenging those provisions in the bill mentioned above. It is important to note that the bill was drafted without a severability clause, meaning the lawsuit has the possibility of affecting other provisions of the bill, namely a portion aimed at allowing children of state employees to participate in Florida KidCare. At its April 17 meeting, the Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution joining FAC and the other counties in the lawsuit against the state. Miami-Dade County now joins 46 other counties in the lawsuit, which was filed in the Second Judicial Circuit in Leon County.

SJR 720/HJR 349, Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, Senator Garcia/Representative Lopez-Cantera – For the second year in a row, a joint resolution was filed that would have proposed a constitutional amendment for the 2012 ballot to allow members of our local legislative delegation to file special bills proposing amendments to the Miami-Dade Home Rule Charter, which would then be subject to a countywide vote. While the two bills passed all of their committees of reference, they were never brought to either chamber for a vote.

SB 710/HB 487, Destination Resort Casinos, Senator Bogdanoff/Representative Fresen – The most highly anticipated issue going into the 2012 legislative session was defeated midway through the session when the House version was temporarily postponed in its first committee of reference and never revived. The Senate version passed out of its first committee, but was never taken up again. This bill would have paved the way for up to three destination resort casinos to be built in the South Florida area. This issue, however, is far from dead and will assuredly be brought back in 2013. Senator Bogdanoff has hinted at not being interested in sponsoring the bill again next year.

SB 862/HB 608, Wage Theft Preemption, Senator Simmons/Representative Goodson – These bills would have preempted Miami-Dade County's wage theft ordinance. While the House passed its version of the bill, the Senate version died in the Senate Judiciary Committee, after its chair, Senator Flores, amended the bill to grandfather the county's ordinance, but the bill ended up dying in committee. An effort to amend the the preemptive language onto another bill was thwarted during the closing hours of the legislative session.

SB 1322/HB 997, Pitbull Preemption, Senator Norman/Representative Trujillo – These bills would have preempted Miami-Dade County's pitbull ordinance. The House bill passed all of its committees, but was temporarily postponed by the sponsor and never brought back up, on the heels of the Board of County Commissioners voting to put the question on the ballot of whether this breed specific ban should be eliminated by the voters this fall.

SB 760/HB 4025, Repeal of Local Business Taxes, Senator Hays/Representative O'Toole – These bills which would have repealed the local business tax, and resulted in a significant fiscal impact to the county, cities and the Beacon Council did not pass, with each bill dying in committee. A repeal of the local business tax would have brought an estimated fiscal impact of \$16 million, \$10 million to the county, \$2 million to the cities, and \$4 million to the Beacon Council.

HB 711, Sale/lease of Public Hospitals, Representative Hooper – This bill, whose companion was SB 1568 by Senators Gaetz and Garcia, requires the governing board of every public hospital in Florida to initiate, by the end of 2012, an evaluation of the benefits of selling or leasing hospital facilities to a not-for-profit or for-profit entity. Also, a CPA with expertise in the area of hospital valuation must provide an independent report as to the hospital's fair market value. Within 160 days of the analysis, the governing board must publicize its findings. This bill, however, does not require that the hospital be sold or leased. Governor Scott signed this bill into law on April 6.

HJR 169, Senior Homestead Property Tax Exemption, Representative Oliva – This joint resolution, sponsored in the Senate by Senator Garcia, proposes a constitutional amendment providing counties and cities a local option to grant an additional homestead exemption to low income senior citizens in the amount of the entire

assessed value of the homestead property. This item will appear on the statewide ballot this fall.

SJR 838/HJR 55, Senior Freeze Homestead Property Tax Exemption, Senator Diaz de la Portilla/Rep. Nunez – These joint resolutions, which did not pass, would have frozen the assessed value of the homestead property value of low income seniors, had it passed on the statewide ballot. HJR 55 passed the House unanimously, but the Senate version died in committee.

SJR 312/HJR 1289, Homestead Tax Exemption, Senator Simmons/Representative Brodeur – These bills, both of which died in committee in their respective chambers, would have placed on the statewide ballot the question of creating a new, larger exemption on homestead properties, worth 30 percent of each home's value between \$75,000 and \$200,000 and 15 percent of the value in excess of \$200,000 but less than or equal to \$400,000.

SB 1888/HB 1393, Online Travel, Senator Gardiner/Representative Brodeur – After several years, the online travel companies (OTCs), once again tried to pass legislation which would have allowed them to pay the sales and bed taxes on the wholesale price they pay for rooms, not the marked-up retailed price they charge their customers. The bills did not pass. Passage of these bills would have resulted in a negative fiscal impact on our local bed taxes, as well as decreasing revenues to Jackson and transit half-penny sales surtaxes. The Senate bill did not receive a hearing, while the House bill died in the Finance and Tax Committee.

HJR 1003, Tangible Personal Property Exemption, Rep. Eisnaugle – This joint resolution, sponsored in the Senate by Senator Detert, passed both chambers and will appear on the fall statewide ballot. It is a proposed constitutional amendment asking voters if the \$25,000 exemption for businesses paying tangible personal property taxes should be doubled.

HB 959, Relations with Cuba/Syria, Rep. Bileca – This bill, sponsored in the Senate by Senator Garcia, passed both chambers and was signed into law by the Governor at a ceremony in Miami. The bill prohibits state agencies and local governments from doing business with companies that also do business in either Cuba or Syria. There is some question, locally, as to the legality of this bill and its application to county contracts. There was much controversy after the Governor signed the bill, as he indicated he would not enforce the bill due to the existing conflict with federal law. He later backed-down from this position.

HB 119, Personal Injury Protection (PIP), Rep. Boyd – This is one of the more highly debated issues that passed this session. The Senate bill was sponsored by Senator Negrón. In his "State of the State" address on the opening day of the legislature, Governor Scott acknowledged this issue as being a priority of his. The bill, one of the last bills signed into law, limits the \$10,000 currently included in PIP policies by limiting the benefit to \$2,500 for non-emergency care, and capping benefits at \$5,000. At one

point during session, there was language that would have preempted local PIP ordinances, targeted at Miami-Dade and Hillsborough, but this was not included in the version of the bill that passed.

SB 840/HB 547, Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs), Senator Diaz de la Portilla/Representative Fresen – These bills, neither of which made it out of committee, were intended to provide additional accountability for CRAs located in Miami-Dade County. The Senate version died in the Community Affairs Committee, while the House version died on a tie vote in the Finance and Tax Committee.

SB 724/HB 989, Ocean Outfalls, Senator Diaz de la Portilla/Representative Gonzalez – For the second year in a row, this issue, aimed at alleviating some of the deadlines from a bill that passed in 2008, did not pass. Aimed at Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties, the bill would have allowed for utilities to meet a 60 percent reuse requirement from their entire service area, while extending deadlines put in place in 2008. Overall, the bill would have saved Miami-Dade County over \$865 million over time.

Amendment to preempt supermajority vote on comprehensive plan amendments – This amendment, which was attempted on several bills in committee and the floor of the House and Senate, did not pass. The bills, which may have been targeted at Miami-Dade County, would have preempted supermajority vote requirements on comprehensive plan amendments. For the most part, the amendments were either ruled to be procedurally out of order, or withdrawn by the sponsor.

Transfer of County Health Departments – HB 1263, by Rep. Hudson, which passed and is currently awaiting action by the Governor, at one point contained language which would have transferred the various County Health Departments from the Department of Health to the individual counties. This language was eventually stripped from the bill. The main focus of the bill itself is the annual Department of Health agency bill.

HB 291, Student-Athlete Head Injuries, Representative Renuart – This bill, which was sponsored in the Senate by Senator Flores, passed and was signed into law by the Governor. The bill requires the Florida High School Athletic Association to adopt bylaws requiring youth athletes who sustain head injuries to be removed from play and not allowed to return until cleared by a healthcare practitioner. It also adopts guidelines to educate coaches, officials, youth athletes, and parents about the risks associated with head injuries and concussions.

SB 1460/HB 673, Local Preference Preemption, Senator Simmons/Representative Brodeur – These bills, both of which died in committee, would have eliminated local preference for any contract where there is state funding in any amount as low as 1 percent.

SB 1186/HB 825, Local Bids and Contracts, Senator Hays/Representative McBurney – Neither of these two bills, which would have removed an exception that

allows local governments to perform public construction projects using their own in-house employees and equipment upon discovery that it would be the most cost-effective way to move forward.

SB 668/HB 511, Repackaged Drugs, Senator Hays/Representative Hudson – These two bills, neither of which passed, would have limited the amount doctors can charge for workers compensation drugs dispensed at their offices. Current law indicates that there are no limits. This bill has had the support of our GSA department over the past few sessions, as it would provide a positive fiscal impact to the county.

SB 1626/HB 1409, Posting Local Contracts on State Website, Senator Gaetz/Representative Albritton – The Senate version of this bill passed its chamber, and died in messages to the House, while the House bill died in committee. These bills would have required that local governments submit to the state all their contracts for posting on the state's website, regardless of whether or not the county has developed its own transparency website.

SB 292, Public Notices on Websites, Senator Bennett – This bill passed. Its House companion was HB 927 by Rep. Workman. These bills were originally filed with a large cost savings to the county, as it would have allowed local governments to use their own website for legal notices, instead of local newspapers. As the bills moved through the process, they were amended to continue the requirement that notice be published in newspapers and their websites.

SB 1542/HB 4177, Red Light Camera Repeal, Senator Evers/Representative Plakon – Neither of these bills, which would have repealed the law authorizing the use of red light cameras, made it out of committee. The Senate version never had a hearing in committee, and the House version died in the House Economic Affairs Committee.

Right-of-way Transfer by Deed or Map – This issue passed as an amendment to HB 599, and has appeared in the county's state legislative agenda on several occasions. Passage of this language will reduce costs to the County associated with transferring local roads to cities following incorporation and annexation.

SB 226, Accessible Parking Reform, Senator Margolis – This issue, which has appeared in our state package in the past, was sponsored in the House by Rep. Julien. The bill, which was filed at our request, implements recommendations included in the Miami-Dade Accessible Parking Report, requiring a disabled parking permit holder to provide a certificate of disability less than a year old, and providing for random review of permit holders in an effort to curb fraud and misuse.

County Budget Issues

Below, please find a listing of state budgetary items of relevance to Miami-Dade County. In addition to the specific items listed below, it is important to note that, despite the nearly \$2 billion budget shortfall, the team was able to preserve funding for several projects, including the deep dredge project that is a priority for the county at the Port of Miami. Money was also saved with the defeat of several bills that could have had a negative fiscal impact on the county, including the aforementioned pretrial release bill, which would have cost the county approximately \$4 million and legislation that would have repealed the local business tax, a cost of \$16 million, including \$10 million, specifically, to Miami-Dade County.:

Jackson Health System: As mentioned earlier in this report, Jackson was able to survive another difficult budget year with minimal cuts. When taking into account federal buy-backs and reimbursements for prior intergovernmental transfers, it is possible that Jackson will only experience a \$1 million cut. Our local delegation played a key role in providing this successful news.

Elderly Meals: The budget includes \$7.6 million for elder meal programs and Local Service Providers, which is on par with previous years' funding.

Library Funding: The State Aid to Libraries program was funded at \$23.7 million, a significant number because it allows for a draw-down of matching funds from the federal government.

Beach Funding: While Miami-Dade County had no projects on the statewide funding list for this year, it is important to note that this program was funded at \$21.7 million, which allows for the program to continue.

Petroleum Storage Tanks: The budget includes \$125 million for petroleum cleanup, which is funded by the Department of Environmental Protection based on a ranking system. The budget also includes \$7 million for local government cleanup contracting program and \$7 million for storage tank compliance verification program.

Air Pollution Control: The budget includes \$5.4 million for air pollution control programs.

State Transportation Trust Fund: This trust fund, which is used to fund transportation projects around the state, including many in Miami-Dade County, was not swept, and funding was fully preserved. The Department of Transportation has yet to make final assignments as to how the funds will be dispersed around the state. Over \$250 million in funds were allocated for transportation projects around Miami-Dade County, including money related to the port tunnel, the dredge, and highway and road improvements.

Tamiami Canal Historic Swing Bridge: This project was funded by the Department of Transportation prior to session, as a result of efforts made in 2011, in the amount of \$16 million. These funds were preserved this past session.

2012 State Legislative Agenda BCC Resolutions

<p>R-101-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION PROVIDING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH GREATER OVERSIGHT AND CONTROL OF COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (Heyman, Bell)</p>	<p><i>This issue was included in SB 840 by Sen. Diaz de la Portilla and HB 547 by Rep. Fresen, but the bills did not pass.</i></p>
<p>R-104-11 - URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, FLORIDA GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT, AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO COLLABORATE WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO CREATE A FUNDING MECHANISM TO SUBSIDIZE THE FEES AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH OPENING A NEW BUSINESS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND OTHER SIMILAR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (Sosa, Monestime)</p>	<p><i>HB 503, which passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor, aims to streamline regulation in an effort to facilitate development.</i></p>
<p>R-171-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE THE FORMATION OF CAPTIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN FLORIDA (Martinez)</p>	<p><i>SB 610 by Sen. Diaz de la Portilla and HB 379 by Rep. Nunez both died in committee, however, HB 1101, which was signed into law, includes provisions encouraging the creation of captive insurance companies.</i></p>
<p>R-174-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO IMPOSE A MINIMUM TERM OF FIVE (5) YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR A CONVICTED FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM (Diaz)</p>	<p><i>There was no legislation addressing this issue, and no vehicle to include it as an amendment.</i></p>
<p>R-175-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO IMPOSE A MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 20 YEARS IMPRISONMENT WHEN A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IS THE VICTIM OF AGGRAVATED ASSAULT OR AGGRAVATED BATTERY WITH A FIREARM (Diaz)</p>	<p><i>There was no legislation addressing this issue, and no vehicle to include it as an amendment.</i></p>

<p>R-184-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB 914, HB 89 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION ALLOWING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO USE GOVERNMENT WEBSITES AND EMAIL FOR PUBLIC NOTICES AND LEGALLY-REQUIRED ADVERTISEMENTS (Diaz, Barreiro, Heyman)</p>	<p><i>This resolution from 2011, which extended to the 2012 session, was not accomplished, as the legislation that passed (SB 292 by Sen. Bennett/HB 937 by Rep. Workman) continues to require newspaper legal notices and allows for notice on a newspaper's website. Language to allow for county sites was removed in committee.</i></p>
<p>R-209-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT SB 1670, HB 1361 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION ALLOWING FOR LOCAL LICENSING OF TOUR GUIDES (Barreiro)</p>	<p><i>This resolution from 2011, which extended to 2012, did not come into play this session, as there was no bill or amendment related to this issue. The bills cited in the reso are from 2011.</i></p>
<p>R-253-11 - SUPPORTING SB 1138 AND HB 791 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROHIBIT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS DURING HIS OR HER DESIGNATED LUNCH PERIOD (Sosa, Souto)</p>	<p><i>This resolution cites bills from 2011, but this past session bills related to this topic, HB 1467 by Rep. Gonzalez and SB 1726 by Sen. Garcia did not receive a committee hearing.</i></p>
<p>R-262-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT LEGISLATION OVERSEEING TAX AGENTS WHO REPRESENT TAXPAYERS BEFORE THE VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD (Bell)</p>	<p><i>There was no legislation this session which would have achieved success on this issue.</i></p>
<p>R-263-11 - OPPOSING THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S PROPOSED NUMERIC NUTRIENT CRITERIA FOR FLORIDA AS SET FORTH IN THE "WATER QUALITY STANDARD FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA'S LAKES AND FLOWING WATERS" RULING (Bell)</p>	<p><i>HB 705, which passed and was signed into law by the Governor, waived approval of water quality rules proposed by the Department of Environmental Protection. These rules replace federal rules that have been opposed by utilities and industry groups.</i></p>
<p>R-266-11 - OPPOSING SB 1352, HB 923 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PREEMPT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S RESPONSIBLE WAGES AND COMMUNITY WORKFORCE PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS PREEMPT</p>	<p><i>This is a 2011 resolution, which carried over to 2012. Bills that would have preempted our local wage theft ordinance passed out of the House, but died in committee in the Senate.</i></p>

<p>MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND RESPONSIBILITY DETERMINATION PROCEDURES (Monestine, Edmonson, Jordan)</p>	
<p>R-267-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB 468, HB 1343 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION AMENDING THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT ACT TO MODIFY THE CRITERIA FOR THE CREATION OF A COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY TO INCLUDE LAND PREVIOUSLY USED AS A MILITARY FACILITY (Moss)</p>	<p><i>HB 447 by Rep. Bullard, which would have accomplished the issue addressed in the resolution, did not receive a committee hearing. SB 148 by Sen. Bullard passed the full Senate, but died in messages to the House.</i></p>
<p>R-270-11 - URGING FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TO CREATE A STATEWIDE DATABASE TO TRACK DAILY PURCHASE TRANSACTIONS OF REGULATED METALS PROPERTY BY SECONDARY METALS RECYCLERS AND PROVIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT WITH REAL TIME ACCESS TO DATABASE (Souto)</p>	<p><i>Legislation passed addressing issues related to metal theft and secondary metals recyclers, and was signed into law by the Governor, HB 885, which contains a provision grandfathering existing ordinances.</i></p>
<p>R-586-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION PROVIDING INCREASED PROTECTION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND OTHER VULNERABLE PEOPLE LIVING IN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES; URGING THE GOVERNOR TO INCREASE ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS GOVERNING ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES (Sosa, Moss, Edmonson, Souto, Bell)</p>	<p><i>Legislation that would have created significant reform for Assisted Living Facilities did not pass, after negotiations between the two chambers on the issue broke down.</i></p>
<p>R-587-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO CODESIGNATE SW 87TH AVENUE FROM SW 8TH STREET TO SW 24TH STREET AS "REV. JORGE COMESAÑAS WAY" (Souto, Bovo. Suarez)</p>	<p><i>HB 7049, approved by the Governor on April 6, includes this street naming.</i></p>

<p>R-622-11 - URGING GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO SEEK ALTERNATE SOURCES TO FUND CRITICAL SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS WITHIN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY THAT WERE VETOED FROM THE STATE BUDGET (Moss, Monestine)</p>	<p><i>This resolution is difficult to quantify, as money was not put back into programs vetoed in 2011. The Governor vetoed a significantly lower number of projects this session.</i></p>
<p>R-626-11 - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE THE FORMATION OF CAPTIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN FLORIDA (Martinez)</p>	<p><i>SB 610 by Sen. Diaz de la Portilla and HB 379 by Rep. Nunez both died in committee, however, HB 1101, which was signed into law, includes provisions encouraging the creation of captive insurance companies.</i></p>
<p>R-708-11 - RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS CAYLEE'S LAW MAKING IT A FELONY NOT TO REPORT A MISSING CHILD TO LAW ENFORCEMENT WITHIN 24 TO 48 HOURS (Diaz, Bell, Sosa, Heyman, Jordan)</p>	<p><i>HB 37 by Rep. Diaz was signed into law by Governor Scott on April 6.</i></p>
<p>R-709-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS HJR 55 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROVIDING A LOCAL OPTION TO PROHIBIT INCREASES IN THE TOTAL PROPERTY TAX BILL OF HOMESTEAD PROPERTY OF LOW AND MIDDLE INCOME SENIOR CITIZENS (Diaz, Bovo, Bell)</p>	<p><i>HB 55 by Rep. Nunez passed out of the Florida House, but its companion measure, SB 838 by Sen. Diaz de la Portilla, died in committee.</i></p>
<p>R-711-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE RACE TO THE TOP EARLY LEARNING CHALLENGE (Jordan, Heyman)</p>	<p><i>Florida received \$700 million in grants, more than any other state.</i></p>
<p>R-714-11 – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE BEACON COUNCIL IN URGING</p>	<p><i>SB 588 by Sen. Garcia and HB 1413 by Rep. Bileca both died in committee.</i></p>

<p>THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS URBAN JOB CREATION INVESTMENT ACT LEGISLATION (Sosa, Bovo, Edmonson, Bell)</p>	
<p>R-715-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION IMPOSING ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR ASSAULT AND BATTERY OF AIRLINE PILOTS AND CREW AND VESSEL CAPTAINS AND CREW (Sosa)</p>	<p><i>Legislation addressing this issue was not filed, as it was difficult to find an appropriate vehicle on which to amend the language.</i></p>
<p>R-719-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS A JOINT RESOLUTION THAT WOULD PROPOSE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE BUSINESSES WITH PROPERTY TAX REDUCTIONS, CREDITS AND OTHER INCENTIVES TO INSTALL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS; FURTHER URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE STATE TAX INCENTIVES TO BUSINESSES TO INSTALL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS (Souto)</p>	<p><i>SJR 1410, by Sen. Flores, which would have required the property appraiser to disregard the installation of video and other surveillance cameras and related equipment in the determination of the assessed property value, did not have a House companion, and did not receive a hearing in the Senate.</i></p>
<p>R-722-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR, THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REVISIT AND RECONSIDER THE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF BICYCLE LANES ALONG S.W. 57 AVENUE/RED ROAD BETWEEN S.W. 8 STREET AND S.W. 40 STREET (Sosa)</p>	<p><i>This issue required more follow-up with the Florida Department of Transportation, as the Secretary has agreed to work with local officials to address these concerns.</i></p>
<p>R-738-11 - RESOLUTION OPPOSING STATE BAILBOND LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PLACE ARBITRARY STATUTORY RESTRICTIONS ON PRETRIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS; IDENTIFYING DEFEAT OF SUCH BAILBOND BILLS AS A CRITICAL</p>	<p><i>This issue, a Critical Priority, was successful, as HB 875 by Rep. Trujillo and SB 1730 by Sen. Garcia were both defeated.</i></p>

<p>PRIORITY FOR THE 2012 SESSION (Heyman)</p>	
<p>R-741-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE NOT TO PASS STATE LEGISLATION RELATED TO IMMIGRATION, WHILE SUPPORTING COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL (Edmonson)</p>	<p><i>Immigration played a major role in the 2011 legislative session, but was not discussed in 2012.</i></p>
<p>R-750-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION STRENGTHENING FLORIDA LAW RELATED TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SEX TRAFFICKING CONSISTENT WITH LEGISLATION PASSED EARLIER THIS YEAR BY THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY (Diaz, Sosa, Bovo, Bell, Jordan)</p>	<p><i>This issue, a Critical Priority, was successful, as HB 7049 by Rep. Snyder was signed into law by Governor Scott. Commissioner Diaz spoke on behalf of the bill before the Senate Criminal Justice Committee.</i></p>
<p>R-751-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR THE ILLEGAL PURCHASE OF SCRAP METALS; OPPOSING STATE PREEMPTION OF LOCAL SCRAP METAL ORDINANCES (Edmonson, Martinez)</p>	<p><i>This Critical Priority achieved success via HB 855 by Rep. Ford. Commissioner Edmonson spoke on behalf of her resolution before the Senate Community Affairs Committee.</i></p>
<p>R-931-11 – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE 2012 PROPOSED DRAFT STATE LEGISLATIVE POSITION OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY RELATED TO PRIVATIZATION OF TRI-RAIL AND OTHER ASSOCIATED CHANGES PROPOSED BY FDOT; OPPOSING FDOT PROPOSALS RELATED TO THE SFRTA AND TRI-RAIL (Barreiro, Heyman, Suarez)</p>	<p><i>HB 599 changes the composition of the SFRTA board from 9 voting members to 10 with the Governor now appointing 3 members instead of 2 and the ex-officio representative of the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation now serving as a voting member. To privatize any administrative functions of the SFRTA requires a two-thirds vote. These changes partially addressed the concerns of the SFRTA and the 3 southeast Florida counties.</i></p>
<p>R-933-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB 274, HB 419 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION REQUIRING DAYCARE VEHICLES</p>	<p><i>HB 419 and SB 274 both died in committee, the Senate version receiving one hearing, and the House version never taken up.</i></p>

<p>USED TO TRANSPORT CHILDREN TO INSTALL CHILD SAFETY ALARMS (Heyman, Edmonson, Jordan, Bell, Moss)</p>	
<p>R-934-11 - RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS A STATEWIDE WAGE THEFT LAW MODELED AFTER THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WAGE THEFT ORDINANCE (Jordan, Monestime, Moss)</p>	<p><i>An effort to preempt Miami-Dade County's wage theft ordinance was defeated. While the bill passed the House, it died in committee in the Senate. Efforts to amend language creating a statewide wage theft law failed.</i></p>
<p>R-935-11 – RESOLUTION OPPOSING STATE LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PREEMPT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S WAGE THEFT ORDINANCE (Jordan, Monestime, Moss)</p>	<p><i>An effort to preempt Miami-Dade County's wage theft ordinance was defeated in the Senate, despite passage in the House.</i></p>
<p>R-936-11 – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HJR 169 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROPOSE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE COUNTIES AND CITIES A LOCAL OPTION TO GRANT AN ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION TO LOW INCOME SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE AMOUNT OF THE ENTIRE ASSESSED VALUE OF HOMESTEAD PROPERTY; SUPPORTING HB 357 WHICH IMPLEMENTS HJR 169 OR A SIMILAR JOINT RESOLUTION UPON APPROVAL BY STATEWIDE VOTERS (Martinez, Sosa, Jordan, Heyman, Diaz, Bovo, Bell, Edmonson, Monestime, Moss)</p>	<p><i>HB 169 passed both chambers, and will appear on the statewide ballot in November.</i></p>
<p>R-937-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION PROHIBITING EMPLOYERS FROM USING CREDIT HISTORY IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO DENY EMPLOYMENT TO A JOB APPLICANT, DISCHARGE AN EMPLOYEE OR DECIDE COMPENSATION, EXCEPT WHERE CREDIT HISTORY IS JOB-RELATED; FURTHER URGING CONGRESS TO APPROVE H.R. 321, THE EQUAL</p>	<p><i>SB 102 and HB 303 would have prohibited employers from using credit history in hiring decisions. These bills died in committee. This proposal ran counter to the current philosophy of the Legislature to not impose additional restrictions on business.</i></p>

<p>EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL ACT, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION (Martinez, Jordan, Diaz, Monestime)</p>	
<p>R-938-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT WORKPLACE ANTI-BULLYING LEGISLATION (Moss, Jordan, Bell, Diaz)</p>	<p><i>SB 1436 was filed related to workplace bullying, but never received a committee hearing. There was no House companion.</i></p>
<p>R-940-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION MAKING IT A THIRD-DEGREE FELONY TO RETRIEVE OR RETURN MORE THAN ONE ABSENTEE BALLOT FROM A NON-RELATIVE; ALTERNATIVELY URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO MAKE IT A THIRD DEGREE FELONY TO VIOLATE ANY LOCAL ELECTION LAW (Sosa, Diaz, Bell, Moss)</p>	<p><i>SB 1596, which was this year's elections bill, did not pass.</i></p>
<p>R-943-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB 256, HB 291 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION IMPROVING SAFEGUARD FOR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES WHO MAY HAVE SUFFERED CONCUSSIONS (Martinez, Sosa, Jordan)</p>	<p><i>HB 291 passed both chambers and was signed into law by the Governor.</i></p>
<p>R-1014-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO REQUIRE GREATER ENERGY EFFICIENCY FROM TELEVISION SET-TOP BOXES (Edmonson)</p>	<p><i>There was no legislation addressing this issue.</i></p>
<p>R-1016-11 – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING H.R. 2746, THE CANCER DRUG COVERAGE PARITY ACT OF 2011; FURTHER URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION REQUIRING INSURANCE COMPANIES TO PROVIDE EQUIVALENT COVERAGE OF ORAL AND INTRAVENOUS CANCER</p>	<p><i>HB 623 by Rep. Nunez and SB 1066 by Sen. Garcia, which would have addressed this issue, both died in committee.</i></p>

DRUGS (Sosa, Heyman, Bell)	
R-1090-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS HB 375 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION PROHIBITING BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FROM CHARGING CONSUMERS FEES ON DEBIT CARDS (Jordan, Martinez)	<i>HB 375, which did not have a companion, was withdrawn prior to introduction.</i>
R-1091-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO EXTEND FLORIDA’S ANTI-BULLYING LAW TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS (Jordan, Heyman)	<i>Efforts to amend language onto an education bill to extend Florida’s anti-bullying law to private schools were not successful.</i>
R-1092-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION REQUIRING THAT AN UNEMPLOYED PERSON COMPLETE AN ON-LINE EMPLOYMENT REGISTRATION APPLICATION THROUGH "EMPLOY FLORIDA MARKETPLACE" BEFORE RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Jordan, Bell)	<i>HB 7027, the large unemployment bill approved by the Governor, does not require online registration with Employ Florida, but makes mention of claimants receiving an email from them regarding available jobs.</i>
R-1115-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO PASS H.R. 511 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION OR SALE OF THE BURMESE PYTHONS AND EIGHT OTHER SPECIES OF LARGE CONSTRICTOR SNAKES WITHOUT A PERMIT; SUPPORTING U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE RULEMAKING TO LIST THESE SPECIES OF LARGE CONSTRICTOR SNAKES AS "INJURIOUS WILDLIFE" UNDER THE LACEY ACT TO PROHIBIT THE IMPORTATION AND INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF THESE ANIMALS; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO EXPLORE ADDITIONAL STEPS TO ADDRESS	<i>This issue, which is more a federal issue, was not addressed this past session.</i>

<p>THESE SNAKES AT THE STATE LEVEL (Moss, Heyman, Diaz)</p>	
<p>R-1116-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO RESTRICT THE LOCATION OF ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES SERVING SUBSTANCE ABUSE PATIENTS IN DENSELY POPULATED, RESIDENTIAL AREAS WITHIN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY ANY FEDERAL AND APPLICABLE LAW (Sosa, Bell)</p>	<p><i>As mentioned above, a large Assisted Living Facility reform package did not pass after negotiations between the chambers broke down.</i></p>
<p>R-1119-11 – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SB 162, HB 951 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE A PHYSICIAN TO REFER A CHILD WHO EXHIBITS SYMPTOMS OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER TO A SPECIALIST FOR AUTISM SCREENING WHEN MEDICALLY NECESSARY AND THAT FURTHER WOULD REQUIRE HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT ACCESS TO AN APPROPRIATE SPECIALIST FOR AUTISM SCREENING WITHOUT A REFERRAL; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SUCH LEGISLATION (Diaz, Heyman, Sosa)</p>	<p><i>Neither SB 162 or HB 951 received a committee hearing.</i></p>
<p>R-1123-11 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT HB 973, SB 1270 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING THE DAN MARINO FOUNDATION FLORIDA VOCATIONAL COLLEGE (Diaz, Heyman)</p>	<p><i>Neither HB 973 or SB 1270 made it out of committee.</i></p>
<p>R-78-12 – RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB 416, HB 299 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD BAN TEXTING WHILE DRIVING (Jordan, Heyman, Sosa)</p>	<p><i>SB 416 died in its final committee of reference, while HB 299 died in its first committee of reference. The House has taken the position that this issue intrudes on personal freedom.</i></p>
<p>R-80-12 – RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO RESTRICT PRIVATE</p>	<p><i>There was no legislation filed this past session which made mention of exotic animals.</i></p>

OWNERSHIP OF EXOTIC ANIMALS (Moss, Diaz)	
R-82-12 - RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE TO RETAIN THE SOLE AUTHORITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL WORKFORCE BOARDS TO SELECT AND REMOVE REGIONAL WORKFORCE BOARD CHAIRS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, AND BOARD MEMBERS WITHOUT INVOLVEMENT FROM THE GOVERNOR, WHILE SUPPORTING RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AND BRANDING; OPPOSING SB 1398 AND HB 7023 IN THEIR CURRENT FORM (Jordan)	<i>HB 7023, which was signed by the Governor on March 28, allows the Governor to remove any board member or the executive director of the regional workforce board for cause.</i>

III. Countywide Appropriations

County Allocations Contained in the Conference Report for House Bill 5001, 2012-2013 General Appropriations Act*

Project	Program	County	Amount
Public Schools Workforce Education Performance Based Incentives	Workforce Education	Manatee	146,157
Public Schools Workforce Education Program Funds	Workforce Education	Manatee	8,621,911
SR 684 from SR 789 (Gulf Drive) to 123rd Street West	Preliminary Engr Consult	Manatee	1,500,000
SR 70 from E of Lorraine Road to CR 675/Waterbury Rd	Resurfacing	Manatee	4,966,412
State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota	Community College Lottery Funds	Manatee	3,682,328
State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota	Community College Program Funds	Manatee	17,738,379
Substructure Repair For Manatee County Bridges	Bridge Construction	Manatee	1,870,033
US 41 (SR 55) from S of 301 Blvd to S of 23rd Avenue	Resurfacing	Manatee	1,165,576
US 41 / SR 45 at SR 684 (Cortez Rd)	Highway Safety Constr/Grants	Manatee	1,864,874
City of Belleview - South 441 Project	Water Project	Marion	1,500,000
College of Central Florida	Community College Lottery Funds	Marion	3,391,060
College of Central Florida	Community College Program Funds	Marion	16,335,292
College of Central Florida - Adults with Disabilities Funds	Vocational Rehabilitation	Marion	42,500
Florida Horse Park	Agricultural Projects	Marion	500,000
HVAC Replacement - State Fire College	DFS - Fire Marshal	Marion	470,252
Marion-Ocala Int'l Construct Ga Terminal Building	Aviation Dev/Grants	Marion	1,000,000
Ocala Conservation Center and Youth Camp	Fish & Wildlife Conservation Project	Marion	175,000
Public Schools Workforce Education Performance Based Incentives	Workforce Education	Marion	98,927
Public Schools Workforce Education Program Funds	Workforce Education	Marion	3,558,263
Rainbow Springs Restoration Plan	Water Project	Marion	60,000
SR 200 (US 301) from SR25 (US 441) to CR200/AVNE 172PI	Resurfacing	Marion	3,744,384
SR 200 from Citrus Co Line to SW of CR 484	Resurfacing	Marion	2,610,131
SR 35 Baseline Road from SE 92PI/Belleview By Pass to SR 464/Maricamp	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Marion	5,076,259
SR 35 Baseline Road from SE 92PI/Belleview By Pass to SR 464/Maricamp	Right-of-Way Support	Marion	2,279,567
SR 40 from CR 314 to CR 314A	Preliminary Engr Consult	Marion	2,037,686
SR 40 from CR 328 to SW 80th Ave(CR 225A)	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Marion	5,847,450
Adults with Disabilities Funds	Vocational Rehabilitation	Marion	206,377
Apollo School Building - Hobe Sound	Historic Preservation Grants	Marion	150,000
ARC of Martin County	Persons with Disabilities	Marion	35,000
CR-714/Indian St from E. of Kanner Highway to E. of Willoughby Blvd	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Marion	1,694,948
Public Schools Workforce Education Performance Based Incentives	Workforce Education	Marion	14,669
Public Schools Workforce Education Program Funds	Workforce Education	Marion	1,914,019
SR-5/US-1 from PBC/Martin Co Line to MP 5.03	Resurfacing	Marion	3,770,996
SR-76/Kanner Hwy from St Lucie River Br to MP 29.83	Resurfacing	Marion	2,049,872
SR-9/1-95 F. S of CR-708/Bridge Rd. to High Meadow	Preliminary Engr Consult	Marion	1,500,000
SR-9/1-95 from Palm Bch/Martin C/L to S of CR-708/Bridge Rd	Preliminary Engr Consult	Marion	2,300,000
The New Elliott Museum, Historical Society of Martin County, Inc.	Cultural Facilities	Marion	500,000
Adults with Disabilities Funds	Vocational Rehabilitation	Miami-Dade	1,125,208
Asset Management Contract SR 826 Palmetto Expressway Corridor	Highway Maintenance Contr	Miami-Dade	1,444,637

* This report lists projects that are identifiable to specific counties. The FEFP and money distributed to counties by state agencies are not included.

County Allocations Contained in the Conference Report for House Bill 5001, 2012-2013 General Appropriations Act*

Project	Program	County	Amount
Asset Management Contract SR9A/95, I-395 I195 Corridors & I-75	Highway Maintenance Contr	Miami-Dade	4,860,137
Autism Center of Miami	Health	Miami-Dade	100,000
Barry University	College Reach Out Program	Miami-Dade	27,611
Barry University	Academic Program Contracts	Miami-Dade	523,520
Bay of Pigs Museum	Cultural & Museum Grants	Miami-Dade	500,000
Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Research at University of Miami	Health	Miami-Dade	400,000
CAMACOL Film	Economic Development	Miami-Dade	150,000
CAMACOL Florida Trade	Economic Development	Miami-Dade	300,000
Camillus Life Center	Community Mental Health Services	Miami-Dade	250,000
Citrus Health Network	Community Mental Health Services	Miami-Dade	455,000
City of Hialeah Senior Citizen Center	Elder Affairs	Miami-Dade	500,000
CR 934/NW 74 Street from NW 114 Avenue to NW 107 Avenue	Arterial Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	5,832,800
Crohn's and Colitis Center - University of Miami	Health	Miami-Dade	500,000
Cuban American Bar Association Pro Bono Project	Dept of Legal Affairs	Miami-Dade	50,000
Dan Marino Project	Persons with Disabilities	Miami-Dade	500,000
Family Empowerment and Intervention - North Miami	Cultural & Museum Grants	Miami-Dade	100,000
Florida International University	Universities - Lottery Funds	Miami-Dade	20,502,257
Florida International University	Universities - Education & General Activities	Miami-Dade	119,310,346
Florida International University	Universities - Student Financial Assistance	Miami-Dade	540,666
Florida International University	Universities - Risk Management Insurance	Miami-Dade	2,068,882
Florida International University Medical School	Universities - Grants & Aids	Miami-Dade	26,882,090
Florida International University Medical School	Universities - Risk Management Insurance	Miami-Dade	20,867
Florida Memorial University	College Reach Out Program	Miami-Dade	25,661
Florida Memorial University	Historically Black Private Colleges	Miami-Dade	3,032,048
Goodwill Industries of South Florida	Workforce Projects	Miami-Dade	250,000
Gould's Coalition of Ministries and Lay People	Economic Self-Sufficiency	Miami-Dade	100,000
Haitian Heritage Museum Project	Cultural & Museum Grants	Miami-Dade	75,000
HEFT Auxiliary Lanes NW 74th St to NW 106 St (MP 31-33)	Intrastate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	7,829,485
Here's Help Residential Facility	Dept of Juvenile Justice	Miami-Dade	200,000
Hialeah Chamber of Commerce and Industries	Economic Development	Miami-Dade	100,000
Hialeah Stormwater Rehabilitation	Water Project	Miami-Dade	140,000
Historic Hampton House - Miami	Historic Preservation Grants	Miami-Dade	100,000
Historical Log Cabin - The Village of Biscayne Park	Historic Preservation Grants	Miami-Dade	150,000
Kendall Tamiami Apt Executive Airport Runway Extension	Aviation Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,148,489
La Liga League Against Cancer	Health	Miami-Dade	117,173
Landscaping HEFT from N of Eureka to S of Kendall Dr	Intrastate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	2,270,081
Landscaping HEFT SW 216th to North of Eureka	Intrastate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	1,472,115
Little Havana Activities and Nutrition Center	Elder Affairs	Miami-Dade	1,000,000
Mildred Pepper Senior Center			
Little River Canal Seawall Remediation Project - Village of El Portal	Economic Development Transportation Projects	Miami-Dade	150,000
MDT - 95 Express Dade Broward Express	Public Transit Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	2,397,000
MDT - Biscayne Blvd/ SR 5/US-1 from Downtown Terminal to Aventura Mall	County Transportation Programs	Miami-Dade	4,417,094

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County Allocations Contained in the Conference Report for House Bill 5001, 2012-2013 General Appropriations Act*

Project	Program	County	Amount
MDT - Biscayne Blvd/ SR 5/US-1 from Downtown Terminal to Aventura Mall	Public Transit Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	2,124,355
MDT - Purchase New Buses For Serv Expansion So. Miami-Dade Busway	Public Transit Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	2,500,000
MDT - State Transit Block Grant	Public Transit Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	19,966,408
Miami Design District Infrastructure - City of Miami	Community Services	Miami-Dade	5,000,000
Miami Intermodal Ctr (MIC) MIC Central Station	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	1,000,000
Miami Intermodal Ctr (MIC) MIC/MIA Station	Intermodal Development/Grants	Miami-Dade	4,300,000
Miami Intermodal Ctr (MIC) MIC/MIA Station	State Infrastructure Bank Loan	Miami-Dade	1,334,000
Miami Int'l Airport Additional Air Cargo Apron	Aviation Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,225,000
Miami Int'l Airport Concourse J A380 Gate Modifications	Aviation Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	2,751,872
Miami Int'l Airport Rehab Runway 12/30 Taxiway P, Q, and R	Aviation Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	5,752,973
Miami River Environmental Enhancement	Water Project	Miami-Dade	100,000
Miami River Environmental Enhancement - Lummus Park/Dock and Piers for Commercial Use	Economic Development Transportation Projects	Miami-Dade	100,000
Miami-Dade Aviation Airfield Improvements A380 Modifications	Aviation Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	3,000,000
Miami-Dade Aviation Department Park Six Garage	Aviation Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,382,674
Miami-Dade Aviation Miami Int'l Airport Way Finding Signs	Aviation Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,352,137
Miami-Dade Co - MPO FTA Section 5303 Metro Planning	Public Transit Dev/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,228,340
Miami Dade College	Community College Lottery Funds	Miami-Dade	28,582,390
Miami Dade College	Community College Program Funds	Miami-Dade	137,686,097
Miami Dade College (South Florida Cons.)	College Reach Out Program	Miami-Dade	62,366
Miami-Dade Countywide Agreement-Traffic Signals Maintenance & Operations	Traffic Engr Consultants	Miami-Dade	2,350,000
Miami-Dade Countywide Lighting	Highway Maintenance Contr	Miami-Dade	2,456,252
Miami-Dade Forensic Alternative Center	Community Mental Health Services	Miami-Dade	1,596,282
Miami-Dade MPO UPWP FY 2012/2013 & 2013/2014 PI	Transport Planning Grants	Miami-Dade	2,164,976
Mt. Sinai Emergency Power Improvements	Health	Miami-Dade	5,000,000
Mt. Sinai - Brain Bank	Elder Affairs	Miami-Dade	100,000
New Horizons Community Mental Health Center	Community Mental Health	Miami-Dade	100,000
New World School of the Arts	New World School of the Arts	Miami-Dade	400,000
NW 25th Avenue Improvements - City of Miami Gardens	Economic Development Transportation Projects	Miami-Dade	300,000
Our Kids Community Based Care	Family Safety & Preservation Services	Miami-Dade	1,745,286
PD&E Widen HEFT from Campbell Drive to US 1 (MP 2 - 13)	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	1,500,000
Perimeter Road from Tamiami Canal Bridge to NW 21 Street	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	1,500,000
Port of Miami from Port of Miami (POM) to Post Panamax Cranes	Seaport Grants	Miami-Dade	1,055,000
Port of Miami Inbound/Outbound Cargo Gate Improvements	Intermodal Development/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,276,419
Port of Miami South Fisherman's Channel	Seaport Grants	Miami-Dade	25,846,756
Port of Miami Tunnel from Port of Miami to SR 836/I-395	Intrastate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	25,000,001
Port of Miami Tunnel from Port of Miami to SR 836/I-395	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	5,500,000
Port of Miami Tunnel from Port of Miami to SR 836/I-395	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	1,800,000
Public Schools Workforce Education Performance Based Incentives	Workforce Education	Miami-Dade	931,355
Public Schools Workforce Education Program Funds	Workforce Education	Miami-Dade	81,016,722
Richmond Heights Resource Center	Economic Self-Sufficiency	Miami-Dade	100,000
Road Maintenance Equipment - City of Hialeah	Transportation Materials	Miami-Dade	196,846

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County Allocations Contained In the Conference Report for House Bill 5001, 2012-2013 General Appropriations Act*

Project	Program	County	Amount
Road Maintenance Vehicle Replacement - City of Hialeah	Transportation Materials	Miami-Dade	72,769
Service Patrols SR 826/Palmetto Expressway	Highway Maintenance Contr	Miami-Dade	1,377,254
SFRS Tri-Rail Maintenance & Dispatching Operating Assistance	Rail Development/Grants	Miami-Dade	5,586,000
SR 7/NW 7 Avenue from NW 131 Street to NW 118 Street	Highway Safety Constr/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,515,000
SR 823/NW 57 Avenue from W. 46th Street to W. 53rd Street	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	1,717,000
SR 823/NW 57 Avenue from West 23 Street to West 46 Street	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	3,141,100
SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from SR 836 to SR 93/I-75	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	1,500,000
SR 826/SR 836 from N of SW 8 St to S of NW 25 St & from NW 87 to 57 Ave's	Intrastrate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	25,000,001
SR 826/SR 836 from N of SW 8 St to S of NW 25 St & from NW 87 to 57 Ave's	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	12,060,934
SR 836/I-395 from East of I-95 to MacArthur Cswy Bridge	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Miami-Dade	12,164,686
SR 836/I-395/Interim from NE 1st Street to MacArthur Causeway	Intrastrate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	8,070,000
SR 847/NW 47 Avenue from SR 860/NW 183 Street to Premier Pky (Broward)	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	2,000,000
SR 856/Lehman Cswy from SR 5/Biscayne Blvd. to Collins/Ocean Blvd	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	1,079,986
SR 9/NW 27 Avenue from S. of NW 122 Street to S. of NW 135 Street	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	4,100,900
SR 907/Aiton Road at 5th Street, 10th Street and 14th Street	Arterial Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	8,856,619
SR 907/Aiton Road at 5th Street, 10th Street and 14th Street	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	1,212,000
SR 907/Aiton Road from 5th Street to Michigan Avenue	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	1,969,500
SR 907/Aiton Road from 5th Street to Michigan Avenue	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	22,075,397
SR 915/NE 6 Avenue from NE 145 Street to SR 860/Miami Gardens Dr	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	2,986,065
SR 922/NW 125 Street from NW 6 Avenue to NE Miami Court	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Miami-Dade	1,459,798
SR 931/-75 from NW 178 Street to NW 202 Street	Intrastrate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	2,146,250
SR 934/Nw81/92 St/NE 82 St from NW 13th Court to SR 5/Biscayne Blvd.	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	4,308,660
SR 959/SW 57 Avenue from SR 5/US-1 to SR 976/SW 40 Street	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	2,990,006
SR 959/SW 57 Avenue from SR 976/SW 40 Street to SW 24 Street	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	1,366,834
SR 968/Flagler St. from SW 72 Avenue to SW 42 Avenue	Highway Safety Constr/Grants	Miami-Dade	1,069,928
SR 972/Coral Way from SW 37 Avenue to E of SW 13 Avenue	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	1,903,850
SR 986/Sunset Dr. from SW 109 Place to SW 87 Avenue	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	2,707,650
SR 997/Krome Avenue from S of SW 122 Street to S of SR 94/Kendall Dr	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	1,717,000
SR 997/Krome Avenue from S.W. 136th Street to SR 94/Kendall Drive	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Miami-Dade	3,254,820
SR 997/Krome Avenue from SR 5/US-1 to SW 296th St W/Exceptions	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	4,089,246
SR 997/Krome Avenue from SR 94/Kendall Drive to 1 Mi N of SW 8th St	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Miami-Dade	6,247,200
SR 9A/I-95 (SB) from S of Brg over SR 922 to N of Brg over Bisc.Canal	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	3,030,000
SR 9A/I-95 Express from N of SR 836/I-395 to Golden Glades Interchange	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	1,690,000
SR 9A/I-95 Express Operations & Maintenance	Intrastrate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	4,958,467
SR A1A/Collins Ave from North of Harding Ave to N. of Bal Harbour Blvd	Traffic Engr Consultants	Miami-Dade	1,001,756
SR A1A/Collins Ave. from 5th St to Lincoln Rd (Multiple Intersections)	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	2,646,978
SR A1A/Collins Ave. from 5th S/US 41 to Espanola Way	Highway Safety Constr/Grants	Miami-Dade	2,443,111
SR A1A/Ocean Blvd from SR 856/192 Street to Miami-Dade/Broward C/L	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	1,761,354
University of Miami	Resurfacing	Miami-Dade	396,525
University of Miami	Diagnostic & Learning Resources Centers	Miami-Dade	348,819
University of Miami - College of Medicine	Academic Program Contracts	Miami-Dade	3,137,116
University of Miami - Medical Training and Simulation Laboratory	First Accredited Medical School	Miami-Dade	3,077,493
	UM Medical Simulation Lab	Miami-Dade	

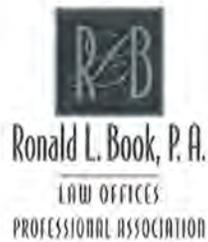
* This report lists projects that are identifiable to specific counties. The FEFP and money distributed to counties by state agencies are not included.

County Allocations Contained in the Conference Report for House Bill 5001, 2012-2013 General Appropriations Act*

Project	Program	County	Amount
University of Miami - PhD Program in Biomedical Science	First Accredited Medical School	Miami-Dade	560,199
University of Miami - Regional Diabetes Center	Regional Diabetes Center	Miami-Dade	244,011
University of Miami (Department of Pediatrics)	Autism Centers	Miami-Dade	1,040,409
Widen HEFT(SR821) from N of Eureka to South of Kendall Dr	Intrastate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	194,304,201
Widen HEFT(SR821) from N of Eureka to South of Kendall Dr	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	20,797,920
Widen HEFT(SR821) from N of Eureka to South of Kendall Dr	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	4,545,000
Widen HEFT(SR821) from SW 216th St to N of Eureka Dr (SR994)	Intrastate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	52,780,257
Widen HEFT(SR821) from SW 216th St to N of Eureka Dr (SR994)	Construct Inspect Consult	Miami-Dade	8,137,856
Widen HEFT(SR821) from SW 216th St to N of Eureka Dr (SR994)	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	1,356,309
Widen HEFT(SR821) from SW 216th St to N of Eureka Dr (SR994)	Intrastate Highway Constr	Miami-Dade	1,940,000
Widen HEFT(SR821) Kendall to 60th St Canal Bridge (MP20-22.3) 6 to 10 Lanes	Right-of-Way Land Acq	Miami-Dade	6,991,000
Widen HEFT(SR821) Kendall to 60th St Canal Bridge (MP20-22.3) 6 to 10 Lanes	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	4,300,000
Widen HEFT(SR821) Kendall to 60th St Canal Bridge (MP20-22.3) 6 to 10 Lanes	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	2,500,000
Widen HEFT from 60th St Canal to Bird Rd (MP 22.3 - 23.8)	Preliminary Engr Consult	Miami-Dade	3,000,000
Widen HEFT from SW 288th St to SW 216th St, MP5-11, from 4 to 6 Lanes	Public Broadcasting	Miami-Dade	307,447
WLRN-TV, Miami (Miami-Dade County District School Board)	Public Broadcasting	Miami-Dade	307,447
WPBT-TV, Miami (Community TV Foundation of South Florida)	Public Broadcasting	Miami-Dade	307,447
Adults with Disabilities Funds	Vocational Rehabilitation	Monroe	65,858
City of Key West-DOT Bus Fleet Replacement FTA Section 5311	Public Transit Dev/Grants	Monroe	1,225,600
Florida Keys Community College	College Reach Out Program	Monroe	25,674
Florida Keys Community College	Community College Lottery Funds	Monroe	993,702
Florida Keys Community College	Community College Program Funds	Monroe	4,786,825
Florida Keys Community College - Gen ren/rem, infrastruc, site improvement & acquisition	Education Capital Outlay	Monroe	800,000
Florida Keys Community College - Marine Propulsion Bldg-Main (ce) comp	Education Capital Outlay	Monroe	773,770
Florida Keys Wastewater Treatment Plan	Water Project	Monroe	50,000,000
Monroe CW Asset Management from MM 0.00 to Monroe County Line	Highway Maintenance Contr	Monroe	3,000,000
Public Schools Workforce Education Performance Based Incentives	Workforce Education	Monroe	8,903
Public Schools Workforce Education Program Funds	Workforce Education	Monroe	711,711
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from Blu Isl Blvd,MM59.9 to N of Beach Ent,MM73.4	Construct Inspect Consult	Monroe	1,010,000
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from Blu Isl Blvd,MM59.9 to N of Beach Ent,MM73.4	Resurfacing	Monroe	7,388,150
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from E of W Indies/MM27.4 to W of Palmetto Av/MM 30	Resurfacing	Monroe	1,238,100
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from Jerome Ave MM 81.42 to Whale Hbr Chn,MM84.045	Resurfacing	Monroe	2,716,900
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from MM 93 to MM 97	Resurfacing	Monroe	6,303,410
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from MM103.2/Hialeah Lane to MM106.3/Lk Surprise Bl	Resurfacing	Monroe	4,848,000
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from MM11.7/Shark Key Ent to MM14.6/West Circle Dr.	Resurfacing	Monroe	2,121,000
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from MM99.6/Atlantic Blvd to MM103.2/Hialeah Lane	Resurfacing	Monroe	5,045,279
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from N Jo-Jean Way/MM 92 to S of Camelot Dr/MM 93	Resurfacing	Monroe	1,370,119
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from Tavnir Crk Brdg/MM91 to N of Jo-Jean Way/MM 92	Resurfacing	Monroe	1,186,552
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. from Whale Harbor,MM84.04 to Smuglers Cv Ent,MM85.6	Resurfacing	Monroe	2,094,230
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. over Bahia Honda Channel Brigs # 900016 & 900045	Construct Inspect Consult	Monroe	1,181,700
SR 5/Overseas Hwy. over Bahia Honda Channel Brigs # 900016 & 900045	Bridge Construction	Monroe	6,565,000

* This report lists projects that are identifiable to specific counties. The FEPP and money distributed to counties by state agencies are not included.

IV. Contract Lobbyist Final Reports



Memorandum

To: Jess McCarty, Esq.
Assistant County Attorney

Joe Rasco, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

From: Ronald L. Book, Esq.
Kelly C. Mallette
Rana G. Brown

Date: March 30, 2012

RE: Session Update – Final Report

The Florida Legislature concluded the 2012 session at 11:59 PM on Friday, March 9, with barely a moment to spare. In the final hours, they addressed many leadership priorities and some controversial measures, including PIP reform, the budget, the parent trigger bill and ALF reform. They also informed members that they would soon begin a special session on apportionment of districts, after the Supreme Court rejected the proposed Senate maps.

Although short on revenues to build their budget, the 2012 session was not short on political intrigue. With House and Senate presiding officers at odds, a number of members of the House slated to run against one another and the fight for the future leadership of the Florida Senate, the “politics” of Tallahassee impacted many major issues and votes.

The interim promises to be just as exciting, with all 120 House seats and all 40 Senate seats up for grabs. Meanwhile, once the Legislature has redrawn the Senate maps, the Supreme Court will undertake a final review. If not drawn to their satisfaction, it is likely the Court will draw the new Senate maps themselves.

SB 720 and HB 349 relating to Charter Reform

We continued to talk with members in the final days of the session, and ultimately, these bills were not taken up.

HB 5301 relating to Medicaid

During the 2012 session, the AHCA Medicaid billing issue became a major focus of Senator Gaetz, the incoming Senate President. At the beginning of Session and particularly during and throughout the budget process, the Senator worked toward his goal of having the Counties pay ‘what was allegedly owed’ to the state by each County. The Counties dispute the accuracy of the Agency for Health Care Administration billing accuracy to the Counties, as we know.

Senator Gaetz's original goal was that the funding owed by the Counties would be paid back to the state at an approximate 10 to 15 % reduced rate, through withholding of county revenue sharing funds, over the course of the next three years. In other words, as he completed his Senate Presidency, the Counties would have paid back the amounts owed to the state. This became a substantial fight throughout the session, with the terms of the issue changing frequently.

The Florida Association of Counties took on the task of negotiating a 'deal' that most of the large counties did not support. Our firm met multiple times on the County's behalf with Senator Gaetz to voice the County's opposition, the County's concerns with the accuracy of the AHCA billing process, amounts, billing addresses and a multitude of errors used to determine the funds 'owed' by each county.

The outcome was somewhat mitigated, albeit unpalatable. In summary, the bill would give Counties one of two options: 1) to pay 85% of the billing amounts owed (as calculated by AHCA) through the withholding the county revenue sharing funds; or 2) to pay 100% of the billing amounts owed (again as calculated by AHCA) and maintain the ability to challenge the billing accuracy before the Division of Administrative Hearings.

HB 5301 was signed into law by the Governor on 3/14/12. Chapter No. 2012-33

Assisted Living Facilities

The House passed HB 7133, which included several reform measures. However, when the Senate took up the measure in the final week, Senator Storms argued that the House bill did not go far enough and attached amendments that the House felt went too far. Although Representative Gonzalez and Senator Garcia worked hard to reach a compromise acceptable to both chambers, they were not successful and the bills died in the final hours of the session.

SB 202 and HB 99 relating to Sexual Exploitation

HB 99 was approved and has been ordered enrolled.

SB 226 and HB 27 relating to Disabled Parking

SB 226 was approved and has been ordered enrolled.

SB 862 and HB 609 relating to Wage Theft

Although the Florida Retail Federation worked hard in the final days to persuade members to withdraw the Senate bill from committees and pass the bill, they were not successful and the wage theft preemption was not approved. Senator Flores was extremely helpful on this issue.

SB 1182 and HB 933 relating to Public Housing

While we had language related to the 45-day rule in two separate bills, unfortunately, none of these bills passed. Both included some controversial measures, but were the only two bills appropriate for this language.

State Budget

After much debate and some delay, the Legislature passed an overall budget of \$70.4 billion late in the afternoon of March 9th. The budget passed by the House with a vote of 80 – 37 and by the Senate with a vote of 32 – 8. Significant budget items include the following highlights:

- The Transportation Work Plan has an increased commitment of \$1.4 billion available in bonding for the next fiscal year work plan – created with the redirection of \$200 million in transportation fees through the Transportation Trust Fund.

- A sweep of \$542 million from state trust funds, including \$350 million pulled from the Lawton Chiles Endowment.
- An increase in state funding of \$1.68 billion in new state funding through PreK -12 Education through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP).
- General revenue and lottery funds would be used to pay for school construction projects that would have been funded with \$250 million in unused bonding authority through the Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO).
- Cuts in funding for state universities by \$300 million
- An allocation of \$30 million for Everglades restoration
- Reduction in funding by \$30 million for operations functions at the court clerks offices
- Medicaid Billing cost shift which would require counties to pay millions in disputed Medicaid bills
- Cuts to an approximate 4,354 state jobs
- The creation of the state's 12th university in Lakeland, to be called the Florida Polytechnic University
- A Back to School tax holiday from August 3 through August 5, 2012

Additional items of note to Miami-Dade County include:

- \$23.7 million in funding for state aid to libraries
- Full funding of elderly meals programs
- \$250,000 in funding for the Blue Premium Assistance Program
- Full funding of JAC/JASP
- Funding for the Crisis Outplacement Program

REAPPORTIONMENT

Since adjournment of the regular session, the Legislature has also recently completed a special session on reapportionment, and redrawn the Senate maps, over the objections of many in the Miami-Dade Delegation and various other members around the state. The new Senate proposal resolves some issues, but causes some new ones too. The Hispanic members of the Miami-Dade Delegation largely voted against the plan, because they felt that the census numbers justified the creation of an additional Hispanic seat in Miami-Dade County. The current district in question, a coastal district held by Senator Gwen Margolis, includes more Hispanic voters, but is still not an Hispanic access seat. Also at issue, the new map draws Senator Andy Gardiner and Senator David Simmons into the same seat. Senator Simmons has already said publicly that he will move to run in a neighboring district. Polk County, which the Senate map divides amongst multiple districts, was of particular concern to Representative Denise Grimsley, who also voted against the revised Senate plan.

The House maps create many similar issues, where incumbent members have found themselves in a district with another member or without a clear district in which to run.

What's ahead for redistricting? Well, Attorney General Pam Bondi sent the maps to the Supreme Court. The Courts will review the maps in short time, and determine whether or not they comply. Many experts have opined that the maps will not meet the Court's approval, in which case, the Court will likely redraw the maps themselves, and no one is certain how they will draw them.

We will need to watch the process closely as it unfolds.

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Please feel free to contact us regarding any item in this report, or any item that may not be in this report, but in which you have an interest. We appreciate the opportunity to represent Miami-Dade County.



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Miami-Dade County 2012 Legislative Session Report

Pittman Law Group, P.L. would like to express our sincere appreciation for the continued opportunity to represent Miami-Dade County.

Miami-Dade County – Priority Legislative Request

Wireless Services at Airports:

Prior to the opening days of the 2012 Legislative Session, our team was assigned to speak with Representative Alan Williams regarding HB 1185. This legislation would require Florida's public airports to provide free broadband-wireless services to Floridians.

After speaking with Jess McCarty, our team learned that this would have a negative fiscal impact to Miami-Dade County. Furthermore, this would derail nearly a million dollars of the revenue that the Miami-International Airport generates annually from internet access sales.

Our team was able to meet with Representative Williams and he agreed to withdraw this legislation measure for the 2012 Legislative Session.

Taxicab Lease Rates:

Our team was assigned to amend Florida Statute 125.0103 (1)(a) to clarify that Miami-Dade County may impose reasonable price controls on certain for-hire transportation lease rates. This legislative preemption would allow the county to regulate the lease rates of taxicabs and require that consumers are paying a fair wage for taxi services.

After thorough review of the political landscape and priorities of the Florida Senate and Florida House, our team opted not to file this measure as a stand-alone bill but continue to look for a vehicle we could amend to add our language.

Throughout the 2012 Legislative Session, our team monitored several transportation measures and items pertaining to taxicabs. We were able to meet with Representative Campbell regarding an amendment to HB 675 relating to For-Hire transportation surcharges. She informed us that if the bill was presented before its first committee of reference, House Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee, she would present a strike-all amendment which would include our language.

However, after speaking with leadership in the Florida House and the chair of the House Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee we learned that this measure was not viewed favorably and would not be heard before committee this Session.

This measure inevitably died during the process after we were unable to find another suitable vehicle for our amendatory language.

Oppose Preemption of Towing, Moving, Locksmith or Motor Vehicle Repair Regulation

Our team was assigned to oppose any legislation that would preempt Miami-Dade County from regulating towing, moving, motor vehicle repair and locksmith companies. Currently, state laws do not contain all of the consumer protections that Miami-Dade County provides.

Throughout the 2012 Legislative process, we monitored legislation and amendments filed which looked to preempt local governments from regulating any of our assigned industries. After a thorough review of over 3,000 filed pieces of legislation, our team was unable to find any bill or amendment which related to our assignment.

Oppose For-Hire Transportation and Ambulance Regulations

We were given the assignment to oppose any legislation which would impact Miami-Dade County's regulation of for-hire transportation.

Our team was able to meet with leadership in Legislature to express our concerns for opposing any method which would remove Miami-Dade County's ability to license, regulate and inspect vendors in the for-hire industry. We were assured that language, which looked to remove this process, would be heard in either chamber during the 2012 Legislative Session.

Elections:

Our team was assigned several election priorities for Miami-Dade County. Prior to finding sponsors for our election items we were able to sit down with Chairman of the Senate Rules on Ethics and Elections, Senator Diaz de la Portilla, regarding possible election reform for the 2012 Legislative Session.

Our discussions with Senator Diaz de la Portilla went quite well and we learned that the Senator was supportive of the Security Envelope, Election Audit and Community Development District legislation.

During our meeting, the Senator informed us that he was working on an Elections glitch bill to address some of the concerns from the elections measure passed during the 2011 Session. Towards the close of our meeting, Senator Diaz de la Portilla informed us that he did not mind supporting our legislation but he did not guarantee that he would include any of our information on the elections bill he was sponsoring during Session.

We were able to work with Senator Smith and Representative Chestnut to file several of our elections measures.

Expansion of Early Voting Sites

SB 516 (Rich)/ HB 1079 (Gibbons) Early Voting

This legislative request looks to allow the Supervisor of Elections to use any site convenient and accessible as an early voting location. Prior to our team receiving this assignment, Senator Nan Rich filed SB 516, which gives the Supervisor of Elections power to various local government facilities for early voting.

After speaking with Senator Rich and her staff, we learned that they were having a difficult time finding a House sponsor to move this legislation. We were then able to speak with Representative Gibbons and he agreed to file the companion bill in the House for us with HB 1079.

During a follow up meeting with Senator Diaz de la Portilla, we were informed that this measure was not overly popular in the Florida Senate and would not be scheduled for a committee hearing this Session. However, after the Republican Presidential Primary in Florida, we were able to speak with the Senator again and he informed us that a watered down version of Early Voting expansion would work.

Senator Diaz de la Portilla also informed us that he was willing to review some of our other elections issues and add them to his Elections measure, which was moving through the committee process.

Our team drafted language which would allow the Supervisor of Elections to use any designated facility that is used during the general election, for early voting. Senator Smith agreed to sponsor our floor amendments to SB 1596 by Senator Diaz de la Portilla relating to Elections.

However, when SB 1596 was presented on the Senate Floor, Senator Diaz de la Portilla submitted a strike-all amendment to which aligned his bill with a separate elections measure, HB 1461 dealing with Voter Identification. The original House companion, HB 1177, which addressed the elections glitch from 2011, was not presented in the Senate. This strike-all amendment affected our Early Voting language because it was no longer germane to this elections measure.

The early voting amendments died during the amendatory process after they were ruled out of order, however our team worked to kill SB 1596 and was successful as this bill died in messages to the Florida House.

Committeeman and Committeewoman Elections

SB 1700 (Smith) Political Parties

This legislative request would remove the elections of Executive Committeemen and Committeewomen races from the Primary Election ballot, during a presidential year, and these elections would be held independently of their political party without the supervision, and ballot coding, from the Supervisor of Elections.

Leadership in the Florida Legislature was supportive of this measure during the early stages of the 2012 Legislative Session. However, they also informed us that this measure would not have a chance to make it as a standalone item and work its way through committees in the Florida House.

We were able to speak with Senator Smith about this legislation and he agreed to file this measure for us with SB 1700 relating to Political Parties. SB 1700 was referred to Senate Ethics and Elections, along with the Senate Rules Committee.

After unsuccessfully attempts to have this bill placed on a Committee agenda we were able to work with the bill sponsor and Senator Diaz de la Portilla to sponsor an amendment dealing with Committeeman/Committeewoman elections. Our amendatory language was also filed to SB 1596 relating to Elections.

However, when SB 1596 was presented on the Senate Floor, Senator Diaz de la Portilla submitted a strike-all amendment to which aligned his bill with a separate elections measure, HB 1461 dealing with Voter Identification. The original House companion, HB 1177 which addressed the elections glitch from 2011, was not presented in the Senate and our Committeeman and Committeewoman Elections language was no longer germane to this elections measure.

Our amendments died during the amendatory process after they were ruled out of order, however our team worked to kill SB 1596 and was successful as this bill died in messages to the Florida House.

Security-Enhanced Envelopes:

HB 1339 (Chestnut)/ SB 1556 (Smith) Envelopes Used to Conceal the Voter's Choices

Early in the 2012 Legislative process, our team was assigned this item to allow counties to utilize security-enhanced envelopes for absentee ballots as an alternative to the secrecy envelope.

We were able to discuss this measure with Representative Chestnut and Senator Smith, with both agreeing to sponsor this legislation and have it move through the process. Unfortunately, after having these measures filed and meeting with leaders in both Chambers of the Legislature, the Miami-Dade County Elections Department informed our team that this measure was no longer a priority issue for 2012.

However, leadership in the Florida House continued to push the measure and proceeded to have this measure heard before the bills committees of reference and on the House Floor. The House version of this bill passed the Florida House with a 115-0 vote and was sent to the Senate in Messages.

The Senate version of this bill was not heard before a committee of reference and this measure inevitably died.

Community Development Districts (CDD) Elections

SB 1714 (Smith) Election of Board of Supervisors of a Community Development District

Our team was given this legislative assignment to allow the Supervisors of Elections to conduct Community Development District (CDD) elections via mail ballot as opposed to inclusion in the General Election.

Early in the legislative process we were able to have Senator Smith sponsor SB 1714 relating to Election of the Board of Supervisors of a Community Development District (CDD). This legislation removed the requirement for candidates for a CDD Board of Supervisor's qualify for their election during the Primary election.

After unsuccessful attempts to have this bill placed on a Committee agenda, we were able to work with the bill sponsor and Senator Diaz de la Portilla to sponsor an amendment dealing with

Committeeman/Committeewoman elections. Our amendatory language was also filed to SB 1596 relating to Elections.

However, when SB 1596 was presented on the Senate Floor, Senator Diaz de la Portilla submitted a strike-all amendment to which aligned his bill with a separate elections measure, HB 1461 dealing with Voter Identification. The original House companion, HB 1177 which addressed the elections glitch from 2011, was not presented in the Senate and our Committeeman and Committeewoman Elections language was no longer germane to this elections measure.

Our amendments died during the amendatory process after they were ruled out of order, however our team worked to kill SB 1596 and was successful as this bill died in messages to the Florida House.

Voting System Audits:

Our team was given this legislative request to allow the Supervisor of Elections to audit at least 1 percent, but no more than 2 percent, of randomly selected precincts and/or voting units after an election.

We were able to discuss this measure with Senator Smith and he agreed to sponsor this measure for us. Unfortunately, after having this measure filed and meeting with leaders in both chambers of the Legislature, the Miami-Dade County Elections Department informed our team that this measure was no longer a priority issue for 2012.

This bill died in the Senate Ethics and Elections committee.

Tour Guides:

HB 749 (Young)/ SB 888 (Flores) Consumer Services

This legislation looks to enhance the mission of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). Provisions in this legislation will “safeguard the public and support Florida's agricultural economy.”

The bill contains modifications to several regulatory and consumer activities under the jurisdiction of the department. Below you will find a summary of the changes:

- Removes the Division of Standards from the organizational structure of the department and adds conforming terminology specifying the powers and duties of the Division of Consumer Services.
- Authorizes DACS to waive license renewal fees, not to exceed 2 years, if the General Inspection Trust Fund contains funds that exceed the amount required to cover the necessary functions of the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers.
- Authorizes the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers to include all inactive and delinquent licensees with active licensees should a special assessment fee be collected to eliminate a cash deficit; or if there is not a cash deficit, in an amount sufficient to maintain the financial integrity of the profession.

- Directs the department to work cooperatively with the Department of Revenue relating to an “automated method” for disclosing surveyor and mapper license information relating to family desertion and nonsupport of dependent children.
- Allows waiver of firearm training requirements of private investigative, private security, or repossession services pursuant to documentation that supports competence of skills and education.
- Eliminates the fee required for the placement on the no sale list and provides for administrative penalties.
- Removes reference to the use of a social security number as a form of identification and allows the use of “or other valid form of identification” for an applicant for a license as commercial telephone sellers and salespersons.
- Replaces the outdated term “occupational license” with the term “business tax receipt.”
- Specifies that notification of cancellation of insurance coverage for household moving services be provided at least 10 days prior to cancellation.
- Authorizes the temporary waiver of requirements for maintaining power generators at motor fuel dispensing facilities if the generators are to be used in an emergency or major disaster situation in another state.
- Replaces criminal sanctions with administrative and monetary sanctions for violations of requirements for the sale of brake fluids.

Throughout the process our team made various efforts to work with DACS to amend this measure to include the regulation of tour guides and tour guide services. However, Grace Lovett of DACS reviewed a variety of our suggested amendatory language and informed us on several occasions that this was not a priority for the agency.

Grace Lovett further stated that the DACS believed the tour guide language was controversial and they did not feel comfortable having an agency bill with any negative undertones.

Our team still prepared several last minute amendments for SB 888 however Senator Flores informed our staff that she was informed by the DACS not to accept any amendments for SB 888 on 2nd Reading or 3rd Reading on the Senate Floor.

SB 888 passed without our amendatory language but our team believes that we have put this measure in the proper order for future consideration and approval by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Conduct National Criminal Background Checks:

Our team was given the assignment to craft legislation that would allow county governments to conduct national background checks on all for-hire chauffeurs. Currently under state law, Miami-Dade County cannot acquire a national background check for the for-hire chauffeurs that the county currently regulates.

During the fourth week of the 2012 Legislative Session, we were able to meet with Senator Latvala and Senate Transportation Policy Chief Rivers Buford regarding an amendment to SB 1866 relating to the Department of Transportation. This amendment would allow any governments unit to regulate the operation of public vehicles for hire and other for-hire transportation within its geographic boundaries. The language we submitted for this transportation measure was similar to the language used during the 2011 Legislative Session.

After thorough review of our amendatory language, Senator Latvala agreed to accept our changes to this bill and SB 1866 passed the Senate Transportation Committee with a 7-0 vote.

We continued to work with Senator Latvala and his staff to ensure that this measure was placed on the agenda in the Senate Budget Committee and the Senate Special Order Calendar.

Our efforts were quite successful as SB 1866 was voted favorably out of the Senate Budget Committee with an 18-3 vote. We were also able to speak with leadership to place this measure on the Special Order Calendar on the Senate Floor. However, in the final days of Session SB 1866 was not presented for consideration in the Senate and this measure died on the Special Order Calendar.

Miami-Dade County Home Rule:

SJR 720 (Garcia)/ HJR 349 (Lopez-Cantera) Miami-Dade County Home Rule

These joint resolutions propose an amendment to the Florida Constitution to authorize amendments or revisions to the home rule charter of Miami-Dade County by a special law approved by a vote of the electors in that county, and provide requirements for a bill proposing such a special law. This joint resolution also authorizes the Miami-Dade charter to provide for fixed term limits of Miami-Dade County Commissioners.

On behalf of Miami-Dade County, our team was able to meet with Senator and Representative Bullard to oppose this measure. Our efforts stepped up during the final days of Session after SJR 720 was placed on the Special Order Calendar for the final day of Session.

We were fortunate enough to speak with leadership in the Senate who confirmed that this legislation would probably not be heard due to the priority of debating the 2012-13 Fiscal Year Budget and subsequent conforming bills.

Both SJR 720 and HJR 349 died on the Special Order Calendar for 2nd Reading in their respective chambers.

AHCA Medicaid Billing:

HB 5301 (Hudson)/ SB 1988 (Alexander) Medicaid

HB 5301 requires monthly deductions from the county revenue sharing equal to 85 percent of unpaid county Medicaid billings over the last decade according to state data through April 30, 2012 for 60 months, with a higher amount during the first year.

Our team was able to work with Florida Association of Counties and AFSCME, along with several other local government lobbyist, to work with members of the Senate in an attempt to kill HB 5301 relating to Medicaid Services. We were able to speak with Senator's Lynn, Bullard, Smith, Gibson, Montford, Siplin and Diaz de la Portilla about the measure and the Counties position on this measure and the inaccuracies of AHCA Medicaid funding.

Our meetings with Senator Bullard were relatively productive as she informed us that she planned on voting with the Democratic Caucus to oppose the measure. However, the Senator highlighted the provisions relating to providing KidCare programs for state workers children. She was very interested in this program and expressed how it would be beneficial to her constituents and thousands of children in her district if it passed.

This measure eventually passed with a 23-17 vote with Senators Bullard, Margolis, Ring and Rich all supporting the measure. All four Democrats publically stated that provisions that will allow children of state employees to be eligible for KidCare is the reason they supported the measure.

Several Democratic members further stated that they understood the burden placed on the counties with the AHCA Medicaid reimbursement payments. However, they believed that providing health care to thousands of uninsured children was a stronger point for them to support.

Estimates show that local governments must now come up with \$78 million for unpaid AHCA Medicaid billings this year. However, language agreed upon during the Budget Conference will allow counties to dispute the billings in administrative hearings.

Among other changes, this bill also limits reimbursements for most adult Medicaid patients to 12 emergency room visits per year.

Governor Scott signed this measure into law on March 29th.

Local Business Taxes:

HB 1063 (O'Toole)/ SB 760 (Hays) Local Business Tax

HB 1063 and SB 760 sponsored by Representative O'Toole and Senator Hays, respectively, looked to repeal the local business taxes. Language in this legislation would have a fiscally negative impact on local governments as they would no longer be able to collect this tax and use it for economic development projects.

Our team was able to speak with members of our delegation, and work alongside the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Counties, to get the right information to members of the House Finance & Tax Committee.

Our efforts were quite successful as several of our assigned members switched their commitment and were going to vote opposition of this measure. The bill was Temporarily Postponed in Committee after the bill sponsor learned that majority of the committee members were not in favor of this measure or the strain on their local governments.

In the following week, SB 760 was Temporarily Postponed in the Senate Community Affairs Committee and this bill died in committee.

2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION IN REVIEW:

GOVERNOR SCOTT STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS AND BUDGET:

Prior to the first day of Session, Governor Rick Scott delivered his annual State-of-the-State address praising several accomplishments from his first year in office. Throughout his speech he highlighted creating nearly 135,000 new private sector jobs and Florida producing the second largest drop in unemployment in the country.

Looking ahead, Governor Scott believed that the three most important jobs he has as Governor are to ensure the following:

- Floridians are able to gain employment;
- Floridians have a quality education;
- Keeping the cost of living in Florida low.

As we prepared to enter the Legislative Session, the Governor believed that the best thing our government can do for the economy is to create a level playing field for all competitors; then get out of the way so that they can compete. He further outlined his 7 Principles for the 2012 Legislative Session:

➤ **Streamlining Business Permitting and Eliminating Burdensome Rules and Regulations**

Governor Scott informed the Legislature that various state agencies have identified approximately 1,500 rule revisions that can be made to reduce overly burdensome, unnecessary, or duplicative regulations. In an effort to streamline the process, Governor Scott wants the Government Efficiency Task Force to establish temporary business permits so entrepreneurs can open their doors earlier, and employ Floridians faster.

These plans seek to create an environment that will allow Florida businesses to operate with fewer unnecessary regulations and to begin hiring faster. By establishing this procedure, businesses will have the opportunity to open their doors faster and be given a reasonable extension to achieve all their compliance within a reasonable period they will have to achieve.

➤ **Provide Tax Relief and Reform for Florida's Working Families and Businesses**

Create a tax environment that welcomes business growth and encourages investment in our state. In addition, Governor Scott wants to increase the corporate income tax

exemption from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and asks the legislature for a constitutional amendment to completely exempt any business with less than \$50,000 in tangible personal property.

The Governor plans on targeting industries that can get Floridians back to work.

- **Reform Florida’s “Unemployment” System to Create a “Reemployment” System**
The Governor still aims to create 700,000 new jobs in our state within 7 years by creating private sector jobs. He also intends to restructure our unemployment compensation system to become a reemployment center by identifying jobs and getting Floridians prepared for their next job opportunity.

The reemployment system will work with unemployed Floridians to assess the compatibility of their skills with current and future job opportunities and provide them with productivity, and economic prosperity. This program will incorporate job training programs for those on unemployment so Floridians can get back to work faster, rather than simply pay out benefits for those out of work.

- **Restoring Accountability and Credibility to Florida’s Workforce Boards**
New accountability measures to ensure that the mission of Regional Workforce Boards, who receive a portion of federal funds awarded to the state for employment-related services, are realized.

Propose legislation that will allow increased oversight ability of Workforce Boards by the office, ensuring that these boards will focus on their mission

- **Prioritizing Vital Transportation Projects to Facilitate Economic Development Opportunities**

Prioritize the advancement of port, roadway and other transportation projects that make it easier for commerce to flourish.

Funding plan to widen and deepen the Port of Miami to allow the state to capitalize on the larger Post Panamax ships that will bring cargo to and from the United States. This project will add 30,000 jobs in the coming years and allow our state to outcompete other states for the Post Panamax shipping. Governor Scott believes this transportation infrastructure investment will create direct and indirect private sector jobs and investment.

- **Offer Stability to Florida Businesses by Balancing the Budget Without Raising Taxes**

Florida must conduct themselves as everyday families and businesses do with their own budgets—by reducing spending and living within their means. The Governor plans to maintain conservative and responsible money management policies in the state budget.

Furthermore he will prioritize Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in Education. He will rely on state universities, colleges, and K-12 systems to promote economic growth and the needs of states businesses.

Governor Scott will push for Florida's universities to produce more graduates in STEM fields, increase their STEM research productivity that can be commercialized and expanded into new economic opportunities, and build strong relationships with the business community to expand services such as business incubators that will promote targeted economic growth.

In regards to small businesses, the Governor feels that taxes and regulations "are the great destroyers of capital and time for small businesses." He proposed that the Legislature focus on lowering burdensome taxes that affect small businesses and continue slashing "the red tape."

Job creation was stressed heavily during the State of the State Address. Governor Scott proposed greater accountability for the workforce boards and is also asking that legislation be passed that required job training for those individuals receiving unemployment checks.

Governor Scott further highlighted his commitment to provide quality education for all children in our state. He asked that the Legislature consider the \$2 billion investment in new state funding for education. The governor stressed that he will not budge on this issue and continued by stating that providing adequate funding for education is the single most important decision we can make for Florida's future.

In closing, the Governor stated that keeping the cost of living low will be the key to our Florida's economic recovery. He suggested that Legislature's continue to responsibly manage and reform the pension system. The Governor stated that despite a year of great returns, the pension plan still remains billions of dollars underfunded, and he suggests that we continue to monitor it closely to ensure that it does not become a liability for Florida's taxpayers or those who rely on it.

Among the Governor's priorities included a crack down on fraud and the abuse of the auto insurance system. Governor Scott outlined his commitment to reform the Personal Injury Protection and No-Fault laws.

Governor Scott encouraged the 160 member Legislative body to commit their 60-day Session to creating jobs and providing a quality education for Floridians. And he would be open to keep the lines of communication open throughout the process.

GOVERNOR SCOTT BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS:

On the first day of the 2012 Legislative Session, Governor Scott released his \$66.4 Billion Budget Recommendations for the 2012-13 fiscal year. One of the most publicized changes was Governor Scott's proposal for an additional \$1 Billion in public education spending for the 2012 calendar. In total, Governor Scott's recommendations are \$2.9 billion dollars lower than the 2011 budget.

In Governor Scott's proposal, among the 34 state departments only eight agencies will see increases in funding from the current year budget. Among these eight entities, the Agency for Agriculture and Consumer Services would receive a \$1 billion increase.

In addition to those increases, Florida Forever was re-funded with approximately \$40 million funding for Florida Everglades restoration. This amount is \$29 million more than in the current budget. Additionally, \$15 million is designated for the Florida Forever conservation land-buying program. Last year this program was not funded at all.

Some of the biggest cuts were made in the health care field, with the Agency for Health Care Administration having a recommended \$1.7 billion reduction in funding. Among the cuts Medicaid, the federal-state program for the poor and the elderly in nursing homes, would take a \$2 billion cut, \$1.7 billion comes from federal matching funds. That cut includes a \$1.8 billion reduction in reimbursements to hospitals. Medicaid currently accounts for 30 percent of the state budget.

In the \$2.9 billion decrease, the Governor intends on eliminating nearly 4,500 jobs with nearly 2,800 of these positions being eliminated from the prison system. Governor Scott also recommends that the Agency for Workforce Innovation and Community Affairs receive no funding for the 2012-13 Fiscal Year.

The overall budget received mixed reviews from members of the Florida Legislature. Senate Minority Leader Nan Rich released a statement welcoming the Governor's new found passion for funding public education but was concerned about where the governor will find the billion dollars he will commit. She further recommends that Governor Scott's administration, along with leaders in the Florida Legislature should work harder to help middle class Floridians.

Senate Budget Chairman Alexander stated that the Governor's budget is a good start, but highlighted that there were a lot more kinks to work out during the 60-Day Session.

These sentiments were echoed in the Florida House as Speaker Dean Cannon asserted that he will continue to examine the specific details of the budget and his ideas on creating a balanced budget. He continued saying that the Legislature must send the right signals to the business community to attract more out-of-state businesses to Florida.

HOUSE INITIAL BUDGET:

During the fourth week of the Legislative Session the House Appropriations Committee approved its \$69.2-billion budget that which looked to cut more than 4,700 state positions and free up more than \$1 billion in General Revenue funds for education.

Additionally, this plan would set aside \$45 million in General Revenue to keep state employee health insurance premiums at their current levels, and would allow for performance-based bonuses. At the time, Appropriations Committee Chair Representative Denise Grimsley said employees have been going without raises and the state needs to compete with other employers.

In the initial House Budget, cuts were made by eliminating positions that have not been filled in more than four months. The health and human services agencies asked for a reduction of more than 1,400 positions. While the Department of Children and Families prepared to lose almost 600 positions with the House Budget with nearly 260 positions coming from outsourcing custodial services at state mental health facilities.

Early reports highlighted that the Department of Corrections will most likely absorb some of the biggest cuts by eliminating nearly 1,400 positions because of the decline in probation officers. This consolidation effort would potentially effectively 11 state prisons and work camps across the state.

The House budget also highlighted changes in taxes that fund the Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO). These changes looked to free up more funding for school construction, including \$77 million in maintenance projects at colleges, universities, and charter schools. Representative Grimsley stated that PECO money was not provided to local school districts because they had other ways to raise revenue to pay for construction.

Although Governor Scott opposes any Higher Education tuition increases, the Florida House's initial budget proposed a tuition hike which would increase funding for colleges and universities.

SENATE INITIAL BUDGET:

During the sixth week of Session the Senate Budget Committee approved a \$70.8 billion budget. The Senate's proposal looked to eliminate nearly 3.3 percent of state jobs, most of which are vacant positions, while shifting nearly \$500 million into state trust funds into General Revenue.

The most drastic proposed pull was suggested to come from the Lawton Chiles Endowment Trust Fund which would have lost nearly \$270 million.

Additionally, the Senate budget proposed nearly allotting \$77 million to Governor Scott for economic incentives. This allocation was one-third of the \$236 million that the Governor requested in his budget proposal.

The major discrepancies between the initial House and Senate budgets were in funding for health care and transportation programs. For example, the Senate's transportation budget exceeded the initial House proposal by \$1.2 billion.

In regards to health care, the Senate's position was to not increase health insurance premiums for higher-ranking state employees while other employees receiving spouse and family coverage could see a premium hike beginning in the second half of the fiscal year. Starting in December, premiums would rise to \$263.34 per month for family coverage for employees. Currently, state employees are paying \$180 per month.

FINAL BUDGET:

The Florida Legislature approved a \$70.8 billion budget which cut 4,354 positions from the state government and shrunk the workforce by 3.6 percent. Additional cuts were made to hospitals, nursing homes and universities throughout the state.

In the final 2012 Legislative Budget nearly 2,200 positions were eliminated entirely from the Department of Corrections, which initially planned to close six prisons and outsource health care services. The DOC, which employs the largest number of state workers, saw its budget shrink by \$200 million.

Several state agencies stated that they have prepared for the budget cuts and have made policy changes so they can avoid reshuffling vacant positions.

The Department of Children and Family Services received its **second**-largest reductions, with more than 600 positions eliminated in the 2012 Legislative Budget. Like previous estimates stated, nearly 260 of those positions are coming from the outsourcing of maintenance and housekeeping positions in the state's mental health facilities and other clerical/office positions.

550 positions will also be eliminated from the Department of Health, with majority of these positions being eliminated from county health departments. The agency reports that there are more than 1,000 unfilled positions in these health departments statewide.

The 2012-13 Fiscal Year budget will sweep \$542 million from state trust funds, more than either the House or the Senate proposed in their initial spending plans, including \$350 million pulled from the Lawton Chiles Endowment Fund.

The budget also uses a combination of general revenue and lottery funds to pay for school construction projects that would have been funded with \$250 million in unused bonding authority through the cash-strapped Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) Funds.

The budget does not contain the deep cuts that Governor Scott initially proposed but does deliver several of his priorities that he outlined in his State of the State Address. Florida's 2012-13 Fiscal Year budget does include more than \$1 billion in new state funding for Pre K-12 Education, however this increase does not offset the cuts made during the 2011 Session when the state faced a bigger deficit.

The Florida House approved the budget along party lines with a 80-37 vote while the Senate passed the budget with a 32-8 vote with Republicans voting against several "turkey" projects in the budget.

REDISTRICTING:

During the opening weeks of Session both the Florida House and Senate released their redistricting maps. Both chambers detailed their maps information along with their reasoning and methods behind its structure.

Members of the Senate Reapportionment Committees acknowledged that they received 157 maps by their November 1st deadline. They continued by stating that the data gathered from the maps and voter registration demographics calculations showed that each Senate district should account for 696,345 registered voters. With each district they strived for zero deviation from this number. However, since Florida's overall population is not an exact multiple of 696,345, some districts will not have the same number of registered voters.

Throughout the meeting it was stressed that all federal and state laws were accounted for when crafting these maps. Some members of the public criticized the maps because they were concerned that these district maps were drawn to strictly accommodate racial demographics.

The House redistricting maps were less criticized by the public than the Senate maps as the Senate maps seemed to gerrymander the current district outline. The House Redistricting staff created five different maps for the Florida House of Representatives, each designed to keep county and city boundaries intact. Each district was drawn based on the voter registration figures.

In each of the redistricting maps, 49 districts were primarily Republican, 33 were designated as Democratic districts with 21 districts considered swing districts. However, according to analysis by staff members, based on the 2008 and 2010 elections only 15 counties would be reliable swing seats.

The five maps released appear to adhere to the Fair Districts amendments approved in 2010 as 34 created seats currently have no incumbent. Additionally, at least 24 incumbents are now pitted against each other in the maps.

Over the course of the final weeks of Session, the Supreme Court thoroughly reviewed the House and Senate maps. The House maps were questioned for a few hours by the Justices however proponents and opponents of the maps testified that the House maps were actually fair based on the Fair District amendments.

However, on the last day of Session, the Senate maps were rejected by the Supreme Court as they did not believe the Senate honestly took the Fair District Amendments into account when constructing these maps.

Governor Scott called for a Special Session from March 14th - March 28th to address Redistricting and getting the Senate maps in a better working order. The Special Session has since concluded and the new maps are under review by the Florida Supreme Court. If the Courts do not accept the newer maps then the Supreme Court could possibly draw the maps for the Senate.

INSURANCE:

PERSONAL INJURY PROTECTION

HB 119 (Boyd)/ SB 1860 (Negrón) Personal Injury Protection

HB 119 and SB 1860 sponsored by Representative Boyd and Senator Negrón address one of Governor Scott's top priorities, to create a new no-fault motor vehicle insurance system to replace the Personal Injury Protection (PIP) system. The original version of this legislation created the Emergency Care Coverage (ECC) Law to replace PIP, however the program was similar in several aspects.

The differences between the ECC policy is that coverage for medical services would be dependent upon the severity of the injury. Specifically, the medical benefits would be payable only under the following guidelines.

- Emergency transport and treatment by licensed ambulance providers within 24 hours after the accident.
- Emergency services and care rendered at a hospital within 72 hours after the accident.
- Services and care rendered to an insured who is admitted to a hospital within 72 hours after the accident.

- Services and care rendered to an insured who is determined more than 72 hours after the accident to have an emergency medical condition related to the initial diagnosis and arising from the motor vehicle accident.
- If the insured receives services and care pursuant to the previous 3 bullet points and subsequent services and care directly related to the medical diagnosis arising from the accident.

Language in this bill would also do the following:

- Cap attorney fee awards in individual and class action no-fault disputes, and bars the use of contingency risk multipliers in such cases.
- Creates rebuttable presumption that a diagnosis of emergency medical condition is correct.
- Tolls the 30-day payment period when fraud is suspected under specified conditions.
- Bars payments of any ECC benefits to persons who submit false statements or false information.
- Provides that compliance with ECC policy terms is a condition precedent to receipt of benefits.
- Creates rebuttable presumption that an insured's failure to appear for two examinations (mental or physical) is an unreasonable refusal or failure to submit to examination.
- Provides that compliance with all ECC policy terms is a condition precedent to receipt of policy benefits, including submission to examination under oath.

Throughout the 2012 Legislative Session, PIP Reform quietly made several dramatic changes and received opposition from members in both chambers and from both parties.

HB 119 passed the Florida House with a 85-30 vote, however it was heavily rumored that this measure might die in the Senate with the amendments filed to the bill. Particularly, Senator Diaz de la Portilla's amendment regarding attorneys fees was heavily scrutinized and debated on the Senate Floor. While leadership in the Senate viewed the amendment as unfriendly the Senate approved this amendment with a 22-18 vote.

The Senate proceeded to accept the amendment and send the bill back to the Florida House to concur with the language.

Over the final two days of Session, Governor Scott stated that if a PIP Reform bill comes to his desk that does not crack down on attorneys and providers who are driving up the costs then he will veto the measure. He continued stating that the fraud is a hidden tax that hits Floridians the hardest.

In the early morning on the last day of Session, a 66-page strike-all amendment was filed to HB 119 with language and policies agreed upon by the Governor's Office, CFO's Office, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House.

The amended version of this measure simply revised the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law and its associated provisions. The amendment revised the provision of PIP medical benefits under the

No Fault Law by requiring a covered individual to obtain treatment within 14 days in an ambulance or hospital, or from a physician, osteopathic physician, chiropractic physician or dentist.

Language in this bill further clarified that the \$10,000 PIP medical benefit is only available if a physician, osteopathic physician, dentist or supervised physician's assistant determines that the insured has an emergency medical condition. If they do not clarify the injuries as such then the PIP medical benefit are capped at \$2,500.

This amendment further eliminated PIP reimbursements for massages and acupuncturist. The PIP death benefit was also revised making it an additional \$5,000 benefit, rather than part of the \$10,000 PIP benefit, as it is in current Florida Law.

The bill further mandates that a judge would be precluded from awarding attorneys fee multipliers in PIP cases, but the strike-all amendment does not clarify that there are no caps on fees. However, the amendment would require that attorney fees comply with prevailing professional standards; not overstate or inflate the number of hours reasonably necessary for a case of comparable skill or complexity; and represent legal services that are reasonable and necessary to achieve the result obtained.

For insurers there is no rate rollback instead companies will be required to make a rate filing with the Office of Insurance Regulation in October 2012 and a second filing in March 2014. Language in the bill states that if the rates have not decreased than the insurer must include a detailed explanation of the reasons for the insurance rates not declining or be subject to a \$50,000 fine.

HB 119 was approved by the Florida House with a 80-34 vote while the Senate approved this measure with a 22-17 vote. This legislation will now head to the Governor's Office to be signed into law in the coming days.

CAT FUND

SB 1372 (Alexander)/ HB 833 (Hager) Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund

SB 1372 sponsored by Senator Alexander revises the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund (CAT) coverage limits, reimbursements percentage, retention, cash build-up factor, and optional coverage's. Language in this bill also looked to reduce the overall financial obligation of the CAT Fund. This would be possibly by reducing the amount of bonding and emergency assessments needed to fund deficits in the event that the CAT Fund has a deficit after a major hurricane.

This bill will further amend Florida Statute 215.555, F.S., primarily by reducing the CAT coverage limits, reducing the maximum reimbursement percentage, increasing the retention, increasing the cash build-up factor, and eliminating the Temporary Increase Coverage Level Option Coverage after the 2012-13 contract year.

SB 1372 received minimal opposition during the Committee process but the bill was abruptly halted in the Senate General Government Appropriations when it was Temporarily Postponed during debate, this move caused the bill to die.

CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE

SB 1346 (Oelrich)/ HB 1127 (Albritton) Citizens Property Insurance Corporation

SB 1346 and HB 1127 by Senator Oelrich and Representative Albritton, respectively, revises the assessment authority of the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation and reduces the reinsurance coverage provided by the CAT Fund.

Language in this measure reduces Citizens regular assessment from 6% per account to 2% for deficits in the Coastal Account, and further eliminates the regular assessment in the Personal Lines Account (PLA) and the Commercial Lines Account (CLA). However, the language specifies that the reduction in the Coastal account, along with the elimination of deficits in the PLA and CLA, will not reduce the overall assessment authority of Citizens. Instead, greater charges will be imposed through emergency assessments, which are normally levied on lines of property and casualty policies.

Changes were also made to policies for Citizens to promulgate and collect assessments. Citizens will now be authorized to levy the policyholder surcharge, a regular assessment for the Coastal Account, and emergency assessments upon a determination by the Citizens Board of Directors that a Citizens account has a projected deficit.

The Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) is further authorized to assist Citizens to collect assessments in any way that the OIR deems appropriate. Assessable insurers and the Florida Surplus Lines must begin collecting and paying the emergency assessment within 90-days after Citizens levies such assessments. However, this legislation expands the time limited that companies have to pay regular assessments in full from 12 months to 15 months after Citizens levies the assessment.

In regards to the CAT Fund, SB 1346 revises the coverage limits and reimbursement percentage. Language in this bill is designed to reduce the overall financial obligations of the fund further reducing the likelihood and amount of bonding and emergency assessments needed to fund deficits in the event the Fund experiences a shortfall after a major hurricane.

During the amendatory process on the Senate Floor, Senator Fasano filed an amendment to remove a provision where coverage of the State's property insurance fund would be reduced by \$2 billion over the next two fiscal years. Other members in the Senate feared that a premium increase for homeowners could increase by 2 percent over the next three years if provisions in the CAT Fund were not changed this year.

The Senate version of this bill passed the Senate with a 38-0 vote while HB 1127 passed in the Florida House 89-25 vote. This measure will now head to the Governor's Office where it will be signed into law.

DOH REORGANIZATION:

HB 1263 (Hudson)/ SB 1824 (Garcia) Department of Health

HB 1263 sponsored by Representative Hudson revises the purpose and structure of the Department of Health (DOH) by streamlining divisions by combining and renaming titles of current divisions. The bill also changes several popular state programs: Children's Medical Services, tuberculosis control, regulation of public bathing places, nursing student loan forgiveness program, and health professional licensure processes.

More specifically the bill amends the following Florida Chapters:

- Chapter 391, governing the Children's Medical Services network amending the eligibility provision to refocus the program on seriously ill children and simplify the financial eligibility process.
- Chapter 392, governing the tuberculosis control hospitalization program, removing authority for DOH to operate a state-owned hospital effective January 1, 2013. The bill further requires DOH to contract with health care providers, including hospitals and other facilities, for treatment of drug-resistant tuberculosis patients.
- Chapter 514, regulating public bathing places and swimming pools to remove authority for DOH to regulate building construction and retain its authority to regulate water quality.
- Amends s. 383011, F.S., creating a multi-agency organizational structure of the Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) program to delegate responsibility for development of the electronic benefits cards to the Department of Children and Families (DCF). The DOH is required to establish an interagency agreement with DCF for the management of the WIC program.
- Amends ss. 1009.66 and 1009.67, Florida Statutes, the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program and Nursing scholarship program, to transfer the program and the associated trust fund from the Department of Health to the Department of Education.

HB 1263 also contains a priority for Senate Majority Leader Gardiner by having an advisory council that would provide technical assistance to the Department of Developmental Disabilities. This bill will also close A.G. Holley State Hospital in Lantana, Florida, which specializes in tuberculosis treatment.

Although this bill was opposed by public health care advocates, who expressed concerns that the bill would weaken the state's public health efforts the Florida House approved this measure with a 86-29 vote while the Senate passed the measure 31-9.

This bill was enrolled and is now headed to the Governor's Office to be signed into law.

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS:

SB 1986 (Hays) Water Management Districts

SB 1986 sponsored by Senator Hays looked to lift revenue caps on Water Management District spending while requiring the legislative approval of these spending measures. Currently, Florida has five independent water management districts governed by appointed boards with the power to collect property taxes.

In recent years these districts have come under much scrutiny due to the lack of oversight by elected officials. This issue was addressed during the 2011 Legislative Session when lawmakers passed **SB 2142** which cut water management district property tax revenues by \$210 million.

While environmental groups stated that these cuts were detrimental to protecting Florida's water bodies the Legislature agreed that these board members must be held accountable for their actions and oversight needs to be placed on their taxing abilities.

Over the final weeks of Session, language was approved which would allow the Legislature to annually review preliminary water management district budgets and make adjustments based on the Water Management Districts budgets.

SB 1986 was approved by the Florida Senate with a 34-6 vote while the Florida House overwhelmingly supported the bill 117-0. This bill was engrossed and sent to the Governor's Office to be signed into law.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:

HB 503 (Patronis)/ SB 716 (Bennett) Environmental Regulation

HB 503 sponsored by Representative Patronis is a permit streamlining bill which died in the Senate during the 2011 Legislative Session. This year's measure was supported by several environmental groups as it related to permitting and the reuse of wastewater.

Language in this bill looks to streamline the permitting process and remove duplicative and burdensome regulations. Below we have included a list of provisions this bill covers:

- Prohibiting a local government from conditioning the approval for a development permit, after July 1, 2012, on an applicant obtaining a permit or approval from any other state or federal agency.
- Providing conditions under which the DEP is authorized to issue permits in advance of the issuance of incidental take authorizations as provided under the Endangered Species Act.
- Expanding the use of internet-based self-certification services for certain exemptions and general permits.
- Exempting injection wells under the State Underground Injection Control Program from permitting under part III of chapter 373, F.S.
- Requiring action on certain permit applications within 60 days of receipt of last timely requested material; precluding state agencies from delaying action because of pending approval from other local, state, or federal agencies.
- Providing for the DEP to obtain an expanded state programmatic general permit from the federal government for certain activities in waters of the U.S. governed by the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act.
- Revising the voluntary site cleanup program by raising the priority ranking score from 10 points or less to 29 points or less, and excluding expenditures associated with program

deductibles, copayments, and limited contamination assessment reports from state restoration funds available for low scored site initiatives.

- Providing that the transfer of title for a petroleum contaminated site to a child of the owner or a corporate entity created by the owner to hold title for the site does not disqualify the site from financial assistance.
- Providing expedited permitting for any inland multimodal facility receiving and/or sending cargo to and/or from Florida ports.
- Authorizing certain zones of discharges to groundwater for existing installations.
- Providing that sludge from a waste treatment works is not a solid waste.
- Allowing byproduct from the creation of renewable energy that is recycled to count towards the state recycling goal.
- Exempting new solid waste disposal areas at an already permitted facility from having to be specifically authorized in a permit if monitored by an existing or modified groundwater monitoring plan; extending the duration of permits issued to solid waste management facilities that are designed with a leachate control system and those without a leachate control system if certain conditions are met.
- Providing a general permit for a stormwater management system under 10 acres may be authorized without agency action.
- Expanding the definition of blended gasoline, defines the term alternative fuel, and authorizes the sale of unblended fuels for certain uses.
- Providing that holders of valid permits or other authorizations are not required to make payments to authorizing agencies for use of certain extensions granted under chapter 2011-139 Laws of Florida.
- Extending certain ERP and development permits for 2 years after its previously scheduled date of expiration.

HB 503 passed the Florida House 112-0 with the Senate version of this bill, SB 716, passing 40-0. The bill was engrossed and sent the Governor's office to be signed into law.

HB 999 (Dorworth)/ SB 820 (Dean) Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems

HB 999 sponsored by Representative Dorworth looks to repeal the statewide septic tank inspection requirement as part of the restricting of the Florida Department of Health (DOH). During the 2010

Legislative Session, SB 550 passed and further required septic tank inspections every five years to protect the springs and groundwater.

Efforts to repeal this measure during the 2011 Session were unsuccessful as the Florida House and Senate philosophically differed on how to properly address this issue.

The 2012 measure by Representative Dorworth looks to repeal the onsite sewage treatment and disposal system evaluation program, along with the DOH rulemaking authority for the implementation of the program.

This legislation gained support from several industrial organizations including the Florida Home Builders Association, Florida Realtors, Florida Onsite Wastewater Association and Associated Industries of Florida. However, the Sierra Club and Florida Stormwater Association are historically opposed to this measure and the repeal of the inspections.

Language in HB 999 placed further restrictions on local septic tank inspection programs and prohibited requirements that the septic tank systems be inspected when a home is being sold.

HB 999 passed the Florida House with a 105-11 vote, while the Senate version of this bill unfortunately died on the Special Order Calendar on 2nd Reading.

SB 1354 (Detert)/ HB 7003 (Crisafulli) Environmental Resource Permitting

SB 1354 and HB 7003 sponsored by Senator Detert and Representative Crisafulli direct the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to adopt statewide environmental resource permit (ERP) rules. The Water Management Districts (WMDs) and delegated local governments are directed to implement the rules without rulemaking, except to conform to existing rules.

Language in this bill further specifies the statewide ERP rules are to be based on existing DEP and WMD rules. Differences are allowed based on geographic differences in physical or natural characteristics.

The passage of these measures will allow WMDs with DEP oversight, to continue to adopt rules governing design and performance standards for storm water quality and quantity. "Grandfather" clauses are included for ongoing activities that will not be subject to the new rules. The bill requires DEP staff oversight and training to ensure statewide consistency in implementing the ERP rules. The legislation requires local governments seeking delegation to implement the ERP program to use statewide ERP rules and gives local governments that have already received delegation, one year from adoption of the rules to conform their ordinances.

HB 7003 passed the Florida House with a 115-0 vote while the Florida Senate passed this measure with a 39-0 vote. This legislation will now head to the Governor's Office for final approval.

HB 1389 (Perman)/ SB 1858 (Altman) Water Storage and Water Quality Improvements

The bill creates s. 373.4591, F.S., to specify that the Legislature encourages public-private partnerships to accomplish water storage and water quality improvements on private agricultural land. The bill also specifies that when an agreement is entered into between a water management district or the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and a private landowner to establish

such partnerships, a baseline condition determining the extent of wetlands and other surface waters on the property must be established and documented in the agreement before improvements are constructed. The determination for the baseline condition must be conducted using the methods set forth in the rules adopted pursuant to s. 373.421, F.S. The baseline condition documented in the agreement must be considered the extent of the wetlands and other surface waters on the property for the purpose of regulation under chapter 373, F.S., for the duration of the agreement and after its expiration.

The original version of HB 1389 passed in the House with a 118-0 vote however the Senate amended this bill and passed it 40-0 and was returned to the House in Messages. This amendment created a Study Committee on Investor-Owned Water and Wastewater Utility Systems.

This committee would consist of the following members:

- Chair of the Public Service Commission
- Designee from the Secretary of Environmental Protection
- One member from the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate
- One member from the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.
- Two representatives from Class A investor-owned water or wastewater utilities appointed by the Governor.
- One representative from Class B investor-owned water or wastewater utilities appointed by the Governor.
- One representative of a Class C investor-owned water or wastewater utilities appointed by the Governor.
- One customer of a Class A investor-owned water or wastewater utility appointed by the Governor.
- One customer of a Class B or Class C investor-owned water or wastewater utility appointed by the Governor.
- One representative of a water management district appointed by the Governor.
- One representative of the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association appointed by the Governor.
- One representative of the Florida Rural Water Association appointed by the Governor.
- One representative of a water or wastewater system owned or operated by a municipal or county government appointed by the Governor.
- One representative of a governmental authority appointed by the Governor.
- The chair of a county commission that regulates investor-owned water or wastewater utility systems appointed by the Governor.
- One representative of a county health department appointed by the Governor.

This amendment language is similar to language that was in HB 1379 and SB 1444 relating to Water and Wastewater Utilities. Language in the bill required that the committee consider the following:

- The ability of a small investor-owned water and wastewater utility to achieve economies of scale when purchasing equipment, commodities, or services.

- The availability of low interest loans to a small, privately-owned water or wastewater utility.
- Any tax incentives or exemptions, temporary or permanent, which are available to a small water or wastewater utility.
- The impact on customer rates if a utility purchases an existing water or wastewater utility system.
- The impact on customer rates of a utility providing service through the use of a reseller.
- Other issues that the committee identifies during its investigation.

The Study Committee on Investor-Owned Water and Wastewater Utility Systems will conduct this study by February 15, 2013 and submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and any appropriate agencies, a report detailing its findings and making specific legislative and rulemaking recommendations. The bill provides for termination of the committee on June 30, 2013.

The bill has no impact on state or local revenues or on local expenditures. However, language in the bill requires the Public Service Commission to provide staff, assistance, and facilities to support the study committee. Further, funding for the committee, including funding for travel and other reimbursable expenses of members and rental of necessary meeting facilities, will be paid from the Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund.

The House concurred with this language and passed with a 115-0 vote. This bill will now be heading to the Governor's Office to be signed into law.

HB 377 (Nunez)/ SB 182 (Garcia) Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Mitigation Plan

HB 377 and SB 182 expands the authorized use of proceeds from the water treatment plant upgrade fee to be used for seepage mitigation projects, including groundwater and surface water management structures. These structures are designed to improve the wetland habitat and must be approved by the Lake Belt Mitigation Committee.

Beginning July 1, 2012, the proceeds of the water treatment plant upgrade fee will be deposited into the Lake Belt Mitigation Trust Fund (instead of the trust fund established by Miami-Dade County to pay for water treatment plant upgrades) until:

- \$20 million is placed in the trust fund, or
- Pathogen sampling demonstrates that the water in any quarry lake in the vicinity of the Northwest Wellfield would be classified as being in Bin 2 or higher.

Furthermore, language in this bill changes the uses of the mitigation fee to require approval by the Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Mitigation Committee. The bill also specifies that proceeds of the mitigation fee be used for the management of wetlands and uplands in the Everglades watershed. Proceeds may also be used for any modifications to the existing drainage system to enhance the hydrology of the Everglades watershed in addition to the Miami-Dade Lake Belt Area.

HB 377 passed on the House floor with a 116-0 vote while SB 182 passed 37-0 in the Florida Senate. This legislation is now waiting on the Governor to sign this legislation into law.

EVERGLADES RESTORATION:

House and Senate budget negotiators to fund Everglades Restoration at \$30 million in the 2012-13 Fiscal Year budget with an additional \$23.5 million for invasive plant control which is the same amount provided by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT:

After sweeping changes to Florida's Growth Management policy during the 2011 Legislative Session, leadership in the Florida Senate outlined that they wanted to give cities and counties time to implement last year's policies prior to implementing additional changes in 2012.

SB 842 (Bennett)/ HB 7081 (Workman) Growth Management

SB 842 sponsored by Senator Bennett raised several concerns among regional planning councils and environmentalist groups throughout Session. While most experts and legislative leaders expected a relatively quiet 2012 session, in regards to growth management, SB 842 looked to ban regional planning councils from providing paid planning services for cities and counties.

Scott Koons from the Florida Regional Council's Association (FRCA) highlighted that the \$2.5 million provided for the councils last year was vetoed by Governor Scott. FRCA also acknowledged that language in SB 1180 and HB 7081, which create an alternative review option in cities and counties have them worried as well.

After the 2011 growth management law changes, at least three local governments filed a lawsuit against the State stating their referendum requirements that were passed prior to the 2011 measure. Language in the 2012 bills clarified that if a local government had referendums in place, prior to the 2011 law change, then they would not have to adhere to the new laws.

Additionally, this measure corrected several substantive glitches from the 2011 legislation along with clarifying that counties must approve land-use changes for agricultural lands, up to 640 acres, that are 90-percent surrounded by industrial, residential or commercial lands.

SB 842 passed the Florida Senate with a 38-2 vote while the House version of this bill passed with a 101-13 vote.

DEVELOPMENTS OF REGIONAL IMPACT:

HB 979 (Diaz)/ SB 1180 (Bennett) Developments of Regional Impact

HB 979 sponsored by Representative Diaz primarily deals with the development of regional impacts. Language in this bill looked to make it easier for local governments to approve larger developments instead of going through the lengthy process by the Department of Environmental Protection's division of Developments of Regional Impact.

HB 979 initially passed the House with a 112-1 vote and was sent to the Senate in Messages. When the bill was considered in the Senate an amendment was placed on the bill which would require local governments to approve land-use changes for 'agricultural enclaves' of 500-650 acres that are 95% surrounded by other land uses.

When HB 979 returned to the Florida House, several members raised concerns that this amendment was similar to language to a bill, HB 1415, which was not heard before a House Committee. However, the House Rules staff acknowledged that the amendment and bill in reference were not identical, in addition there was no specific rule that was violated with this Senate amendment.

HB 979 passed the Florida House with an 87-31 vote while the Senate also approved this measure with a 36-3 vote. The bill will now head to the Governor's Office to be signed into law.

GAMING AND DESTINATION RESORTS:

SB 710 (Bogdanoff)/ HB 487 (Fresen) Gaming

Throughout the opening weeks of the 2012 Legislative Session, legislation looking to expand the Gaming and Destination Resorts in Florida flooded the Capitol. Our team was able to attend several Revenue Estimating Conferences along with speaking with both bill sponsors on the traction each gaming measure was making and the possibility of it passing this year.

Prior to Session, our team was able to gather information on the economical impact of SB 710 when this bill was workshopped in the Senate Regulated Industries Committee. Several state and independent economists overviewed the impact of Destination Resorts in Florida and estimated that the state would possibly gain an additional \$455.7 million in revenue from the passage of the gaming legislation. However, they stated that this revenue could fluctuate depending on any amendments to these bills.

During the first Senate Regulated Industries Committee meeting of the 2012 Legislative Session, Senator Bogdanoff presented a strike-all amendment which completely overhauled the bill and would allow existing pari-mutuels to expand their gambling operations. Language in the strike-all amendment also addressed concerns of a voter referendum to approve allowing slots and the expansion of gaming.

There were an additional 14 amendments to the bill, our team has reviewed these amendments and summarized them below for your review.

- Amendment 1: Barcode 753095. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment authorized gaming at up to three Destination Resorts.
- Amendment 2: Barcode 920558. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment authorized limited gaming in pari-mutuel facilities.
- Amendment 3: Barcode 772398. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment clarifies that a limited gaming license may only be issued to a licensed pari-mutuel permit holder located in a county where a resort license has been issued. In addition,

limited gaming may be conducted only at the pari-mutuel facility at which the permit holder conducted a full schedule of live pari-mutuel racing or games prior to January 15, 2012.

The bill previously stated that a limited gaming license may be issued only to a licensed pari-mutuel permit holder, and limited gaming may be conducted only at the eligible facility at which the permit holder is authorized under its valid pari-mutuel wagering permit to conduct pari-mutuel wagering activities.

- Amendment 4: Barcode 617517. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment clarifies that if a destination resort license is issued, and after the first game is conducted at the destination resort, the tax rate on slot machine revenues at each facility shall be 10 percent.

Previously this legislation stated that the tax rate on slot machine revenues at each facility shall be 18 percent.

- Amendment 5: Barcode 254498. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment added language clarifying that a licensee shall be responsible for the total amount of the debt.

- Amendment 6: Barcode 567666. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment added language relating to language in the Voter Referendum. The language goes as follows:

Destination Resorts: SHOULD THE OPERATION OF DESTINATION RESORTS, AS DEFINED IN S. 551.302, Be Authorized In [Name of County], SUBJECT TO A \$2 BILLION MINIMUM INVESTMENT?)

Slot machine gaming at pari-mutuel facilities: SHOULD THE OPERATION OF SLOT MACHINES AT [NAME OF FACILITY IN COUNTY], BE AUTHORIZED IN [NAME OF COUNTY]?

Limited gaming at pari-mutuel facilities: SHOULD THE OPERATION OF LIMITED GAMING, AS DEFINED IN S. 551.302, AT [NAME OF FACILITY IN COUNTY], BE AUTHORIZED IN [NAME OF COUNTY]?

- Amendment 7: Barcode 659064. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment added language stating that slot machine gaming may only be conducted at the location of a pari-mutuel facility where the permit holder has conducted a full schedule of live racing games or at the facility prior to January 15, 2012.
- Amendment 8: Barcode 728640. Amendment sponsored by Senator Bogdanoff. This amendment added language stating that unless authorized by Section 23, Article 10 of the State Constitution, the division may not issue any new slot machine licenses until a destination resort licensee had begun to offer the play of limited gaming to the public.
- Amendment 9: Barcode 914244. Amendment sponsored by Senator Dean.

This amendment clarified the authorization of limited gaming of licensed pari-mutuel facilities in regards to slot machines in Broward and Miami-Dade Counties.

- Amendment 10: Barcode 335876. Amendment sponsored by Senator Dean.
This amendment stated that the tax rate on slot machine revenues at each facility shall be 10 percent instead of 35 percent. It further amended language to clarify that each licensee's pro rata share shall be an amount determined by dividing the amount paid on slot machines by each slot and resort licensee authorized to operate slot machines by the total taxes paid by all slot machine and resort licensees authorized to operate slot machines.
- Amendment 11: Barcode 443524. Amendment sponsored by Senator Dean.
This amendment was clerical in nature.
- Amendment 12: Barcode 252452. Amendment sponsored by Senator Dean.
This amendment clarified language stating that any Destination Resort licenses, licensee and any pari-mutuel facility licensed to conduct slot machines as of July 1, 2012, may possess slot machines and other authorized gaming devices and conduct limited gaming at the licensed location.
- Amendment 13: Barcode 257912. Amendment sponsored by Senator Dean.
This amendment clarified that all limited gaming shall be conducted in a designated limited gaming floor that is segregated from the rest of the resort or pari-mutuel facility so that patrons may have ingress and egress to the resort facility without entering the designated limited gaming floor.
- Amendment 14: Barcode 323610. Amendment sponsored by Senator Sachs.
This amendment added language stating that any other provision of law or a decision to give a slot machine license may be issued to an eligible facility outside Miami-Dade County or Broward County; however, such license may not authorize slot machine gaming or require payment of any license fees or regulatory fees before July 7, 2015.

Following the amendatory process, concerns were made regarding the regulation of Internet Sweepstakes Cafes rather than completely banning them in Florida. The bill sponsor relatively opposed changing information relating to Internet Cafes and allowing pari-mutuels to pay 10 percent tax on slot machines.

Senator Bogdanoff stated, "This is what I'd like to change it to: I'd like to say that you put a slot ballot outside of Miami-Dade and Broward county, and you put the destination resort. If the destination resort bill passes, parity kicks in. You only have two questions in any county in the state."

The bill passed the Senate Regulated Industries committee with a 7-3 vote with Senator's Altman, Dean, and Thrasher all opposing this measure.

Several supporters of this legislation still had concerns about this legislation and were worried about the oversaturation of the gambling market in South Florida. However, they all agreed that provisions

requiring voters to approve a referendum allowing the destination casinos in their County was ultimately a wonderful stipulation.

The following week the House Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee discussed the economic benefits that were outlined in the House version of this measure. During this meeting Committee Chair Holder and other members of the committee stressed that individuals should continue to give their own accounts of how the current laws should be changed and suggest changes that will benefit the citizens of Florida.

Weeks after the workshop it was rumored that Chairman Holder did not want to hear HB 487 in the House Business & Consumer Affairs Committee unless leadership wanted this measure to be placed on the agenda. Members of the Senate were rumored to have the same sentiment and would not move SB 710 until the House version of the bill was heard and passed in a House Committee.

After a few weeks, Representative Fresen presented HB 487 before the House Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee. During the committee presentation the sponsor filed a strike-all amendment which included language that all interested parties and proponents agreed to.

Although language in the Senate version of this measure was drastically different from the House bill, the strike-all amendment retained information relating to the operation of three destination resorts, with full casino games, in South Florida. A provision requiring a minimum \$2 billion investment from the Destination Resort and casino companies were also retained in strike-all amendment to HB 487.

However, the strike-all had several conflicts with Senate bill as HB 487 looked to ban Internet Cafes rather than regulate the Internet sweepstakes cafes. Additional language in this strike-all closed loopholes for pari-mutuels to gain permits for barrel horse racing and also provided a 10 percent tax rate on slot machines for pari-mutuels.

After extensive review of the language, Senator Bogdanoff expressed her concerns regarding the drastic differences between the two bills, but was quite hopeful that a compromise could be worked out. However, during the later part of the House Business & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting Representative Fresen asked that HB 487 be Temporarily Postponed in the so that all parties can workshop this issue and continue to work on the measure.

Chairman Holder, informed Representative Fresen that this would be the last committee meeting for the 2012 Session and the bill would essentially die if this process happened. Representative Fresen understood the ramifications of this legislative and took a moment of personal privilege to thank all the people who traveled throughout the state to speak on this issue. He continued to request that the bill be Temporarily Postponed, essentially killing the both bills for the 2012 Session.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

HB 7087 (Precourt) Economic Development

HB 7087 by Representative Precourt is the Economic Development package from the Florida House for the 2012 Legislative Session. This bill covers the following economic development items:

New Markets Development Program:

The New Markets Tax Credit Program (NMTTC) allows a tax credit to be taken against corporate income tax or insurance premium tax. This credit may be claimed after the investment has been made and held for a minimum of two years. Therefore, no credit can be claimed in the first two years after the investment has been made. In year three the credit is worth seven percent of the investment, and from the fourth year through the seventh year the credit is worth eight percent. Over seven years this credit totals 39 percent of the total investment. Any unused portion of the tax credit may be carried forward for future tax years; however, all tax credits expire on December 31, 2022. The program has a cap of \$97.5 million on the total of tax credits allowed to be allocated to all investments. No more than \$17.5 million in tax credits may be claimed in the third fiscal year and no more than \$20 million in tax credits may be claimed in any of the subsequent four fiscal years. The NMTTC does not allow the transfer or sale of tax credits, but does allow a tax credit to “travel” with the purchase of an investment to a new owner.

The bill amends statute 288.9914(3), F.S., increasing the total amount of tax credits available to be allocated for the existence of the program from \$97.5 million to \$195 million, also increasing the amount of tax credits available in a single year from \$20 million to \$40 million.

The bill also amends statute 288.9915(1), F.S., increasing from six to seven the number of years that a qualified community development entity is prohibited from making cash interest payments in excess of their operating income on long-term debt securities issued as qualified investments. The bill further provides that interest expense on debt securities will not be included in the calculation of operating income for purposes of the above limitation.

Electricity used in Packinghouses Sales Tax Exemptions:

The bill amends s. 212.08(5)(e), F.S., to specifically provide that electricity used directly or indirectly in a packinghouse is also exempt from the taxes imposed by Chapter 212 of Florida Statutes. The bill defines a packinghouse to mean any building or structure where fruits and vegetables are packed or otherwise prepared for market or shipment in fresh form for wholesale distribution.

The bill further specifies that the tax exemption does not apply to electricity used in buildings or structures where agricultural products are sold at retail.

Industrial Machinery and Equipment used by an Expanding Business Sales Tax Exemption

The bill reduces the retail tangible personal property from 10 percent to 5 percent and requires an increase in productive output in order to qualify for the exemption.

Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program

Removes the prohibition on allowing television pilots, in the general production queue, if more than 25% of credits is granted to television. Language in this measure also creates a requirement that a production wishing to claim credits for expenditures related to principal photography must have at least 50 percent of principal photography shooting days spent within Florida or must have spent at least \$10 million on qualified production expenditures within the State.

There are currently three separate categories, or “queues” of productions eligible for tax credit:

General Production Queue – Ninety-four percent of tax credits authorized in any state fiscal year must go to this queue. A qualified production that demonstrates a minimum of \$625,000 in qualified expenditures is eligible for tax credits equal to 20 percent of its actual qualified expenditures, up to a maximum of \$8 million in credits.

A qualified production spanning multiple state fiscal years may combine qualified expenditures from such fiscal years to satisfy the \$625,000 threshold. Certain off-season productions are eligible for an additional five percent tax credit. Any production that spends at least 85 percent of its expenditures within an “underutilized region” may receive an additional five percent tax credit. The program also provides an additional 15 percent credit on qualified expenditures that are compensation paid to specified students. There is a five percent bonus credit for filming at least 50 percent of principal photography at a “qualified production facility.”

A qualified high-impact television series is allowed first position in this queue under certain circumstances. High impact television series are allowed to apply for no more than two successive seasons of credits even if the second season has not yet been picked up by a network.

Any new television series or television pilot is prohibited from being allowed into the general production queue if more than 25 percent of credits over the history of the program have been granted to television.

Commercial and Music Video Queue – Three percent of tax credits authorized in any state fiscal year must go to this queue and this credit is 20% of qualified expenditures, up to a maximum of \$500,000. This provision will only exist if a minimum of \$100,000 in qualified expenditures per commercial or music video, and a total of \$500,000 in qualified expenditures occur.

The surplus tax credit remaining in this queue, at the end of the fiscal year, will rollover into a new fiscal year under the general production queue.

Independent and Emerging Media Production Queue – Three percent of tax credits authorized in any fiscal year must go to this queue and excludes commercials, infomercials and music videos.

Any qualified production, excluding commercials, infomercials, or music videos, that demonstrates at least \$100,000, but no more than \$250,000, in total qualified expenditures is eligible for tax credits equal to 20% of its qualified expenditures.

This bill removes the prohibition on allowing television pilots into the general production queue if more than 25 percent of credits, over the history of the program, have been granted to television.

Language in this bill also creates a requirement that allows any production claiming credits for expenditures related to principal photography must have at least 50 percent of principal photography shooting days spent within Florida or must have spent at least \$10 million on qualified production expenditures within this state.

Cigarette Tax Distributions:

One percent of the net cigarette tax collections will be direct to be used by the Department of Health in conjunction with the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute for biomedical

research. The current H. Lee Moffit Cancer Center and Research Institute funding distribution will increase from 1.47 percent to 2.75 of net cigarette tax collections.

Urban High-Crime Area Job Tax Credit:

Language modifies the number of qualified employees businesses must have in certain circumstances to be eligible for the tax credit.

Corporate Income Tax Exemption:

Currently, Florida imposes a 5.5% tax on the net income of corporations doing business in Florida. Changes in this bill require that the taxable years beginning January 1, 2013, the bill increases from \$25,000 to \$50,000 the amount of corporate income that is exempt from the corporate income tax.

All of the proposals in HB 7087 will go into effect on July 1, 2012. This measure passed the Florida Senate with no opposition with a 40-0 vote while the Florida House approved this legislation 117-1. HB 7087 was engrossed and should be heading to the Governor's Office to be signed into law in the coming weeks.

HB 7069 (Hukill)/ SB 1110 (Altman) Economic Development Tax Refund Programs

HB 7069 sponsored by Representative Hukill, looked to eliminate the maximum amount of tax refunds a business unit could receive over all fiscal years for both the Qualified Targeted Industry Program and the Qualified Defense Contractor and Space Flight Business Program. However, the limits imposed on the percentage of total award and the dollar amount a qualified project could receive in a fiscal year would remain in effect.

In regards to Qualified Targeted Industry Programs, language in this bill clarified that reductions approved by counties that have local financial support, shall be verified by the state in order to ensure qualified businesses receive the full tax refund allowed under the program.

Our analysis of this bill has no indeterminate negative fiscal impact on state funds; however, these programs are subject to annual appropriation by the Florida Legislature.

HB 7069 passed the Florida House with a 110 6 vote. The Senate version of this measure, SB 1110, was on the Senate Calendar for 2nd Reading during the final days of Session but the bill was not considered and died on the Senate Calendar.

HB 737 (Porter)/ SB 982 (Bogdanoff) Tax On Sales, Use And Other Transactions

SB 982 by Senator Bogdanoff establishes a 3-day Sales Tax Holiday beginning August 10-12, 2012. Language in this bill outlined that during this sales tax holiday clothing, footwear, wallets, and bags that cost less than \$75, and school supplies less than \$15 are exempt from state sales tax and county discretionary sales surtaxes.

Language in this bill exempts these items from being purchased at theme parks, an entertainment complex, public lodging establishment, or airport.

Over the course of the 2012 Session, the Senate and House differed on the days in which the sales tax holiday should occur. The House believed that the holiday should be during August 3-5 instead of the Senates proposal for August 10-12.

The House version of this measure, HB 737 passed on the House floor with a 115-0 vote. The Senate refused to concur with the language in the approved by the House and bumped the item to the Budget Conference. However, this measure was not addressed during Conference and SB 982 died in the Senate Budget Committee.

HB 337 (Williams)/SB 576 (Bennett) Public Private Partnerships

HB 337 establishes the Florida Public-Private Partnership Act and provides for private entities to develop and operate public-private projects as it relates to procurement, consideration, and approval of contracts. This Act will be an alternative to the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act. Language in this bill specifies the requirements for such a partnership and creates a Public-Private Partnership Advisory Commission.

The House version of this measure passed the Florida House with a 95-20 vote while the Senate version of this bill, SB 576, died in the Senate General Government Appropriations Committee.

SB 1274 (LATVALA)/ HB 1015 (HOOPER) Tourist Development Tax

SB 1274 by Senator Latvala allows counties to use the tax revenues from the tourist development tax for purposes related to publicly owned and operated aquariums, including the acquisition, construction, maintenance, or promotion of such aquariums.

The Senate version of this measure passed with a 38-2 vote while the House version of this bill, HB 1015, passed in the House with a 113-0 vote. This bill is now enrolled and waiting to be signed into law by the Governor.

SB 2122 (Detert) Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program

SB 2122 by Senator Detert makes substantial changes to the Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program by removing the limitation on the amount of tax credits available for high-impact television series. In addition it would create a new priority order for high-impact digital media projects.

Finally, it would expand the additional tax credits for off-season productions, productions in underutilized regions, and productions that occur at a qualified production facility or a qualified media production facility.

While this bill had promise of passing both chambers the measure inevitably died in the Senate Budget Finance & Tax Committee.

SB 1514 (Detert)/ HB 1085 (Steube) Tax on Sales, Use, And Other Transactions

This bill would require out-of-state retailers who have Florida affiliates with at least \$10,000 in sales, must collect and remit sales tax. Language in this bill changes situations where an out-of-state retailer may be required to collect and remit Florida sales tax:

1. When a person with substantial nexus to Florida does one of a number of acts, including selling a similar line of products as a dealer or operates under the same name and uses similar trademarks as a dealer, then the dealer must collect and remit Florida sales and use tax.
2. If the dealer enters into an agreement with one or more Floridians, under which the person directly or indirectly refers potential customers to the dealer for a commission or other consideration, and the cumulative gross receipts for referrals are in excess of \$10,000 in a 12 month timeframe.

As you know, Florida has no personal state income tax, the state primarily depends on consumption-based taxes for its general revenue. Sales tax collections make up over 70 percent of General Revenue with a sales tax of 6 percent being levied on tangible personal property sold at retail in Florida.

SB 1514 passed the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee along with the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee. However, the bill died in Committee after the House version of the bill, HB 1085, was not heard in a single committee.

LEGISLATION RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

SB 440 (Bennett)/ HB 1489 (Boyd) Initiatives and Referenda

These bills sponsored by Senator Bennett and Representative Boyd authorize local government to retain and implement initiatives or referendum processes in regard to local comprehensive plan amendments or map amendments which were in effect as of June 1, 2011.

SB 440 passed the Florida Senate with a 39-0 vote and was sent to the Florida House in Messages. However, since HB 1489 was not heard in a single committee in the House this measure inevitably died in House Messages.

HB 479 (O' Toole)/ SB 654 (Hays) Animal Control

HB 479 sponsored by Representative O'Toole looks to expand the list of drugs that can be used to euthanize and/or immobilized domestic animals. The bill allows agencies to obtain drugs for the purpose of chemical immobilization using the same permit for obtaining drugs for euthanasia. This legislative measure further allows the Board of Pharmacy, at the request of the Board of Veterinary Medicine, to expand the list of drugs used to euthanize or immobilize domestic animals if findings support the addition of drugs for humane and lawful treatment of animals.

Language in this measure also provide the following:

- Limits the possession and use of these drugs to animal control officers, employees of animal control agencies and humane societies.
- Clarifies that the Department of Health (DOH) is responsible for issuing the permit, by removing an outdated reference to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Provides the Department of Health and the Board of Pharmacy with the authority to deny a permit, fine, place on probation, or otherwise discipline an applicant or permittee for failure to maintain certain standards or violation of statutes.

- Allows the Department of Health to immediately suspend a permit through emergency order upon a determination that the permittee poses a threat to public health, safety and welfare.
- Eliminates food-based delivery of euthanasia drugs as an acceptable method to euthanize.
- Permits euthanasia by intracranial injection only upon a dog or cat which is unconscious and exhibits no corneal reflex.
- Requires an animal control officer, a wildlife officer, and an animal disease diagnostic laboratory, to report to the Department of Health knowledge of any animal bite, diagnosis or suspicion of a group of animals having similar disease, or any symptom or syndrome that may pose a threat to humans.

Our analysis of this measure shows no significant fiscal impact on state or local government.

As previously reported, HB 479 passed the Florida House with a 116-0 vote while SB 654 passed in the Senate with a 39-0 vote. This legislation is now headed to the Governor's Office to be signed into law.

HB 809 (Grant)/ SB 1060 (Bogdanoff) Communications Services Tax

CS/HB 809 updates and modernizes a number of definitions related to the communications services tax:

- The term "cable service" is replaced with "video service."
- The term "internet access" is defined through reference to federal statute.
- Definitions for the terms "digital good" and "digital service" are provided and both terms are exempted from the communications services tax.
- The definition of "sales price" is revised to allow additional nontaxable items to be billed together in a single line item on a customer's invoice without the entire amount of the line item being taxable.

The provisions that govern the assignment of customers to local taxing jurisdictions are revised to modify the liability of a communications services tax dealer in the event of underpayment of the tax resulting from assigning a service address to the incorrect local taxing jurisdiction.

Over the final week of the 2012 Legislative Session, it was heavily rumored that the CST Reform was dead after varying differences between the House and Senate bills. On February 25th, HB 809 passed through the Florida House with a 115-0 vote. However, leaders from the Florida Association of Counties and telecommunications industry came to an agreement and during the final days of Session the Senate agreed to accept the House version of this measure.

The Senate passed SB 1060 with a 39-0 vote. This measure was engrossed and sent to the Governor's Office to be signed into law.

SB 1460 (Simmons)/ HB 673 (Brodeur) Local Vendor Preference Ordinances

SB 1460 and HB 673 sponsored by Senator Simmons and Representative Brodeur, respectively, preempt and supersede legal or local ordinances which grant preferences to vendors in a competitive solicitation for personal property or construction services. This process will only apply to property or services which are paid for with state funds.

Language in this bill preempts ordinances which give preference to vendors maintaining an office or place of business within a local taxes, assessments, or duties within a particular local jurisdiction. The bill also requires local governments (including school districts) to disclose whether payment will come from state funds and account for the amount of such funds.

SB 1460 was Temporarily Postponed in the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee where it inevitably died while the House version of this bill, HB 673 died in the House State Affairs Committee.

TERM LIMITS:

HJR 785 (Wood)/ SJR 1070 (Ring) Term Limits/County Officers

HB 785 filed by Representative Wood proposes term limits for County Commissioners when provided by County Charter. This legislation would place a measure on the November ballot to authorize term limits on county commissioners when provided by county charter. This provision would exempt constitutional officers, such as sheriffs, tax collectors, property appraisers, and the supervisor of elections.

HJR 785 passed with the Florida House with a 116-0 vote but the Senate version of this measure died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

PENSION REFORM:

HB 7079 (Patronis)/ SB 2024 (Ring) State Retirement

During the 2011 Session, the Legislature passed SB 2100. SB 2100 made several changes to the Florida Retirement System (FRS), including the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program (SMSOAP), the State University System Optional Retirement Program (SUSORP), and the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program (SCCSORP).

The bill corrects drafting errors and makes other conforming and clarifying changes that are necessary as a result of the passage of Senate Bill 2100. Language in this bill:

- Clarifies that the provisions of part I of the Florida Retirement System Act, are applicable to parts II and III of the act, provided the provisions are not duplicative or inconsistent.
- Revises the definition of “vesting” and “normal retirement date” to make clarifying changes.
- Allows members of the SMSOAP, the SUSORP, and the SCCSORP to receive a benefit distribution of up to 10 percent of their account balance one month after termination.
- Clarifies that the current prohibition on hardship loans, for purposes of the SMSOAP, the SUSORP, and the SCCSORP, does not apply to a requested distribution for retirement, a mandatory de minimums distribution authorized by the administrator, or a required minimum distribution provided pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.
- Conforms the deferral age for participants of the Deferred Retirement Option Program initially enrolled in the FRS on or after July 1, 2011, to changes made in Senate Bill 2100.

- Makes it clear that a retiree of the FRS investment plan, the SMSOAP, the SUSORP, and the SCCSORP, who is reemployed on or after July 1, 2010, is prohibited from being reenrolled as a renewed member of a state-administered retirement system.
- Clarifies that members of the SUSORP may receive payment of benefits from either annuity contracts or investment contracts.
- Provides that the term “benefit” for purposes of the SUSORP means a distribution taken by the member, or surviving beneficiary, funded in part or in whole by employer and employee contributions. A rollover distribution to another qualified plan qualifies as a distribution.
- Provides that members of the SUSORP may not receive benefits funded by voluntary personal contributions until after termination from employment for 3 calendar months. The change conforms the provision governing the payout of voluntary contributions with those for the payout of mandatory employee contributions.

HB 7079 passed the Florida House with a 108-8 vote while SB 2024 by Senator Ring passed the Senate with a 39-0 vote.

HB 365 (Costello)/ SB 910 (Hays) Public Retirement Plans

Throughout the 2012 Legislative Session, the pension measure was stalled heavily in the Senate even though the House continued to push this measure until the very last day of Session. HB 365 and SB 910 sponsored by Representative Costello and Senator Hays would return the retirement age for police and firefighters to 55, or 25 years of service. This change would undue a controversial change lawmakers made during the 2011 session in regards to pension reform.

Unions that represent other employees, including firefighters, have objected the provisions intended to offset the cost of that move to the state’s retirement fund. The differences in the House and Senate positions on this reform stalled the measure in the Senate when Senator Ring, Chair of the Governmental Oversight and Accountability committee, postponed the measure.

Senator Rings major concern was that unions and cities have not been able to agree on a separate pension measure that would give cities more control over revenue from a tax on insurance premiums. He stated that if there was no progress this year then he intends to make this a top priority next session.

Inevitably, SB 910 died in the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability while HB 365 died in the House State Affairs Committee.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION:

HB 1289 (Brodeur)/ SB 312 (Simmons) Additional Homestead Exemption

HB 1289 and SB 312 sponsored by Representative Brodeur and Senator Simmons, respectively, will provide an additional homestead exemption for property taxes. Language in this measure proposed a Constitutional Amendment that will create a new tax exemption for the first \$400,000 in property value of homestead property, and give lawmakers the authority to adjust the exemptions.

Over the course of the 2012 Legislative Session, the Florida Association of Counties openly opposed the bill stating that local governments could lose an excess of \$570 million a year statewide.

Additionally, property tax revenues have recovered more slowly than the economy as a whole, and could still take a few years to return to pre-recession levels without a new property tax exemption.

Both sponsors stated that they were willing to make changes that would soften the impact on rural counties which already have narrow tax bases but were steadfast in stating that Florida homeowners need an additional tax break.

Over the course of Session, questions were raised as to how this Constitutional Amendment could possibly interact with Amendment 4, another property tax measure passed during the 2011 Legislative Session.

HB 1289 passed its first committee of reference but was Temporarily Postponed in the House Community & Military Affairs Committee and died. Prior to the House bill stalling SB 312 was moving through its first three committees of reference, but was Temporarily Postponed in the Senate Finance & Tax Committee.

Both measures were not presented before another committee and died.

SJR 1064 (Detert)/ HJR 1003 (Eisnaugle) Tangible Personal Property/Additional Exemptions

SJR 1064 and HJR 1003 sponsored by Senator Detert and Representative Eisnaugle respectively would give Florida businesses nearly a \$20 million annual tax break. These measures propose a Constitutional Amendment which would increase the exemption on tangible personal property taxes from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Provisions in this bill gave county and municipal governments more flexibility to adjust the tax rate so they will not feel the strain of the tax break.

Both of these measures were the top legislative priorities for Governor Scott. He believes that these tax breaks will spur economic activity throughout the Florida.

HJR 1003 passed the Florida House with a 112-2 vote while the Florida Senate passed their version of this measure with a 40-0 vote. This legislation will now be sent to the Governor's Office to be signed into law and placed on the November ballot for Florida voters.

INTERNET CAFÉ:

HB 3 (Plakon)/SB 428 (Oelrich) Relating To Prohibition of Simulated Gambling Devices

This year Representative Plakon sponsored HB 3 which looked ban the operation of Internet Cafes in Florida. This measure received opposition from various Veteran Affairs groups and members of the Internet Café industry.

The House and Senate ideologically had different positions on this measure, with the Senate looking to regulate this industry while the House looked for an entire ban of Internet Cafes. Proponents of this measure took the Senate's position as a complete ban of this industry would cost approximately 10,000 veterans their jobs.

SB 428, the Senate version of this measure, was Temporarily Postponed in the Senate Regulated Industries committee after the bill sponsor, Senator Oelrich, realized he did not have the votes needed to pass this bill.

Attempts were still made to push this measure as HB 3 passed the Florida House with a 72-43 vote and was sent to the Senate in Messages. This measure eventually died in Senate Messages while the SB 428 died in committee.

PUBLIC HOSPITAL TAXING DISTRICT:

HB 107 (Caldwell)/ SB 192 (Bennett) Relating To Special Districts

HB 107 and SB 192 sponsored by Representative Caldwell and Senator Bennett will allow the governing body of an independent special district, created by the Legislature, to authorize to initiate voluntary merger proceedings with another special district. This may be enacted through a joint resolution approved by a majority of the governing board members of each independent special district.

When presented before their respective committees, neither the House or Senate versions of this measure received any opposition.

HB 107 passed the Florida House with a 118-0 vote with SB 192 passing with a 32-0 vote. This measure will now go to the Governor's Office to be signed into law.

ETHICS:

SB 1560 (Thrasher) Ethical Requirements for Public Officers

SB 1560 sponsored by Senator Thrasher clarifies that a member of the Florida Legislature may not work for, or contract with, a state university or State College System while in office, or the two years subsequent of leaving office. This ethics measure had the support of several lawmakers including Rules Chairman Thrasher and Majority Leader Andy Gardiner. However, the legislation was defeated with a 6-6 tie vote after members raised concerns about provisions barring legislators from working at state universities.

Supporters of the measure, included incoming Senate President-designee Gaetz who adamantly stated that this measure was targeted at lawmakers, such as former-House Speaker Sansom, who developed a special relationship with a university in his district soon after taking office.

Language in this bill required that the state Commission on Ethics review disclosure forms and gave officials additional time to correct any errors that were found. One of the major concerns addressed in this legislation was the fact that public officials would not have a conflict of interest if they keep their assets were held in a blind trust account.

WATER NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS:

HB 7051 (Williams)/ SB 2060 (Dean) Numeric Nutrient Criteria

HB 7051 and SB 2060 sponsored by Representative Williams and Senator Dean, respectively, looked to waive the federal mandate for numeric nutrient requirements in Florida's water bodies. This measure has been pushed by the Legislature over the last three years but was finally a success this

year. HB 7051 passed the Florida House with a 118-0 vote while the Senate version of this measure passed with a 38-0 vote.

Governor Scott signed this legislation into law on February 16th. Since this measure was signed into law the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has further agreed to delay implementing the federal pollutions limits in Florida. Representatives from the EPA stated that they prefer that Florida create its own numeric nutrient criteria and the federal agency will withdraw its pollution limits if it approves the state rules.

PRISON PRIVATIZATION:

SB 2038 (Thrasher)/ HB 7083 (Glorioso) Privatization of Correctional Facilities

SB 2038 sponsored by Senator Thrasher would direct the Department of Management Services to work with the Department of Corrections (DOC) to competitively procure the services of contractors for the management and operation of correctional facilities and satellite facilities currently operated by the DOC.

This measure would affectively privatized prisons in Manatee, Hardee, Indian River, Okeechobee, Highlands, St. Lucie, Desoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Glades, Martin, Palm Beach, Hendry, Lee, Collier, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties.

This was a major priority for Senate President Mike Haridopolos as he saw this move saving the state \$16.5 million for the 2012-13 Fiscal Year. However, not all members of the Florida Senate, and majority party, agreed with the idea to privatize prisons throughout those counties and members killed the bill on the Senate floor with a 19-21 vote.

Senate Democrats were joined by Senators Dean, Diaz de la Portilla, Dockery, Evers, Fasano, Latvala and Oelrich in defeating this legislation.

Pittman Law Group is happy to have been able to represent you and your interests in the Florida Legislature this Session. If you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to work on behalf of Miami-Dade County.

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MEMORANDUM

To: Joe Rasco
Via electronic mail

Copy To: Jess McCarty
Juan del Cerro

From: Gary Rutledge
Diana Ferguson
Ryan Anderson

Date: March 13, 2012

RE: **2012 Legislative Session, Week 9 and Final Report**

The legislative session came to a close at midnight last Friday night. After much discussion of potential conforming bill controversies, all of the budget and conforming bills passed and the session came in for a smooth landing.

This session was marked by a number of controversial issues, including gaming, personal injury protection (PIP) for motor vehicle insurance, depopulation of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation (Citizens), and education issues among others, with very little passing at the end. Early in the session, gaming discussions took up a significant amount of time, particularly on the Senate side. After those discussions fizzled, with no bills passing, the Legislature turned its attention to the budget. In spite of a significant shortfall, the House and Senate concluded its negotiations in a timely manner. PIP and Citizens both took up a considerable amount of time in debate during the last days of session, with PIP passing and the Citizens bill dying in the House.

The Governor has convened a Special Session on redistricting to begin on Wednesday of this week, following the Florida Supreme Court's ruling which invalidated eight of the 40 proposed Senate districts. The Legislature will soon begin the process of redrawing those districts. All 120 proposed House districts were found to comply with the requirements of Florida law.

County Priorities

Medicaid

HB 5301 passed in the waning hours on the last day of session. This bill gives counties the option of taking a 15% discount on the billing backlog and paying it out over five years, or appealing 100% of the backlog (with no discount for any amounts that are found to actually be owed). Miami-Dade County is opposed to this legislation, which would force counties to pay bills that are incorrect or duplications. Budget Committee Chairman JD Alexander has committed to working with the counties through the Joint Legislative Budget Committee over the next few months to further resolve this issue so that counties are not treated unfairly. However, the Florida Association of Counties has launched a veto campaign against the bill.

Deep Dredge

Amendment language providing for a summary hearing for the deep dredge permit was amended onto several bills during the last days of session, including a budget conforming bill, SB 1998 relating to Transportation, which passed as part of the budget package.

Scrap Metal

HB 885 passed on the last day of session, near the end of the floor action. REP, Becker Poliakoff team members, and others worked hard to retain local authority in this bill. However, the secondary metals recyclers and business interests lobbied hard to preempt local governments. The bill as passed allows Miami-Dade County one additional year to amend its ordinance with requirements that are more stringent than the new state law. This will give the County's task force time to make recommendations that can be incorporated into the ordinance.

Pretrial

REP met with Representative Trujillo regarding HB 875 and Senator Garcia regarding SB 1730. Senator Garcia agreed to participate on a conference call with Miami-Dade County Corrections staff to learn more about the County's program. We worked with a coalition of other interested local governments on a coordinated legislative strategy. These bills were not heard.

Gaming

The Senate Regulated Industries Committee spent a significant amount of time on gaming, and specifically whether to authorize destination resorts in Florida. The Committee passed SB 710 by Senator Bogdanoff following a number of workshops on the issue. Miami-Dade County was cautiously optimistic about the prospect of gaming, but of course asked for a share of the revenue and local regulatory control. Unfortunately, the bill provided for neither. However, the bill was never heard again after passing its first committee. After spending little time on gaming, the House finally took up HB 487 by Representative Fresen in the Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee's last meeting. The subcommittee did not have the votes to pass this bill, and it was temporarily postponed after Chair Holder made it clear that this would in effect kill the bill.

Other County Issues

Growth Management Supermajority Amendment

Amendments began to surface late in session that would have preempted local supermajority vote requirements for comprehensive plans. REP worked with the League of Cities and others on this issue. Points of order were raised to all bills on which the language appeared, and it did not pass on any bill.

Local Business Tax

REP worked with a coalition of individual local governments, the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities to oppose SB 760 by Senator Hays and HB 1063 by Representative O'Toole. These bills would have partially repealed the local business tax, with some exceptions for money that is bonded. Local governments would not have been allowed to bond this money going forward. These bills would have had a \$16 million fiscal impact to Miami-Dade County. Both bills were temporarily postponed in committee when the votes were not available to pass them and they both died in committee.

Local Bids

HB 825 by Representative McBurney and SB 1186 by Senator Hays would have required local governments to competitively bid contracts rather than doing the work themselves under certain circumstances. Miami-Dade County provided detailed information to Representative McBurney demonstrating that the County already bids out most of its work, but that this bill would still have a significant fiscal impact on the County. REP worked to ensure these bills never received a hearing.

Eminent Domain

HB 193 by Representative Ford and SB 1504 by Senator Evers contained provisions that would have restricted the County's ability to exercise eminent domain. REP met with Representative Ford to discuss numerous technical and legal problems with the bill. We were successful in preventing these bills from being heard.

Ocean Outfalls

HB 989 by Representative Gonzalez and SB 724 by Senator Diaz de la Portilla would have delayed the study requirement that passed in the initial outfalls legislation by one year and would have delayed implementation of advanced wastewater treatment by two years. It also would have contained a 5% peak flow provision that would have allowed the County to save approximately \$850 million in infrastructure costs. HB 989 passed the House. However, SB 724 died in the Budget Committee, despite an aggressive lobbying campaign waged by REP and lobbyists for other affected local governments. Politics appear to have been at play on this issue, as happened late in session last year as well. REP will work with County staff and the coalition of other affected parties to begin developing a strategy for next year's legislation.

Lake Belt Mitigation Plan

HB 377 by Representative Nunez passed both chambers and now goes to the Governor for final action. This bill diverts money intended for a wastewater treatment upgrade for Miami-Dade County to seepage wall projects for Everglades Restoration for a period of time, and then returns the flow of money to the County for its project. The County was neutral on this bill.

Reclaimed Water

HB 639 by Representative Young implements the recommendations of the Reclaimed Water Working Group, which included representatives of local government utilities, Water Management Districts, and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The provisions of this bill provide incentives for local government utilities to invest in reclaimed water and will prevent them from being penalized for making those investments. The bill passed on the last day of session.

Numeric Nutrient Criteria

HB 7051 passed both chambers and was signed by the Governor. This bill directs the DEP to submit its numeric nutrient rules to the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for review under the Clean Water Act. It is intended to protect Florida's objective of a unitary, state-run nutrient program. The state's proposed numeric nutrient rules will now be sent to EPA for approval.

Regulatory Reform

HB 503 by Representative Patronis passed both chambers and now goes to the Governor for final action. This bill was significantly amended throughout the legislative process to address the concerns of stakeholders. The bill is an attempt to streamline the regulatory process generally, and provides for the creation of certain general permits and the expanded use of internet self-certification.

Environmental Resource Permitting

HB 7003 creates a consistent system of permitting for environmental resource permits among the DEP, the Water Management Districts, and local governments that have delegation. The bill passed both chambers and DEP has already begun to work on rulemaking to implement this bill.

Agritourism

HB 1251 by Representative Ford and SB 1496 by Senator Evers would have preempted local regulations pertaining to agritourism operations. The bills were never heard.

Taxicab Accessibility

As filed, SB 1392 by Senator Benacquisto and HB 1201 by Representative Nunez would have required local taxicab companies to maintain a certain number of handicap accessible taxicabs. The bills sparked outrage among the taxicab companies, who argued that the needs of the handicap community were already being met and this bill would only serve to benefit a company that manufactures the accessible vehicles. SB 1392 was significantly amended to provide a tax credit for the purchase of handicap accessible vehicles and to create a study of urban areas in Florida, including Miami-Dade County, to determine whether accessibility needs are being met. However, the bill died in committee and HB 1201 never received a hearing. The tax credit provision passed in HB 7087, an economic development bill that was part of the budget package.

Animal Control

HB 597 by Representative Abruzzo and SB 818 by Senator Bennett were controversial bills that aimed to mandate so-called “no-kill” guidelines on county animal control agencies. Many counties, including Miami-Dade County, are voluntarily implementing local strategies to increase adoptions and reduce intake. However, opponents of the bill argued that its provisions were inflexible and would have resulted in significant costs to county agencies as well as numerous unintentional but inhumane consequences. SB 818 passed after lengthy debate for two weeks in the Community Affairs Committee. HB 597 was never heard. Redrafted versions of this language were run as amendments near the end of session, but each of these attempts failed.

Budget

Beaches

The beach program was funded at approximately \$21.7 million. The County does not have a project on the list this year because County projects have been funded for the last two years and do not currently require any additional state monies. However, it is important for the program to continue to be funded so that this money will still be available the next time the County requires funds. If it should ever be zero funded, it would be difficult to keep the program going.

Petroleum Storage Tanks

The storage tank compliance verification program is funded at \$7 million. This money goes to local governments, including Miami-Dade County, to conduct compliance inspections. REP and others successfully fought off a proposed cut to this program. Further cuts would have resulted in another reduction in the frequency of inspections and a further reduction in compliance.

The local government cleanup contracting program is funded at \$7 million. This money goes to local governments, including Miami-Dade County, to hire local contractors for petroleum cleanup. This figure is the same amount received by the program last year.

The preapprovals program for petroleum cleanup is funded at \$125 million. This money goes to fund the projects on DEP’s cleanup list by ranking. Last year, the program received \$128

million, so this represents a minor cut to the program. However, the initial proposed cut was much larger. REP and others worked to reduce the cut in order to prevent the stoppage of lower-ranked projects mid-cleanup that would have to start all over again as they get worse and become higher ranked.

Air

The air pollution control program is funded at \$5.4 million. This money goes to local governments, including Miami-Dade County, to implement the federal Title V program. This figure is the same amount received by the program last year.

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**Gomez Barker
Associates, Inc.**

Memorandum

To: Gary Rutledge, Diane Ferguson, Jess McCarty, and Joe Rasco
From: Fausto B. Gomez
CC: Manny Reyes, Evan Power
Date: May 29, 2012
Re: Legislative Report (Week of March 5th, 2012)

Subsequent to a re-adjustment of the responsibilities assigned to each lobby team, following is a listing of issues ultimately delegated to this firm and a report on our activities regarding same. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or require additional information.

In reviewing this report, please note that the transportation-related appropriations are a component of the Florida Department of Transportation's Five Year Work Program and final information will be provided after the Governor's veto(s) and FDOT's rebalancing of its accounts.

HOME RULE CHARTER

Issue

SB720 and HB349 were filed as joint resolutions to allow the Miami-Dade Home Rule Charter to be amended or revised by special law subsequently approved by the electors of Miami-Dade County. A legislative bill proposing such a special law would have to be approved at a meeting of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation and filed by a member of such. The joint resolutions also authorize the Miami-Dade charter to provide for fixed term limits of Miami-Dade County Commissioners.

Status

Both SJR720 and HB349 died on calendar, thus preserving Miami-Dade's unique Home Rule Charter. This item was assigned to each of the County's legislative consultants and subsequent to a meeting on February 13th, at which Mr. McCarty and I discussed a strategy involving members of the Board of County Commissioners and specific

consultant assignments covering every Representative and Senator as well as the message, we were tasked with lobbying Representatives Garcia and Steinberg and Senators Alexander, Altman, Dockery, Evers, and Wise. Previously, we had been asked to approach Senators Fasano and Lynn. Senator Lynn was subsequently re-assigned.

Although the issue did not come for a vote on the respective floors, we spoke to each of our responsibilities and reported that Representatives Garcia and Steinberg (prior to his resignation) and Senators Dockery, Altman, Fasano, and Evers were going to support Miami-Dade County. Senator Wise was not and it was difficult to receive a commitment from Senator Alexander since he was Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and was focused on the budget and conforming bills.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION RESOLUTIONS

Captive Insurance Companies (R-626-11)

Issue

SB610 and HB379 were filed to authorize expanding the lines of coverage that Captive Insurance companies can offer in Florida.

Status

CS/CS/HB1101 relating to insurance incorporates the language of SB610 and HB379 and it was approved on March 8th. It will soon be on the way to the Governor. Senator Latvala amended SB1620, the companion to CS/CS/HB1101, and the Captive Insurance provisions were adopted onto CS/CS/HB1101 when the Senate bill was laid on the table. Because of this, SB610 or HB379 were unnecessary.

Rev. Jorge Comesanas Way Street Designation (R-817-10)

Issue

Road designation for Rev. Jorge Comesanas Way

Status

HB7039, which was the road designation vehicle for this past session, designates S. W. 87th Avenue between 8th Street and Coral Way as Rev. Jose Comesanas Way. It will soon be on the way to the Governor.

Tri-Rail (R-931-11)

Issue

Support the efforts of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) opposing FDOT language to change the makeup of their Board. This would diminish the impact and influence of the Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties; each of which financially contributes to the SFRTA.

Status

After numerous permutations and amendments, the comprehensive transportation bill CS/CS/CS/HB599, which passed the legislature on the last night of session, maintains the membership, appointments, impact, and influence of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. However, the makeup of the SFRTA is changed from 9 voting members to 10 with

the Governor now appointing 3 members instead of 2 and the ex-officio representative of the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation now serving as a voting member. The key is that in order to privatize any administrative function(s) of the SFRTA would require a two-thirds vote of the membership. Additionally, Tri-Rail is authorized to expand into Monroe County.

APPROPRIATIONS

I. PUBLIC WORKS

Venetian Causeway Bridge Replacement

Issue

Support an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for the complete replacement of the twelve bridges of the Venetian Causeway. There are no County funds available for this project

Status

Although the State Transportation Trust Fund was not "swept" this past legislative session, it usually takes the Florida Department of Transportation from two to three weeks after the conclusion of the session to reconcile projects and budget dollars. We understand that an appropriation for the Venetian Causeway is included in the Five Year Work Program and will transmit the final allocation immediately upon the FDOT making the assignment. This is the same process as followed every year. Last year this strategy helped procure a \$1.5 million grant to Miami-Dade for this purpose.

Tamiami Canal Historic Swing Bridge Replacement

Issue

Support an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for the design and construction of a replacement of the Tamiami Canal Historic Swing Bridge. There are local funds in the amount of \$19,000,000 through the General Obligation Bond program.

Status

This item was funded at a level of \$16 million by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) during the legislative interim and as a consequence of legislative efforts during the 2011 legislative session. The focus of our attention this year was preserving the State Transportation Trust Fund so that these dollars were available and could be disbursed to Miami-Dade County.

Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS)

Issue

Support an appropriation of \$50,000,000 to fund high-speed hybrid wireless and fiber optic communications, video surveillance, advanced detector system, software enhancements, signal re-timing, and a new traffic control center. These items are all associated with full implementation of the Advanced Traffic Management System.

Status

Although the State Transportation Trust Fund was not “swept” this past legislative session, it usually takes the Florida Department of Transportation from two to three weeks after the conclusion of the session to reconcile projects and budget dollars. We understand that an appropriation for the Advanced Traffic Management System is included in the Five Year Work Program and will transmit the final allocation immediately upon the FDOT making the assignment. This is the same process as followed every year. Last year this strategy helped procure a \$2.2 million grant to Miami-Dade for this purpose.

FDOT Funding/State Transit Block Grant Funding

Issue

Support FDOT and State Transit Block Grant Funding at the current levels.

Status

The State Transportation Trust Fund, which funds the State Transit Block Grant Funding, was not swept this past legislative session. We were joined in our lobbying efforts by the Florida Public Transit Association as well as other counties and municipalities that support public transit.

POLICY

1. SOLID WASTE

Local Solid Waste Program Grant Funding

Issue

Support reinstating funding generated from waste tire fees for illegal dumping and other solid waste programs on a pro-rata basis based on the counties in which the fees are generated.

Status

Senate Appropriations Chairman J.D. Alexander is a strong proponent of maintaining the current revenue stream to small counties. We will continue to work with our delegation to advance a fairer distribution, but most probably will have to wait for Senator Alexander to finish his term at the end of this year to obtain traction.

Renewable Energy

Issue

Support the preservation and enhancement of existing initiatives that support the production of renewable energy produced at the Resources Recovery Facility.

Status

HB7117, the comprehensive energy legislation approved on March 9th, maintains the definition of renewable energy to include municipal solid waste (366.91, F. S.) as well as provides incentives for the production and distribution of energy produced from renewable resources. For fiscal year 2012-13 a total of \$5 million in tax credits are allocated and for FY2013-14 a total of \$10 million in tax credits is allocated.

Additionally, the legislation provides incentives for any renewable energy facility opened after May 1, 2006 or expanded after that date at a total cost of 50% or more of its assessed value. I understand that the Resource Recovery Facility has been expanded and enhanced and this may provision

Recycling

Issue

Maintain the policy implemented last year that waste to energy counts towards the recycling goal. Currently, recycling credits are provided for the production of renewable energy from solid waste. The existing language provides that recycling credits are applied at a rate of 1 ton of recycled material per megawatt-hour of renewable energy produced. An additional credit of 1 ton is counted where a county with a renewable energy production from solid waste has a debt service payment related to its facility.

Status

The policy that waste to energy counts toward the recycling goal was maintained. However, HB503 adjusts the recycling credit from 2 to 1.25. The impetus for this change was that some counties were reporting recycling rates above 100% and the sponsor of this legislation, Rep. Jimmy Patronis, proposed this modification on behalf of Covanta and the waste to energy plant in Panama City. Interestingly, Covanta is also the contractor of the Miami-Dade Resource Recovery Facility and Jess McCarty asked for Solid Waste meet with Covanta to determine the purpose and impact on Miami-Dade. To the best of my knowledge, Miami-Dade was the only community that has expressed opposition to the proposal and subsequent to the request from Mr. McCarty the Department of Solid Waste did not express any opposition to this proposal.

Notwithstanding the new 1.25 standard, Miami-Dade's recycling rate from waste-to-energy is 57% and when added with recycling of construction and demolition debris it is above the 75% standard.

2. FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT

Industry Incentives

Issue

Restore state incentives for film and television to continue to attract high impact productions.

Status

High-impact television is economic development for Miami-Dade County and incentives for it have been enhanced. The percentage amount of the sum total of tax credits for high impact television has increased from 25% to 45% and the first priority in the queue for tax credits awards not currently certified shall be given to high impact television and high impact digital media projects. Rep. Steve Precourt, Chair of the House of Representatives Finance and Tax Committee, during the 2011 Session diminished the amount of tax credits for high-impact television in order to favor digital media projects. In the legislative interim he worked with film and television industry groups and supposedly was going to adjust the policy. That did not occur and Sen. Nancy Detert, Chair of the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee, filed a committee bill on behalf of the film and television industry. That language was subsequently

amended onto the comprehensive tax package (HB7087) and the House accepted the amendment.

3. Transportation

Metropolitan Planning Organization/Bus Benches

Issue

Oppose proposals that mandate one Metropolitan Planning Organization per urbanized area and that impose on local governments the cost of indemnifying FDOT for any non-complying bus bench with regard to the American with Disabilities Act.

Status

a) Metropolitan Planning Organization

Both the Senate and House comprehensive transportation bills mandated that only one Metropolitan Planning Organization be empanelled per urbanized area. The reason given was that this was going to be a federal mandate and Florida was simply being "ahead of the curve." It was finally agreed that language would be added to the bills that said "to the extent possible, only one MPO shall be designated for each urbanized area or group of contiguous urbanized areas." And it requires the approval of the existing MPO for that to happen. Irma San Roman was pleased with this change. This is included in HB599.

b) HB599 now simply states that all bus benches and transit shelters installed within the right-of-way limits of the State Highway System shall comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), that any local government that have authorized the installation of bus benches or transit shelters shall remove them from the right-of-way of the State Highway System within 60 days of being advised in writing that said installations are not in compliance, and that any local government that has authorized the installation of bus benches or transit shelters within the right-of-way of the State Highway System must require the private supplier to hold harmless the FDOT for any violations of the ADA.. The previous language required local governments to obtain permits from FDOT that non-conforming installations had 30 days to be removed, and that liability for any non-conforming structure rested with the local government.



2012 MIAMI-DADE SESSION SUMMARY

HB 355/SB 206 – Public Meetings

HB 355 and SB 206 were filed by Rep. Kiar and Senator Negron, respectively, and pertained to public speaking at meetings where official action would be taken. Over the course of the 2012 session, many changes were made to the legislation to take care of requests made by cities and counties. While Miami-Dade County was happy with the bill as passed unanimously off of the Senate floor, it ultimately died in House messages.

HB 521/SB 992 – Relating to State Preemption of the Regulation of Hoisting Equipment

HB 521 amends s. 489.113, F.S., to preempt to the state and prohibit all local regulation of hoisting equipment, unless the regulation is otherwise federally preempted by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration under 29 C.F.R. parts 1910 and 1926. Local regulation that is prohibited and preempted to the state includes, but is not limited to, local worksite regulation regarding hurricane preparedness or public safety.

Dutko worked with Jess McCarty and sponsors Rep. Artiles and Senator Bennett, as well as their staff, throughout the session. While we initially worked to keep the Senate language, which was more descriptive than the blanket preemption in the House bill, Miami-Dade County ultimately agreed to take Rep. Artiles House version. HB 521 passed unanimously.

HB 997/SB 1322 – Dangerous Dogs

HB 997 would have removed the exemption for breed-specific local ordinances adopted prior to October 1, 1990. Local governments could continue to use home rule authority to place additional restrictions or requirements on owners of dangerous dogs above that which exists in state law. However, no additional regulation or restriction would have been allowed to be breed-specific. Therefore, Miami-Dade County would have no longer been able to enforce its breed-specific pit bull ordinance.

This was one of the biggest issues for Miami-Dade County and Dutko worked diligently to ensure that we spoke with sponsors, legislators, staff and others about the negative impacts this would have on the County. After many meetings with Rep. Trujillo, he agreed to temporarily postpone (TP) his bill on the House floor, which effectively killed it for the session. Rep. Trujillo agreed to TP his bill because the County agreed to place the question on the ballot.

HB 547 – Community Redevelopment Agencies

HB 547 was filed by Representative Fresen and SB 840 by Senator Diaz de la Portilla. The bills aimed to solve numerous problems that exist with Community Redevelopment Agencies, many that have plagued Miami-Dade County. The conversations we had with legislators, staff and the sponsors were productive and a great step in dealing with the existing CRA troubles. Some cities felt their CRAs were being unfairly targeted and raised numerous concerns in committee hearings. While Dutko and the sponsors worked to modify the legislation and talk with committee members to alleviate these concerns, but still deal with the issues at hand, the bill died in committee on a vote of 12-12.

HJR 55/SJR 838 - Homestead Assessment Limitation/Senior Citizens

HJR 55 and SJR 838 proposed an amendment to the State Constitution that would have allowed the Legislature by general law to permit counties and municipalities to limit ad valorem tax assessments applicable to their respective levies to the previous year's assessed value for homestead property that is subject to the current local option low-income senior exemption. The limitation could have applied if the market value of a homestead property is no more than 150 percent of the average homestead market value in the county. The House bill successfully passed off of the House floor, but the Senate bill got bogged down in committee and ultimately died.

HJR 169 – Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption for Seniors

In the last week of session, HJR 169 passed unanimously through both chambers and is now headed to the governor. This joint resolution provides for a proposed constitutional amendment to be placed on the ballot at the November 2012 general election. The proposed amendment to Article VII, section 6 of the Florida Constitution would authorize the Legislature, by general law and subject to conditions set forth in the general law, to allow counties and municipalities to grant an additional homestead tax exemption for certain low income seniors. The exemption would be equal to the assessed value of the property with a just value less than \$250,000. To qualify, a person must have maintained permanent residence on the property for not less than 25 years, must be at least 65 years of age and must have a household income less than \$20,000.

HB 511/SB 668 – Relating to Workers' Compensation

The repackaged drugs fight was a big one in Tallahassee during the 2012 session. The legislation would have limited the amounts dispensing physicians can charge for drug repackaging. The bill was backed by business groups and many others, but fought hard by physicians. Dutko met with many legislators and worked with Jess McCarty and the County's Workers' Compensation department on the issue. Though the bill had a lot of support, it also had a lot of opposition and died in the Senate Budget Committee along with hundreds of other bills that were stuck there.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BILL REPORT 2012

Miami-Dade 2012

Sorted by Bill Number

HB 0055 **Relating to Homestead Assessment Limitation/Senior Citizens** Nuñez
Homestead Assessment Limitation/Senior Citizens: Proposes amendment to s. 4, Art. VII of State Constitution to authorize counties & municipalities to limit assessed value of homesteads of low-income senior citizens.
7/18/2011 HOUSE Filed
9/15/2011 HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Committee; Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee
9/15/2011 HOUSE Now in Finance & Tax Committee
10/12/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 10/14/11, 9:00 AM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
12/5/2011 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Finance & Tax Committee, 12/06/11, 11:00 AM, 17 H - Workshop
12/6/2011 HOUSE Workshopped by Finance & Tax Committee
1/12/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Finance & Tax Committee, 01/17/12, 10:45 am, 17 H
1/17/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Finance and Tax Committee; 22 Yeas, 0 Nays
1/18/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
1/19/2012 HOUSE Now in Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee
1/27/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee, 01/31/12, 9:00 am, 212 K
1/31/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; 14 Yeas, 0 Nays
1/31/2012 HOUSE Now in Economic Affairs Committee
2/6/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Economic Affairs Committee, 02/08/12, 8:00 am, 102 H
2/8/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Economic Affairs Committee; 16 Yeas, 0 Nays
2/9/2012 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
2/20/2012 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 02/22/12
2/22/2012 HOUSE Read Second Time
2/23/2012 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 116 Yeas / 0 Nays)
2/24/2012 SENATE In Messages
3/5/2012 SENATE Received; Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Budget
3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Community Affairs

Similar

SB 0838 **Relating to Homestead Assessment Limitation/Low-income Senior Citizens** (Diaz de la Portilla)

SB 0078 **Relating to Electrical Contracting** Wise

Electrical Contracting; Revising the authority of municipalities and counties to require that certain electrical journeyman be present on certain industrial or commercial construction sites, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

8/30/2011 SENATE Filed

9/21/2011 SENATE Referred to Regulated Industries; Community Affairs

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Regulated Industries

Compare

HB 0683 **Relating to Electrical Contracting** (Perman)

HB 0169 **Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption for Seniors** Oliva

Additional Homestead Tax Exemption for Seniors; Proposes amendment to s. 6, Art. VII of State Constitution to authorize Legislature, by general law, to allow counties & municipalities to grant additional homestead tax exemption equal to assessed value of homestead property, if property has just value lower than specified amount, to owner who has maintained permanent residency on property for specified duration, who has attained age 65, & whose household income does not exceed specified amount. Effective Date: Not Specified

9/20/2011 HOUSE Filed

10/3/2011 HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Committee; Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee

10/3/2011 HOUSE Now in Finance & Tax Committee
 10/12/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 10/14/11, 9:00 AM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 12/21/2011 Bill to Be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 12/22/2011, 9:00am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 1/4/2012 Bill to Be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 1/6/12, 9:00am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 2/3/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Finance & Tax Committee, 02/07/12, 3:45 pm, 404 H
 2/7/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Finance & Tax Committee; 22 Yeas, 0 Nays
 2/8/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
 2/9/2012 HOUSE Reference to Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee removed; Remaining reference to Economic Affairs Committee
 2/9/2012 HOUSE Now in Economic Affairs Committee
 2/15/2012 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 02/17/12, 9:00am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 2/15/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Economic Affairs Committee, 02/17/12, 8:00 am, 102 H
 2/17/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Economic Affairs Committee; 17 Yeas, 0 Nays
 2/17/2012 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 2/20/2012 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 02/22/12
 2/22/2012 HOUSE Read Second Time
 2/23/2012 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 116 Yeas / 0 Nays)
 2/24/2012 SENATE In Messages
 3/5/2012 SENATE Received; Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Budget
 3/9/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Budget; Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading; Substituted for SB 1740; Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 40 Yeas / 0 Nays)
 3/9/2012 HOUSE Ordered enrolled
 3/16/2012 HOUSE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed
 4/13/2012 Signed by Officers and filed with Secretary of State
 4/19/2012 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 04/25/12, 9:00 am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)

Compare

SB 1738 Relating to Homestead Exemptions For Seniors (Garcia (R))

Similar

SB 1740 Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption (Garcia (R))

Linked

HB 0357 Relating to Homestead Exemptions for Seniors (Oliva)

SB 0206

Relating to Public Meetings

Negron

Public Meetings; Requiring that a member of the public be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard before a board or commission takes official action on a proposition before a board or commission of any state agency or authority or of any agency or authority of any county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision; providing that the opportunity to be heard is subject to rules or policies adopted by the board or commission; authorizing a court to assess reasonable attorney fees in actions filed against a board or commission, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

9/14/2011 SENATE Filed

9/21/2011 SENATE Referred to Rules Subcommittee on Ethics and Elections; Rules; Governmental Oversight and Accountability

12/21/2011 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules Subcommittee on Ethics and Elections, 01/11/12, 10:15 am, 412 K

1/11/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Rules Subcommittee on Ethics and Elections; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/12/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed

1/12/2012 SENATE Now in Rules

1/18/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 01/23/12, 1:00 pm, 110 S

1/23/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Rules; 14 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/24/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed

1/25/2012 SENATE Now in Governmental Oversight and Accountability

1/27/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 02/01/12, 3:30 pm, 110 S
2/1/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Governmental Oversight and Accountability; 10 Yeas, 0 Nays
2/2/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C3) Filed
2/3/2012 SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
2/9/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 02/13/12
2/13/2012 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendments Adopted (458634, 111746); Ordered engrossed
2/13/2012 SENATE Engrossed Text (E1) Filed
2/14/2012 SENATE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 40 Yeas / 0 Nays)
2/23/2012 HOUSE In Messages
3/9/2012 HOUSE Died in Messages

Identical

HB 0355 Relating to Public Meetings (Kiar)

SB 0218 Relating to Tax on Transient Rentals

Lynn

Tax on Transient Rentals; Requiring that persons who engage in certain business activities related to transient rentals collect the tax; providing definitions; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules to exclude certain charges from the definition of the terms "total rent" or "total consideration"; requiring certain persons to report and remit the tax on certain transient rentals; providing requirements, procedures, and limitations; requiring the Department of Revenue to provide for an amnesty for certain unpaid taxes, penalties, and interest; providing criteria for qualifying for the amnesty; providing exclusions from application of the amnesty; authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules to implement the amnesty; providing for the effective period of such rules, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

9/14/2011 SENATE Filed

9/21/2011 SENATE Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Community Affairs; Budget

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Commerce and Tourism

Compare

HB 1393 Relating to Taxation Of Transient Rentals (Brodeur)

SB 1888 Relating to Taxation Of Transient Rentals (Gardiner)

HB 0251 Relating to Property Assessments

Workman

Property Assessments: Revises factors that property appraiser must consider when deriving just valuation of property; provides conditions & limitations relating to property appraiser's use of certain property transactions to arrive at just valuation; provides for retroactive application. Effective Date: upon becoming a law and shall apply retroactively to January 1, 2012

10/3/2011 HOUSE Filed

10/17/2011 HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Committee; Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee

10/17/2011 HOUSE Now in Finance & Tax Committee

10/24/2011 Bill to Be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 10/26/11, 10:00 am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)

11/1/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 11/03/11, 1:30 PM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)

11/8/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 11/10/11, 1:30 PM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)

11/21/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 11/28/11, 1:30 PM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)

1/24/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Finance & Tax Committee, 01/26/12, 2:30 pm, 17 H

1/26/2012 HOUSE Temporarily postponed by Finance & Tax Committee

3/9/2012 HOUSE Died in Finance and Tax Committee

Identical

SB 0928 Relating to Property Assessments (Altman)

SB 0272 Relating to Telecommunications Access System

Wise

Telecommunications Access System; Recognizing that the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act mandates additional safeguards ensuring that persons who have a hearing loss are able to access Internet-based and digital

communications; requiring that the Public Service Commission establish a recovery mechanism that requires commercial mobile radio service providers to impose a monthly surcharge on its subscribers; providing for the distribution of wireless mobile devices to qualified persons; requiring that the commission annually ensure that public safety and health care providers are complying with the requirement to purchase and operate telecommunications devices for the deaf or any other appropriate telecommunications devices and submit a report of its findings to the advisory committee, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012
 9/19/2011 SENATE Filed
 10/4/2011 SENATE Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Budget
 3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

SB 0292 Relating to Legal Notices

Bennett

Legal Notices; Requiring that, after a specified date, if a legal notice is published in a newspaper, the newspaper publishing the notice shall also place the notice on a website maintained by the newspaper, at no additional charge; providing that an error on a newspaper or statewide website shall be considered a harmless error and legal notice requirements shall be considered met if the notice published in the newspaper is correct; limiting the rate that may be charged for government notices required to be published more than once in certain circumstances; requiring that plain notice to the licensee to be posted on the front page of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation's website and provided to certain news outlets, etc. Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2012, and shall apply to legal notices that must be published on or after that date.

9/20/2011 SENATE Filed
 10/4/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget
 12/21/2011 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/12/12, 8:00 am, 412 K
 1/12/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Community Affairs; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays
 1/17/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
 1/18/2012 SENATE Now in Judiciary
 2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/16/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
 2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
 2/15/2012 SENATE Meeting cancelled - Judiciary, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
 2/16/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Judiciary; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays
 2/20/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed
 2/21/2012 SENATE Now in Budget
 2/22/2012 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations
 2/22/2012 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations
 2/24/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Budget Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations, 02/28/12, 2:15 pm, 110 S
 2/28/2012 SENATE Favorable by Budget Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations; 14 Yeas, 0 Nays
 2/29/2012 SENATE Now in Budget
 3/5/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Budget
 3/5/2012 SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 3/6/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/08/12
 3/8/2012 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendment Pending (920062); Temporarily Postponed on Second Reading
 3/8/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/09/12
 3/9/2012 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendment Withdrawn (920062); Substituted for HB 0937; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 0937

Compare

HB 0481 Relating to Clerks of Court (Pilon)

SB 0860 Relating to Clerks of Court (Wise)

Identical

HB 0937 Relating to Legal Notices (Workman)

HB 0307

Relating to Workers' Compensation Certificate-of-exemption Process

Bernard

Workers' Compensation Certificate-of-exemption Process: Redefines term "employee" for

purposes of workers' compensation; revises requirements relating to election of exemption from coverage to include applicability to members of limited liability companies; revises requirements for submitting notice of election of exemption; revises duties of DFS relating to expiration of certificates of exemption; expands applicability of requirements relating to certificates of exemption. Effective Date: upon becoming a law

10/7/2011 HOUSE Filed

10/28/2011 HOUSE Referred to Insurance & Banking Subcommittee; Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee

10/28/2011 HOUSE Now in Insurance & Banking Subcommittee

11/9/2011 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Insurance & Banking Subcommittee, 11/16/11, 8:00 am, 404 H

11/16/2011 HOUSE Favorable by Insurance & Banking Subcommittee; 13 Yeas, 1 Nay

11/16/2011 HOUSE Now in Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee

11/29/2011 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, 12/06/11, 3:30 PM, 17 H

12/6/2011 HOUSE Favorable by Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays

12/6/2011 HOUSE Now in Economic Affairs Committee

1/10/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Economic Affairs Committee, 01/12/12, 11:30 am, 102 H

1/12/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Economic Affairs Committee; 15 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/12/2012 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

1/20/2012 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 01/24/12

1/24/2012 HOUSE Read Second Time

1/25/2012 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 113 Yeas / 2 Nays)

2/2/2012 SENATE In Messages

3/5/2012 SENATE Received; Referred to Banking and Insurance; Commerce and Tourism; Budget Subcommittee on General Government Appropriations; Budget

3/8/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Banking and Insurance; Commerce and Tourism; Budget Subcommittee on General Government Appropriations; Budget; Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading; Substituted for SB 0676; Read Second Time; Amendment Adopted (487606); Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 36 Yeas / 1 Nay)

3/8/2012 HOUSE In returning messages

3/8/2012 HOUSE Received from Messages; Amendments Adopted (766547, 484103); Concurred with Amendment as amended (247306); Passed (Vote: 97 Yeas / 20 Nays)

3/8/2012 SENATE In returning messages

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in returning Messages

Compare

HB 0941 Relating to Insurance (Holder)
 Relating to Department of Financial Services

HB 5505 (Government Operations Appropriations
 Subcommittee)

Identical

SB 0676 Relating to Workers' Compensation Certificate-of-exemption Process (Smith (C))

SB 0312 Relating to Rescinding and Withdrawing House Joint Resolution 381 (2011) Simmons

Rescinding and Withdrawing House Joint Resolution 381 (2011); Rescinding and withdrawing House Joint Resolution 381 (2011), which relates to ad valorem taxation, contingent upon adoption of a joint resolution proposing alternative amendments to the State Constitution, etc.

9/21/2011 SENATE Filed

10/4/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget

11/4/2011 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 11/14/11, 1:30 pm, 412 K

11/14/2011 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays

11/14/2011 SENATE Now in Judiciary

11/28/2011 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 12/07/11, 2:00 pm, 110 S

12/7/2011 SENATE Favorable with CS by Judiciary; 6 Yeas, 0 Nays

12/8/2011 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed

12/9/2011 SENATE Now in Budget

12/13/2011 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

12/13/2011 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
 1/20/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax, 01/25/12,
 8:30 am, 301 S - Workshop
 1/25/2012 SENATE Workshopped by Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
 2/20/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax, 02/23/12,
 8:00 am, 301 S
 2/23/2012 SENATE Temporarily Postponed by Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
 3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

Linked

SB 0314 Relating to Ad Valorem Taxation (Simmons)

SB 0314 Relating to Ad Valorem Taxation

Simmons

Ad Valorem Taxation; Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to allow the Legislature by general law to prohibit increases in the assessed value of homestead and specified nonhomestead property if the just value of the property decreases, reduce the limitation on annual assessment increases applicable to nonhomestead real property, provide an additional homestead exemption for owners of homestead property, authorize the Legislature to adjust the amount of the exemption, provide that the additional exemption is to be reduced by the difference between the just value and the assessed value, delay a future repeal of provisions limiting annual assessment increases for specified nonhomestead real property, and provide effective dates, etc.

9/21/2011 SENATE Filed
 10/4/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget
 10/18/2011 Bill to Be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 10/26/11, 10:00 am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 11/1/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 11/03/11, 1:30 PM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 11/3/2011 Bill removed from Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 11/03/11,
 1:30 PM, 117 K
 11/4/2011 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 11/14/11, 1:30 pm, 412 K
 11/8/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 11/10/11, 1:30 PM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 11/14/2011 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays
 11/15/2011 SENATE Now in Judiciary
 11/28/2011 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 12/07/11, 2:00 pm, 110 S
 11/30/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 12/02/11, 1:30 PM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 12/7/2011 SENATE Favorable with CS by Judiciary; 5 Yeas, 1 Nay
 12/7/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 12/09/11, 9:00 am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 12/8/2011 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
 12/9/2011 SENATE Now in Budget
 12/13/2011 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
 12/13/2011 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
 1/4/2012 Bill to Be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 1/6/12, 9:00am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 1/20/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax, 01/25/12,
 8:30 am, 301 S - Workshop
 1/25/2012 SENATE Workshopped by Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
 1/25/2012 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 01/27/12, 9:00am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 2/1/2012 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference;
 02/03/12, 9:00am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
 2/20/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax, 02/23/12,
 8:00 am, 301 S
 2/23/2012 SENATE Temporarily Postponed by Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
 3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

Linked

SB 0312 Relating to Rescinding and Withdrawing House Joint
 Resolution 381 (2011) (Simmons)

HB 0321 Relating to Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement

Rehwinkel Vasilinda

Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement: Revises definitions; specifies certain facilities that are exempt from transient rentals tax; deletes application of brackets for calculation of sales & use taxes; revises criteria establishing circumstances under which taxes on sale of prepaid calling arrangements are due; deletes application of brackets for calculation of sales & use taxes; limits \$5,000 cap on discretionary sales surtax to sale of motor vehicles, aircraft, boats, manufactured homes, modular homes, & mobile homes; provides criteria to determine situs of certain sales; deletes provisions relating to mail-order sales; requires purchasers of direct mail to use direct-mail forms; provides criteria for determining location of transactions; revises exemptions from sales & use tax for food & medical products; provides for computation of taxes due based on rounding instead of brackets; deletes procedures for refunds of tax paid on mail-order sales; provides amnesty for uncollected or unpaid sales & use taxes for sellers who register under Streamlined Sales & Use Tax Agreement; provides for adoption of emergency rules; repeals provisions pertaining to taxation of mail-order sales. Effective Date: January 1, 2013

10/11/2011HOUSE Filed

10/28/2011HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Committee; Appropriations Committee

10/28/2011HOUSE Now in Finance & Tax Committee

3/9/2012 HOUSE Died in Finance and Tax Committee

Compare

SB 0430 Relating to Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement
(Lynn)

HB 1181 Relating to Revenue-Neutral Tax Reform (Costello)

HB 0349 Relating to Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter Lopez-Cantera
Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter: Proposes amendment to s. 6, Art. VIII of State Constitution to authorize amendments or revisions to Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter by special law approved by vote of electors of county; requires that such special law be proposed & approved at meeting of local legislative delegation & filed by member of that delegation; conforms references to reflect county's current name. Effective Date: Not Specified

10/13/2011HOUSE Filed

10/28/2011HOUSE Referred to Economic Affairs Committee; State Affairs Committee

10/28/2011HOUSE Now in Economic Affairs Committee

11/8/2011 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Economic Affairs Committee, 11/15/11, 4:00 pm, 102 H

11/15/2011HOUSE Favorable by Economic Affairs Committee; 18 Yeas, 0 Nays

11/15/2011HOUSE Now in State Affairs Committee

12/1/2011 HOUSE On Committee agenda - State Affairs Committee, 12/08/11, 9:00 AM, 17 H

12/8/2011 HOUSE Favorable by State Affairs Committee; 15 Yeas, 0 Nays

12/8/2011 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Similar

SB 0720 Relating to Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter
(Garcia (R))

HB 0355 Relating to Public Meetings Kiar

Public Meetings: Requires that member of public be given reasonable opportunity to be heard before board or commission takes official action on proposition before board or commission of any state agency or authority or of any agency or authority of any county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision; provides that opportunity to be heard is subject to rules or policies adopted by board or commission; specifies certain exceptions; provides requirements for rules or policies governing opportunity to be heard; provides that compliance with requirements of act is presumed under certain circumstances; authorizes court to assess reasonable attorney fees in actions filed against board or commission; provides that any action taken by board or commission which is found in violation of act is not void; provides that circuit courts have jurisdiction to issue injunctions for purposes of act. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

10/13/2011HOUSE Filed

10/28/2011HOUSE Referred to Government Operations Subcommittee; Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee; State Affairs Committee

10/28/2011HOUSE Now in Government Operations Subcommittee

1/23/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Government Operations Subcommittee, 01/25/12, 8:00 am, 306 H

1/25/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Government Operations Subcommittee; 14 Yeas, 0 Nays
 1/30/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
 1/31/2012 HOUSE Now in Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee
 2/1/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee, 02/03/12, 9:00 am, 306 H
 2/3/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Rulemaking and Regulation Subcommittee; 11 Yeas, 3 Nays
 2/3/2012 HOUSE Now in State Affairs Committee
 2/20/2012 HOUSE Committee agenda - State Affairs Committee, 02/22/12, 9:00 am, 212 K
 2/22/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by State Affairs Committee; 15 Yeas, 0 Nays
 2/23/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed

Identical

SB 0206 Relating to Public Meetings (Negron)

HB 0357

Relating to Homestead Exemptions for Seniors

Oliva

Homestead Exemptions for Seniors: Authorizes board of county commissioners of county or governing authority of municipality to adopt ordinance granting additional homestead tax exemption equal to specified amount, or additional homestead tax exemption equal to assessed value of property with just value lower than specified amount, or both such exemptions, to owner who has maintained permanent residency on property or permanent residency on property for specified duration, who has attained age 65, & whose household income does not exceed specified amount; provides definitions applicable to such additional exemption; provides applicability of requirements relating to adoption of local ordinance granting such exemption; provides appropriation; provides application. Effective Date: upon the approval of HJR 169 at the general election to be held in November 2012 or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose, and shall first apply to the 2013 tax roll

10/13/2011HOUSE Filed
 10/28/2011HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Committee; Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee
 10/28/2011HOUSE Now in Finance & Tax Committee
 2/3/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Finance & Tax Committee, 02/07/12, 3:45 pm, 404 H
 2/7/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Finance & Tax Committee; 23 Yeas, 0 Nays
 2/9/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
 2/10/2012 HOUSE Reference to Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee removed; Remaining reference Economic Affairs Committee
 2/10/2012 HOUSE Now in Economic Affairs Committee
 2/15/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Economic Affairs Committee, 02/17/12, 8:00 am, 102 H
 2/17/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Economic Affairs Committee; 17 Yeas, 0 Nays
 2/17/2012 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 2/20/2012 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 02/22/12
 2/22/2012 HOUSE Read Second Time
 2/23/2012 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 115 Yeas / 0 Nays)
 2/24/2012 SENATE In Messages
 3/5/2012 SENATE Received; Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Budget
 3/9/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Budget; Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading; Substituted for SB 1738; Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 39 Yeas / 0 Nays)
 3/9/2012 HOUSE Ordered enrolled
 3/16/2012 HOUSE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed
 3/23/2012 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act on this bill by 04/07/12)
 4/6/2012 Approved by Governor; Chapter No. 2012-57
 4/19/2012 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 04/25/12, 9:00 am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)

Compare

SB 1738 Relating to Homestead Exemptions For Seniors (Garcia (R))

SB 1740 Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption (Garcia (R))

Linked

HB 0169 Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption for

Seniors (Oliva)

SB 0430 Relating to Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement Lynn

Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement; Specifying certain facilities that are exempt from the transient rentals tax; providing that an exception relating to food and drink concessionaire services from the tax on the license or rental fee for the use of real property is limited to the space used exclusively for selling and distributing food and drinks; limiting the \$5,000 cap on discretionary sales surtax to the sale of motor vehicles, aircraft, boats, motor homes, manufactured homes, modular homes, and mobile homes; authorizing the Department of Revenue to use electronic means to notify dealers of changes in the sales and use tax rates; revising exemptions from the sales and use tax for food and medical products; providing for the registration of sellers, the certification of a person as a certified service provider, and the certification of a software program as a certified automated system by the governing board under the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2013

10/4/2011 SENATE Filed

11/2/2011 SENATE Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Budget

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Commerce and Tourism

Compare

HB 0321 Relating to Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement
(Rehwinkel Vasilinda)

HB 1181 Relating to Revenue-Neutral Tax Reform (Costello)

HB 0511 Relating to Workers' Compensation Hudson

Workers' Compensation; Authorizes authorized physician who is also dispensing physician to dispense & fill prescriptions; prohibits DFS, employer, or carrier from selecting pharmacy, pharmacist, or dispensing practitioner claimant must use in certain circumstances; revises requirements for determining amount of reimbursement for repackaged or relabeled prescription medication; provides limitations. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

10/28/2011 HOUSE Filed

11/4/2011 HOUSE Referred to Insurance & Banking Subcommittee; Health & Human Services Committee; Economic Affairs Committee

11/4/2011 HOUSE Now in Insurance & Banking Subcommittee

11/30/2011 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Insurance & Banking Subcommittee, 12/07/11, 9:00 am, 404 H

12/7/2011 HOUSE Favorable by Insurance and Banking Subcommittee; 14 Yeas, 1 Nay

12/7/2011 HOUSE Now in Health & Human Services Committee

2/7/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Health & Human Services Committee, 02/09/12, 8:15 am, 404 H

2/9/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Health and Human Services Committee; 16 Yeas, 1 Nay

2/9/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed

2/20/2012 HOUSE Now in Economic Affairs Committee

2/23/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Economic Affairs Committee, 02/24/12, 8:30 am, 212 K

2/24/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Economic Affairs Committee; 15 Yeas, 2 Nays

2/27/2012 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Compare

SB 0668 Relating to Workers' Compensation Medical Services
(Hays)

HB 0521 Relating to State Preemption of the Regulation of Hoisting Equipment Artiles

State Preemption of the Regulation of Hoisting Equipment: Preempts to state regulation of certain hoisting equipment; provides that act does not apply to regulation of elevators or to airspace height restrictions. Effective Date: April 6, 2012

10/31/2011 HOUSE Filed

11/4/2011 HOUSE Referred to Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee; Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee

11/4/2011 HOUSE Now in Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee

1/9/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee, 01/11/12, 3:30 pm, 102 H - PCS

1/11/2012 HOUSE Official vote not reported by Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee; Votes

expected to be reported 01/12/12

1/12/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee on 01/11/12; 15 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/13/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed

1/17/2012 HOUSE Now in Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee

1/27/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee, 01/31/12, 9:00 am, 212 K

1/31/2012 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; 14 Yeas, 0 Nays

2/1/2012 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed

2/2/2012 HOUSE Now in Economic Affairs Committee

2/6/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Economic Affairs Committee, 02/08/12, 8:00 am, 102 H

2/8/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Economic Affairs Committee; 16 Yeas, 1 Nay

2/9/2012 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

2/20/2012 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 02/22/12

2/22/2012 HOUSE Read Second Time

2/23/2012 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 114 Yeas / 0 Nays)

2/24/2012 SENATE In Messages

3/5/2012 SENATE Received; Referred to Community Affairs; Regulated Industries; Budget

3/8/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Community Affairs; Regulated Industries; Budget; Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading; Substituted for SB 0992; Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 40 Yeas / 0 Nays)

3/8/2012 HOUSE Ordered enrolled

3/8/2012 HOUSE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed

3/30/2012 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act on this bill by 04/14/12)

4/6/2012 Approved by Governor; Chapter No. 2012-62

Compare

SB 0992 Relating to Regulation of Hoisting Equipment Used in Construction, Demolition, or Excavation Work (Bennett)

HB 0547 Relating to Community Redevelopment Agencies Fresen

Community Redevelopment Agencies: Provides reporting requirements for certain community redevelopment agencies; provides for termination of community redevelopment agencies by board of county commissioners of certain counties; provides public hearing & notice & termination plan requirements; provides that consent from certain entities is not required for such termination; provides additional redevelopment plan requirements for certain counties; provides requirements for expenditure of moneys from redevelopment trust funds in certain counties; exempts payment of debt service in such counties from certain approval; provides requirements for appropriation of certain trust fund moneys in such counties; requires forensic audit of agencies in such counties at least every 5 years for certain purposes. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

11/2/2011 HOUSE Filed

11/15/2011 HOUSE Referred to Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee; Finance and Tax Committee; Economic Affairs Committee

11/15/2011 HOUSE Now in Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee

1/27/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee, 01/31/12, 9:00 am, 212 K

1/31/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; 9 Yeas, 5 Nays

1/31/2012 HOUSE Now in Finance & Tax Committee

2/3/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Finance & Tax Committee, 02/07/12, 3:45 pm, 404 H

2/7/2012 HOUSE Unfavorable by Finance & Tax Committee; 12 Yeas, 12 Nays

2/7/2012 HOUSE Laid on Table

Identical

SB 0840 Relating to Community Redevelopment Agencies (Diaz de la Portilla)

HB 0603 Relating to Growth Management Weinstein

Growth Management: Prohibits local government from applying transportation or school concurrency or requiring proportionate-share contribution or construction for new developments for specified period; provides exception; provides for extension of prohibition under certain conditions; provides application; provides for future expiration;

prohibits certain counties, municipalities, & special districts from imposing certain new or existing impact fees for specified period; provides for extension of prohibition under certain conditions; provides application; provides for future expiration. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

11/8/2011 HOUSE Filed

11/21/2011 HOUSE Referred to Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; Finance & Tax Committee; Economic Affairs Committee

11/21/2011 HOUSE Now in Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee

3/9/2012 HOUSE Died in Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee

Identical

SB 0912 Relating to Growth Management (Bennett)

SB 0668 Relating to Workers' Compensation Medical Services Hays

Workers' Compensation Medical Services; Revising requirements for determining the amount of a reimbursement for repackaged or relabeled prescription medication; providing limitations, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

10/25/2011 SENATE Filed

11/16/2011 SENATE Referred to Banking and Insurance; Health Regulation; Budget

1/13/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Banking and Insurance, 01/19/12, 8:00 am, 412 K

1/19/2012 SENATE Favorable with 1 amendment by Banking and Insurance; 7 Yeas, 4 Nays

1/23/2012 SENATE Now in Health Regulation

2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Health Regulation, 02/16/12, 10:30 am, 412 K

2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Health Regulation, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 412 K

2/15/2012 SENATE Meeting cancelled - Health Regulation, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 412 K

2/16/2012 SENATE Temporarily postponed by Health Regulation

2/17/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Health Regulation, 02/22/12, 3:30 pm, 412 K

2/22/2012 SENATE Favorable with 2 Amendments by Health Regulation; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays

2/24/2012 SENATE Now in Budget

2/27/2012 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations

2/27/2012 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations

2/27/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations, 02/28/12, 10:45 am, 110 S

2/28/2012 SENATE Favorable by Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations; 4 Yeas, 3 Nays

2/29/2012 SENATE Now in Budget

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Budget

Compare

HB 0511 Relating to Workers' Compensation (Hudson)

SB 0720 Relating to Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter Garcia (R)

Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter; Proposing an amendment to Section 6 of Article VIII of the State Constitution to authorize amendments or revisions to the home rule charter of Miami-Dade County by special law approved by a vote of the electors; providing requirements for a bill proposing such a special law; authorizing the Miami-Dade County charter to provide for fixed term limits of commissioners, etc.

10/27/2011 SENATE Filed

11/16/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget

1/25/2012 SENATE On committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/30/12, 10:00 am, 412 K

1/30/2012 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/30/2012 SENATE Now in Judiciary

2/6/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/09/12, 1:15 pm, 110 S

2/9/2012 SENATE Favorable by Judiciary; 4 Yeas, 2 Nays

2/10/2012 SENATE Now in Budget

3/5/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Budget

3/5/2012 SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

3/6/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/08/12

3/8/2012 SENATE Temporarily Postponed on Second Reading

3/8/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/09/12

3/9/2012 SENATE Died on Calendar

Similar

HB 0349 Relating to Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter

(Lopez-Cantera)

SB 0838 **Relating to Homestead Assessment Limitation/Low-income Senior Citizens** Diaz de la Portilla

Homestead Assessment Limitation/Low-income Senior Citizens; Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize counties and municipalities to limit the assessed value of the homesteads of certain low-income senior citizens, etc.

11/4/2011 SENATE Filed

12/6/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget

1/25/2012 SENATE On committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/30/12, 10:00 am, 412 K

1/30/2012 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 6 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/30/2012 SENATE Now in Judiciary

2/6/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/09/12, 1:15 pm, 110 S

2/9/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Judiciary; 6 Yeas, 0 Nays

2/13/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed

2/14/2012 SENATE Now in Budget

2/20/2012 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

2/20/2012 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

Similar

HB 0055 Relating to Homestead Assessment Limitation/Senior Citizens (Nuñez)

SB 0840 **Relating to Community Redevelopment Agencies** Diaz de la Portilla

Community Redevelopment Agencies; Providing reporting requirements for certain community redevelopment agencies; providing for the termination of community redevelopment agencies by the board of county commissioners of certain counties; providing public hearing and notice and termination requirements; providing that consent from certain entities is not required for such termination; providing additional redevelopment plan requirements for certain counties; providing requirements for the expenditure of moneys from redevelopment trust funds in certain counties; exempting payment of debt service in such counties from certain approval; providing requirements for the appropriation of certain trust fund moneys in such counties; requiring a forensic audit of agencies in such counties at least every 5 years for certain purposes, etc.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

11/4/2011 SENATE Filed

12/6/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Budget

2/8/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 02/13/12, 10:00 am, 412 K

2/13/2012 SENATE Temporarily Postponed by Community Affairs

2/28/2012 SENATE Pending withdrawal

2/29/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Community Affairs; Budget

2/29/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from further consideration

Identical

HB 0547 Relating to Community Redevelopment Agencies (Fresen)

SB 0912 **Relating to Growth Management** Bennett

Growth Management; Prohibiting a local government from applying transportation or school concurrency or requiring proportionate-share contribution or construction for new development for a specified period; providing an exception; providing for an extension of the prohibition under certain conditions; providing application; providing for future expiration; prohibiting certain counties, municipalities, and special districts from imposing certain new or existing impact fees for a specified period; providing an exception; providing for an extension of the prohibition under certain conditions; providing application; providing for future expiration, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

11/14/2011 SENATE Filed

12/6/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Education Pre-K - 12; Transportation; Budget

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Community Affairs

Identical

HB 0603 Relating to Growth Management (Weinstein)

SB 0928 **Relating to Property Assessments** Altman

Property Assessments; Revising the factors that a property appraiser must consider when deriving the just valuation of property; providing conditions and limitations relating to a property appraiser's use of certain property transactions to arrive at just valuation of property; providing for retroactive application, etc. Effective Date: upon becoming a law and shall apply retroactively to January 1, 2012

11/14/2011 SENATE Filed

11/21/2011 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference; 11/28/11, 1:30 PM, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)

12/6/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Budget

1/18/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/23/12, 10:00 am, 412 K

1/23/2012 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/23/2012 SENATE Now in Budget

1/25/2012 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

1/25/2012 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

Identical

HB 0251 Relating to Property Assessments (Workman)

SB 0992

Relating to Regulation of Hoisting Equipment Used in Construction, Demolition, or Excavation Work

Bennett

Regulation of Hoisting Equipment Used in Construction, Demolition, or Excavation Work; Defining the terms "hoisting equipment," "mobile crane," and "tower crane"; requiring an applicant for a building permit to submit certain information to a local building official; requiring radio communications between certain crane operators; requiring certain preparations for a hurricane or high-wind event; requiring a preparedness plan for certain cranes; requiring that hoisting equipment be secured in a specified manner under certain circumstances; providing penalties for violation of the act by certain licensed contractors; preempting regulation of hoisting equipment and persons operating the equipment to the state; providing that the act does not apply to the regulation of elevators or to airspace height restrictions, etc. Effective Date: upon becoming a law

11/16/2011 SENATE Filed

12/6/2011 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Regulated Industries; Budget

1/18/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/23/12, 10:00 am, 412 K

1/23/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Community Affairs; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays

1/23/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed

1/24/2012 SENATE Now in Regulated Industries

2/29/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Regulated Industries

2/29/2012 SENATE Now in Budget

3/5/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Budget

3/5/2012 SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

3/6/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/08/12

3/8/2012 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendment Adopted (592452); Substituted for HB 0521; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 0521

Compare

HB 0521 Relating to State Preemption of the Regulation of Hoisting Equipment (Articles)

HB 0997

Relating to Dangerous Dogs

Trujillo

Dangerous Dogs: Deletes exemption from prohibition on local breed specific regulations of dangerous dogs for such regulations adopted before specified date. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

12/12/2011 HOUSE Filed

12/28/2011 HOUSE Referred to Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee; Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; State Affairs Committee

12/28/2011 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

1/27/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee, 01/31/12, 3:30 pm, 102 H

1/31/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee; 14 Yeas, 0 Nays

2/1/2012 HOUSE Now in Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee

2/3/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee, 02/07/12, 8:00 am, 212 K

2/7/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; 13 Yeas, 1 Nay
2/7/2012 HOUSE Now in State Affairs Committee
2/23/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - State Affairs Committee, 02/24/12, 8:00 am, 102 H
2/24/2012 HOUSE Favorable by State Affairs Committee; 13 Yeas, 0 Nays
2/24/2012 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
3/1/2012 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/02/12
3/2/2012 HOUSE Temporarily Postponed on Second Reading

Similar

SB 1322 Relating to Local Requirements for Dangerous Dogs
(Norman)

HB 1289 Relating to Additional Homestead Exemption Brodeur

Additional Homestead Exemption: Proposes amendment to s. 6, Art. VII & creation of s. 32, Art. XII of State Constitution to provide additional homestead exemption for owners of homestead property, authorize Legislature to adjust amount of exemption, provide that additional exemption is to be reduced by difference between just value & assessed value, & provide effective dates. Effective Date: Not Specified

1/6/2012 HOUSE Filed
1/12/2012 HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Committee; Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee
1/12/2012 HOUSE Now in Finance & Tax Committee
1/30/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Finance & Tax Committee, 02/01/12, 1:00 pm, 17 H
2/1/2012 HOUSE Favorable by Finance & Tax Committee; 15 Yeas, 8 Nays
2/2/2012 HOUSE Now in Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee
2/3/2012 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee, 02/07/12, 8:00 am, 212 K
2/7/2012 HOUSE Temporarily postponed by Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee
3/9/2012 HOUSE Died in Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee

Linked

HB 1291 Relating to Additional Homestead Exemption (Brodeur)

SB 1322 Relating to Local Requirements for Dangerous Dogs Norman

Local Requirements for Dangerous Dogs; Removing the provision that exempts local ordinances adopted before a specified date from the prohibition on ordinances that are specific to breed or that lessen state restrictions governing dangerous dogs, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2012

12/20/2011 SENATE Filed
1/11/2012 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Budget
1/25/2012 SENATE On committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/30/12, 10:00 am, 412 K
1/30/2012 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays
1/30/2012 SENATE Now in Governmental Oversight and Accountability
2/2/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 02/07/12, 4:00 pm, 110 S
2/7/2012 SENATE Favorable by Governmental Oversight and Accountability; 9 Yeas, 2 Nays
2/8/2012 SENATE Now in Budget
2/8/2012 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations
2/8/2012 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations
2/23/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Budget Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations, 02/28/12, 10:45 am, 37 S
2/28/2012 SENATE Temporarily postponed by Budget Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations
3/9/2012 SENATE Died in Budget Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations

Similar

HB 0997 Relating to Dangerous Dogs (Trujillo)

SB 1738 Relating to Homestead Exemptions For Seniors Garcia (R)

Homestead Exemptions For Seniors; Authorizing the board of county commissioners of any county or the governing authority of any municipality to adopt an ordinance granting an additional homestead tax exemption up to the assessed value of the property to an owner who has maintained permanent residency on the property for a specified duration,

who has attained age 65, and whose household income does not exceed a specified amount; providing for annual cost-of-living adjustments of the household-income limitation relating to such additional homestead exemption, etc. Effective Date: upon the approval of Senate Joint Resolution 1740, or a similar joint resolution having substantially the same specific intent and purpose, at the general election to be held in November 2012 or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose

1/6/2012 SENATE Filed
1/17/2012 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget
1/25/2012 SENATE On committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/30/12, 10:00 am, 412 K
1/30/2012 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays
1/30/2012 SENATE Now in Judiciary
2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/16/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
2/15/2012 SENATE Meeting cancelled - Judiciary, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
2/16/2012 SENATE Favorable with CS by Judiciary; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays
2/20/2012 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
2/21/2012 SENATE Now in Budget
2/22/2012 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
2/22/2012 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
3/7/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Budget
3/7/2012 SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
3/7/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/09/12
3/9/2012 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendment Adopted (938060); Substituted for HB 0357; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 0357

Compare

[HB 0169](#) Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption for Seniors (Oliva)

[HB 0357](#) Relating to Homestead Exemptions for Seniors (Oliva)

Linked

[SB 1740](#) Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption (Garcia (R))

[SB 1740](#) Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption Garcia (R)

Additional Homestead Tax Exemption; Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize the Legislature, by general law, to allow counties and municipalities to grant an additional homestead tax exemption not exceeding the assessed value of the property to an owner who has maintained permanent residency on the property for a specified duration, who has attained age 65, and whose household income does not exceed a specified amount, etc.

1/6/2012 SENATE Filed
1/17/2012 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Budget
1/25/2012 SENATE On committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/30/12, 10:00 am, 412 K
1/30/2012 SENATE Favorable by Community Affairs; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays
1/30/2012 SENATE Now in Judiciary
2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/16/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
2/14/2012 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
2/15/2012 SENATE Meeting cancelled - Judiciary, 02/17/12, 10:30 am, 110 S
2/16/2012 SENATE Favorable by Judiciary; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays
2/16/2012 SENATE Now in Budget
2/20/2012 SENATE Subreferred to Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
2/20/2012 SENATE Now in Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
3/7/2012 SENATE Withdrawn from Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Budget
3/7/2012 SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
3/7/2012 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar for 03/09/12
3/9/2012 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendment Adopted (663588); Substituted for HB 0169; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 0169

Compare

[HB 0357](#) Relating to Homestead Exemptions for Seniors (Oliva)

Similar

[HB 0169](#) Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption for Seniors (Oliva)

Linked

SB 1738 Relating to Homestead Exemptions For Seniors
(Garcia (R))

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May 1, 2012

**Reply To:
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**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
Legislative Session Recap**

SEAPORT

The legislature appropriated over \$100 million for seaport projects within Florida.

SB 1998 authorized \$52 million for seaports annually. The conforming bill also redirecting a portion of motor vehicle fees toward seaports. An Intermodal Logistics Center Infrastructure Support Program and the Seaport Investment Program was also created within the conforming bill. This bill was signed into law on April 20, 2012 by Governor Scott and will take affect July 1, 2012.

CS/CS/CS/HB 599 authorized seaports to provide for onsite or offsite stormwater treatment; authorized seaports to use mitigation bank on certain projects; and require coordination between the Florida Department of Transportation in developing a Statewide Seaport and Waterways System Plan and a Freight Mobility and Trade Plan. The bill was signed into law by Governor Scott on April 13, 2012. The bill was discussed during the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conferences April 27, 2012 and May 7, 2012. This act has an effective date of July 1, 2012.

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Senate Bill 1456/ House Bill 1117

The bill allows a certain number and aquaria to use state lands to conduct enhance research after receiving approval from the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. Primal and carniferous mammals are prohibited.

- SB 1456 was laid on the table and taken up as HB 1117. The bill passed the legislature and was vetoed by Governor Scot on April 6, 2012.

SCRAP METAL

Senate Bill 1324/ House Bill 1323

This bill will alter the regulation of secondary metal recyclers. If taken in affect, this bill will increase the penalty against secondary metal recyclers from engaging in a pattern of failing to keep records as required by law to a third degree felony

and increases habitual violators of such to a first degree felony. This bill also defines the meaning of an electoral substation and provided that a person who removes or assists another who removes copper or other metals from an electrical substation site commits a felony of the first degree.

- SB 132 was laid on the table and taken up as HB 1323. The bill passed the legislature and was signed into law by Governor Scott on April 27, 2012. This act has an effective date of October 1, 2012.

Senate Bill 540 / House Bill 885

The economic recession has created an increase in the value of metal prompting an increase in metal theft crimes. SB 540 and HB 885 seeks to regulate secondhand dealers and secondary metals recyclers by placing tougher restrictions on the purchase and sale of secondary metals property. The bills contain preemption language, but grandfather any ordinances adopted prior to March 1, 2012.

- SB 540 was laid on the table and taken up as HB 885. The bill passed the legislature without our requested pre-emption language. The bill was signed into Law By Governor Scott April 27, 2012. The impact was discussed during the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference on May 7, 2012. This act has an effective date of July 1, 2012.

RED LIGHT CAMERA

Senate Bill 590/ House Bill 343

The bill seeks to implement procedures for drivers who failed to stop at traffic control. Specifically, the bill: Provides that upon receipt of an affidavit, the person identified as having care, custody, and control of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation may be issued a notice of violation before issuance of a uniform traffic citation (UTC). It standardizes enforcement of right or left hand turns on red. And finally, it requires minimum yellow light interval to be established in accordance with national standards before a camera can be used at an intersection.

- The bill died in committee.

House Bill 33

The bill seeks to create uniform standards across the state by requiring minimum yellow signal display durations and all-red clearance intervals on traffic control signals. This House Bill will require the Florida Department of Transportation and local authorities ensure traffic control signals meet guidelines based on a pre-determined schedule. This bill will require that whenever an engineering analysis is undertaken to evaluate or reevaluate signal displays durations by meeting guidelines that include; a minimum yellow signal display duration and an all- red clearance interval following the yellow signal display.

- The bill died in committee.

DAYCARE VEHICLE LOCKS

Senate Bill 274 and House Bill 419

This bill creates the “Haile Brockington Act” which will mandate vehicles used by child care facilities and large family child care homes to transport children to be equipped with an alarm system approved by the Department of Children and Families. This alarm system will prompt the driver to inspect the vehicle for children before exiting. Under this law, the Department of Children and Families will create an active list of alarm manufacturer and alarm systems that are approved to be installed in such vehicles.

- SB 274 was least heard in the Senate Children, Families and Elder, Affairs Committee. It has been referred to the Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations and is waiting to be place on the committee’s agenda. The bill died in committee.
- HB 419 was referred to the Health and Human Services Access Subcommittee and has not been place on the committee’s agenda. This bill died in committee.

PROHIBIT EMPLOYERS FROM USING CREDIT HISTORY

Senate Bill 102 / House Bill 303

This bill will prohibit the use of an individual’s credit report and/or history for employment or insurance purposes. Under this law, an employer may request and use an applicant’s credit report and/or history if the employer has a purpose for requesting the information that is substantially related to the job, and will notify the applicant of the employer’s ability to request the information, and obtain permission from the applicant to request the information obtained about their credit history.

- The bill died in committee.



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**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2012
END OF FLORIDA
LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FINAL REPORT**

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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2012 FINAL REPORT

Online Travel

After being temporarily postponed three different times by the House Finance and Tax Committee, HB 1393 by Rep. Brodeur died along with its Senate companion. The bill was a modified revival of the previous year's legislation that intended to codify a taxation loophole that allowed online travel companies to pass on certain taxes to Florida hotels.

PIP

A last minute deal on PIP was brokered on the penultimate day of session. Both chambers passed this version on the final night and it is awaiting the Governor's approval. It will pay the full \$10,000 medical coverage if a physician, physician assistant, advanced registered nurse practitioner or dentist determines the injury to be an "emergency medical condition." If the injury is not an emergency medical condition, medical benefits will be limited to \$2,500. Massage or acupuncture will not be reimbursed under the bill.

The bill requires insurance companies to request new rates in October and, if the rates are not reduced by 10 percent, to explain why. The provision requires an explanation if a 25 percent reduction is not achieved by 2014. The bill does not require a rate reduction, however.

Home Rule Charter

SB 720 and HB 349 died on the calendar and were not voted on by either chamber. Akerman continuously kept up the pressure against these bills by meeting with delegation members and members from across the state through the final hours of Session.

High School Athlete Head Injuries

HB 291 successfully cleared both chambers unanimously and is awaiting the Governor's signature.

Texting While Driving

While 416 passed through its Senate assignments easily, it's counterpart died in its first subcommittee early in Session when Chair Brad Drake refused to take it up.

County Health Departments

HB 1263 by Rep. Hudson originally intended to dismantle the Department of Health and reallocate the fiscal appropriations and responsibilities to each county health department. Akerman along with the League of Cities met with the sponsor and House members to oppose this idea. Eventually, the bill was replaced with language in SB 1824 by Senator Garcia, a streamlining bill

SB 1824 by Senator Garcia was tabled and replaced with HB 1263 which was then voted favorably by the Senate. The bill reflected the Department's initial request and does not dismantle the Department as Rep. Hudson originally intended to do.

HB 1409 and SB 1626

SB 1626 by Senator Gaetz in its original form required counties and municipalities to post up the details of public contracts onto a State website without an exemption for counties that already do this. During its final committee stop, the bill was drastically stripped down to only apply to state agencies. SB 1626 was sent to the House without any municipality language where it died in messages.

Jackson Memorial Hospital

SB 1884 by Senator Garcia, which was previously amended with Trauma language, was temporarily postponed by the Senate on Friday and was not returned to before sine die.

Jackson achieved two significant legislative victories in the passage of the budget. The Legislature included language in the conforming bill that would allow Jackson to participate in a certified public expenditure program, that would yield an additional \$40 - \$50 million over what they currently receive through the Low Income Pool (LIP) program.

Also included was language that would require AHCA to repay hospitals who provided more IGT's than necessary for the Medicaid program. This would bring an additional \$10-15 million to Jackson.

Nursing Home County Contribution SB 1988/HB 5301

Despite meeting repeatedly with our assignments as well as members from the rest of the state, the bill passed on a 23-17 vote. The bill contained Kid Care language Senator Rich had pushed for several years and she made a plea to members to vote for the bill. Hospitals were cut 5.64% and nursing homes were cut 1.25%

Sale or Lease of Public Hospital

A version of the bill was agreed to by both chambers, was passed and is waiting for the Governor's signature. Under HB 711, every governing board or hospital district will be required to evaluate the benefits of selling or leasing facilities to a not-for-profit company by the end of the year unless the hospital already had entertained offers by Feb. 1, 2012. Within 160 days of the analysis the governing board must post its findings in a newspaper and in the Florida Administrative Weekly.

In order for a hospital to be sold or leased the deal must represent fair market value and result in a reduction or elimination of property taxes or others. Care for the indigent, uninsured and underinsured must continue. If the deal is less than fair market value the board must provide a detailed explanation of how the best interests of the affected community are served.

Additionally, members of the hospital governing board must disclose whether they will experience a gain or loss to themselves or to key management employees or members.

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TO: Joe Rasco, Director, Intergovernmental Relations
Jess McCarty, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office

FROM: Brian D. Ballard
Carol L. Bracy

DATE: March 11, 2012

RE: **Weekly Legislative Report - Week 9**

The Florida Legislature concluded the 2012 Regular Session at midnight on the last day, March 9. Prior to adjournment, the Legislature passed a \$70 billion budget and several key pieces of legislation including a comprehensive economic development/tax relief package, PIP reform, and an omnibus DOT bill.

The Legislature will be back in Tallahassee next week as an Extraordinary Apportionment Session has been called by Governor Rick Scott to begin on Wednesday, March 14 at 1:00 p.m. through Wednesday, March 28, 2012. This redistricting session is in response to the Florida Supreme Court's ruling that the newly drawn State Senate districts are invalid under the state Constitution.

Home Rule/Preemption/Mandates

Miami Dade Home Rule Charter (Failed)
SJR 720 by Garcia / HJR 349 by Lopez-Cantera

The House and Senate proposals *died on the Calendar*, with no action taken by their respective chambers.

Medicaid County Billing (Passed)
HB 5301

Despite strong opposition from counties, the Legislature passed HB 5301, which includes a provision changing the methodology for the mandated Medicaid County share of cost. The House passed the measure by 73-36, and the Senate vote was 23-17. As passed, this change will disproportionately increase Miami-Dade County's Medicaid contributions to the state. The state will retroactively recover outstanding Medicaid billing costs and all future costs regardless of billing inaccuracies via County Revenue Sharing/Half Cent Sales Tax programs. The County would have to seek a refund from the state for any disputed bills. The County's share of cost would increase

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by \$30 million over the current budgeted amount of \$51 million, a total impact of \$81 million for next fiscal year.

Preference in Award of State Contracts (Failed)
SB 1460 by Simmons / HB 683 by Brodeur

The bill amends the state's procurement laws to expand preferential consideration for Florida based businesses when the state or local governments bid for construction services. Additionally, the bill preempts local preference ordinances when bids for personal property and construction services are funded in "whole or part" with state appropriated funds. Both bills died in committee.

Wage Theft (Failed)
SB 862 by Simmons / HB 609 by Goodson

HB 609 as amended passed 77-38 in the House. The revised House proposal provides a civil cause of action against an employer for unpaid wages and preempts the regulation of wage theft to the state. It permits local governments to establish an administrative, nonjudicial complaint process to assist an employee with an unpaid wage claim. HB 609 was referred to Senate committees with no action taken. SB 862 ultimately died in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Senator Flores was instrumental in ensuring the bill did not pass this session.

Dangerous Dogs (Failed)
SB 1322 by Norman / HB 997 by Trujillo

The bill removes the exemption for breed-specific local ordinances adopted prior to October 1, 1990, essentially nullifying the County's local ordinance. HB 997 died on the House Calendar, and SB 1322 died in committee.

State Preemption/Regulation of Hoisting Equipment (Passed)
CS/CS HB 521 by Artilis

HB 521 passed the House 114-0 and passed the Senate 40-0. The bill preempts to the state regulation of hoisting equipment including power-operated cranes, derricks, hoists, elevators, and conveyors used in construction, demolition, or excavation work that is not already preempted by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Secondhand Dealers/Secondary Metal Recyclers (Passed)
HB 885 by Ford

HB 885 passed the House by 114-0 and in the Senate by 40-0. It makes changes to Part I and II of chapter 538, Florida Statutes, affecting the regulation of "secondhand dealers" and "secondary metal recyclers" that involve the purchase and sale of regulated metals property. Among the changes is a new provision stipulating that the regulation of regulated metals property is preempted to the state. An exception to this

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preemption is provided for county or city ordinances enacted prior to March 1, 2012; however, such ordinance or regulation may subsequently be changed to incorporate any provision of the new law. The section would not apply to Miami-Dade County until July 1, 2013.

Port of Miami / Deep Dredge

Transportation Budget Conforming Bill (Passed)
SB 1998 by Budget

Section 42 of SB 1998 includes the expedited administrative hearing process amendment sought by the County for the Deep Dredge project. The bill passed both chambers, the House vote 85-29 and Senate vote 38-2.

Right-of-Way / Deed Transfer

Transportation and Mitigation Programs (Passed)
HB 599 by Pilon

The substance of the omnibus transportation bill (SB 1866/HB 1399 as previously reported) was amended onto HB 599 on the last day of session. Language was included in this comprehensive amendment to allow Miami Dade County to utilize a Right-of-Way deed transfer in lieu of mapping when transferring county roads to municipalities. This change has been sought by the County for the last two legislative sessions.

Economic Development

Economic Development (Passed)
HB 7087 by House Finance & Tax Committee & Others

This comprehensive economic development bill passed by the Florida Legislature includes numerous provisions to encourage economic development in the state. They include the following that may be of interest to the County:

- Provides a sales and use tax exemption for labor charges for the repair and maintenance of, and replacement engines, parts, and equipment for aircraft with 2,000 pounds maximum certified takeoff weight;
- Provides a sales and use tax exemption for certain items used to manufacture and produce aircraft and gas turbine engines;
- Changes the criteria to qualify for the Urban High-Crime Area Job Tax Credit by allowing employment increases to be measured from January 1, 2009 or the previous application date, whichever is later;

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- Increases from \$25,000 to \$50,000 the amount of corporate income that is exempt from the corporate income tax;
- Extends the Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program for an additional year and authorizes \$42 million in tax credits that may be claimed beginning in FY 2015-2016;
- Revises the types of projects that can qualify for the Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive program and allows digital media projects to include interactive websites, digital animation and visual effects projects;
- Increases the total amount of tax credits available under the New Markets Development Program from \$97.5 million to \$163.8 million;
- Provides for a 3-day sales tax holiday from August 3-5 on clothing, shoes, and textbooks valued \$75 or less and school supplies valued \$15 or less; and
- Provides \$14.9 million in non-recurring funds to the State Economic Enhancement and Development (SEED) Trust Fund for FY 2012-2013.

General Government/Labor/Employment

Motor Vehicle Insurance/PIP (Passed) *CS/HB 119 by Boyd*

HB 119 as amended passed the House by an 80-34 vote and the Senate by 22-17 vote. This omnibus bill reforms the state's no-fault motor vehicle insurance/PIP laws. Highlights include maintaining the \$10,000 PIP medical benefit but limiting non-emergency care to \$2,500; requiring patients to see medical care within 14 days of a motor vehicle accident; limits chiropractic care unless patients are referred by a physician; prohibits PIP payments to acupuncturists and massage therapists. The bill also requires insurance companies to demonstrate a 10 percent reduction in premiums by October 1 and a 25% decrease by 2014. The Office of Insurance is given authority to revoke licenses of companies that fail to meet the savings goals established in the bill. ***The final bill does not include a state preemption of local ordinances regulating PIP clinics.***

Public Notices by Governmental Entities (Passed) *CS/CS HB 937 by Workman*

HB 937 passed the full House by 113-0 and received final approval by the Senate, 23-13. The bill makes numerous changes to Florida's legal notice requirements. Provisions include requiring legal notices published in a newspaper would have to be published on the newspaper's website. Newspapers that publish legal notices must provide e-mail notification of new legal notices at no cost to the public. Additionally, the bill limits the rate that can be charged for government notices required to be published more than once.

Workforce Boards (Passed)
CS/HB 7023 by Brodeur

The bill overhauls the state’s workforce system and includes provisions to increase accountability of the system. Among the changes the bill limits the total membership of each local regional workforce board (RWB) to the minimum required under federal law; however upon approval by the Governor, the local elected official may appoint additional members. It allows the Governor to remove any board member or the executive director for cause, which includes fraud, neglect of duty, or lack of performance. The bill does not include a provision that would have required the chair and executive director of the RWB to serve at the pleasure of the Governor. It requires the RWB to develop an annual budget that must be approved by the local elected official and submitted to Workforce Florida within two weeks of approval. HB 7023 was approved by the House, 95-19 and 39-0 by the Senate.

School Readiness Programs (Passed)
HB 5103 by the House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee

HB 5103 rewrites the state’s School Readiness programs, passing the House by a 82-32 vote and by a 37-1 vote in the Senate. Other legislation adversely impacting the program did not pass or was amended (HB 7119/SB 1758 did not pass; HB 7055 – this agency rulemaking authority bill was amended to remove impacts to local quality rating initiatives). Specifically, the bill makes the following changes:

- Clarifies school readiness programs to be operated full-time and part-time.
- Prioritizes services to eligible children from birth to kindergarten.
- Requires definitions for expenditures and reports for direct expenditures for services to children, administrative costs, non-direct expenditures and quality.
- Requires the Office of Early Learning to adopt a list of approved curricula, identify a pre-assessment and post-assessment tool, adopt a statewide standardized contract to be used by coalitions with each school readiness provider, coordinate with other agencies to perform data matches on individuals or families participating in the school readiness program and submit annually a recommended allocation of funds to the School Readiness Allocation Conference including payment rates, parent co-payment percentages and the Gold Seal premium rate percentage.
- Revises procurement requirements and requirements for the expenditure of funds by early learning coalitions.
- Requires coalitions to merge if they are unable to comply with expenditure requirements.
- Allows the Office of Early Learning to provide a waiver for merging coalitions for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 years if justification for excess expenditures is provided.

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- Incorporates existing licensing guidelines which are identified in other areas of statute.
- Revises the eligibility criteria for the enrollment of children in the school readiness program and provides the following priorities by which children are enrolled:
 - First priority is a child under 13 from a working family receiving Temporary Cash Assistance for Needy Families also known as TANF; second priority is an at-risk child under 9; third priority is a child under 6 from an economically disadvantaged family, and children younger than 6 who are disabled; fourth priority is a child ages 9 through 13 who is a sibling of a younger child in the school readiness program through the at-risk provision; fifth priority is a child ages 6 through 13 who is a sibling of a younger child in the school readiness program through the economically disadvantaged provision; and last priority is for a child who is also concurrently enrolled in the Head Start program and the Voluntary Prekindergarten Program.
- Provides for the allocation of school readiness funds as specified in the General Appropriations Act.
- Requires the Office of Early Learning to submit by May 31, 2012, a recommended allocation of School Readiness Program funds, including standardized provider payment rates, Gold Seal premium rate percentage, and a parent co-payment percentage to the School Readiness Allocation Conference for review.
- Defines and limits expenditures for administrative activities, quality activities and non-direct activities.
- Provides for fraud investigations and provides penalties for school readiness providers and parents who knowingly submit false information related to child eligibility and attendance in a school readiness program.
- Creates the School Readiness Allocation Conference, whose duties are to review allocation recommendations by the Office of Early Learning.
- Establishes a due date for school readiness providers to submit market rates to be used as part of the prevailing market rate schedule.

Animal Control & Cruelty Ordinances (Failed)

SB 488 by Rich / HB 527 by Randolph

SB 488 passed the Senate 39-0 on February 29 but died in Messages to the House. The bill authorizes counties and cities to increase the surcharge up to \$15 for each violation of an ordinance relating to animal control or cruelty. Up to 5 dollars of the surcharge must be used for the training of animal control officers. Any remaining funds must be used to subsidize the costs to spay or neuter dogs and cats. HB 527 died in committee.

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V. Bills Passed by Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation

Bills Passed by the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation

HB 37 Relating to Knowingly and Willfully Giving False Information to a Law Enforcement Officer – Representative Jose Diaz Provides that it is third degree felony for person to knowingly & willfully give false information to law enforcement officer conducting missing person investigation involving child 16 years of age or younger with intent to mislead officer or impede investigation if child suffers great bodily harm, permanent disability, permanent disfigurement, or death.

HB 99 Relating to Sexual Exploitation – Representative Erik Fresen: Cites act as "Florida Safe Harbor Act"; provides legislative intent & goals; revises definitions; authorizes delivery of children alleged to be dependent & sexually exploited to short-term safe houses; requires assessment of certain children for placement in safe house; provides for use of such assessments; requires annual report concerning placements; requires circuits of DCFS to address child welfare service needs of sexually exploited children in master plans; provides duties, responsibilities, & requirements for safe houses & their operators; provides for training for law enforcement officials who are likely to encounter sexually exploited children; provides for increased civil penalty for soliciting another to commit prostitution or related acts; provides for disposition of proceeds; allows victim compensation for sexually exploited children.

HB 169 Relating to Additional Homestead Tax Exemption for Seniors – Representative Jose Oliva: Proposes amendment to s. 6, Art. VII of State Constitution to authorize Legislature, by general law, to allow counties & municipalities to grant additional homestead tax exemption equal to assessed value of homestead property, if property has just value lower than specified amount, to owner who has maintained permanent residency on property for specified duration, who has attained age 65, & whose household income does not exceed specified amount.

HB 171 Relating to Osteopathic Physicians – Representative Carlos Trujillo: Revises requirements for licensure or certification as osteopathic physician in this state; revises provisions relating to registration of physicians, interns, & fellows.

SB 226 - Relating to Disabled Parking Permits – Senator Gwen Margolis: Providing for a parking enforcement specialist or agency to validate compliance for the disposition of a citation issued for illegally parking in a space provided for people who have disabilities; revising requirements for renewal or replacement of a disabled parking permit; prohibiting applying for a new disabled parking permit for a certain period of time upon a second finding of guilt or plea of nolo contendere to unlawful use of such permit;

requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to randomly review disabled parking permitholders, verify certain information, and invalidate the permit of a deceased permitholder; directing the department to implement a means for reporting abuse of disabled parking permits, etc.

HB 309 - Relating to Radiological Personnel – Representative Jose Oliva: Defines term "specialty technologist" as it relates to certification of radiological personnel; provides titles for persons who hold certificate as specialty technologist; authorizes person holding certificate as specialty technologist to perform specific duties allowed for specialty technologist as defined by DOH; requires that duties fall within scope of practice of specialty as set by national organization for particular advanced, postprimary, or specialty area; provides criteria for certification as specialty technologist; provides for applicant for certification as specialty technologist to be certified only by endorsement rather than by examination; authorizes department to issue certificate by endorsement to practice as specialty technologist to applicant who meets certain criteria.

SB 326 - Relating to State Symbols/State Flagship Bullard - Senator Larcenia Bullard: State Symbols/State Flagship; Designating the schooner Western Union as the official state flagship, etc.

HB 357 - Relating to Homestead Exemptions for Seniors – Representative Jose Oliva: Homestead Exemptions for Seniors: Authorizes board of county commissioners of county or governing authority of municipality to adopt ordinance granting additional homestead tax exemption equal to specified amount, or additional homestead tax exemption equal to assessed value of property with just value lower than specified amount, or both such exemptions, to owner who has maintained permanent residency on property or permanent residency on property for specified duration, who has attained age 65, & whose household income does not exceed specified amount; provides definitions applicable to such additional exemption; provides applicability of requirements relating to adoption of local ordinance granting such exemption; provides appropriation; provides application. Effective Date: upon the approval of House Joint Resolution 169, or a similar joint resolution having substantially the same specific intent and purpose, at the general election to be held in November 2012 or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose, and shall first apply to the 2013 tax roll

HB 377 - Relating to Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Mitigation Plan – Representative Jeanette Nuñez: Deletes references to Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Plan Implementation Committee report; deletes obsolete provisions; redirects funds for see page mitigation projects; requires proceeds of water treatment plant upgrade fee to be transferred by DOR to SFWMD to be deposited into Lake Belt Mitigation Trust Fund; provides criterion when transfer is not required; provides for proceeds of mitigation fee

to be used to conduct mitigation activities that are approved by Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Mitigation Committee; clarifies authorized uses for proceeds from water treatment plant upgrade fee.

HB 465 Relating to District School Board Bonds – Representative Jose Diaz:

Revises provisions relating to issuance & retirement of bonds.

HB 509 - Relating to Pharmacy – Representative Ana Rivas Logan: Revises types of vaccines that pharmacists may administer; authorizes pharmacists to administer vaccine or epinephrine autoinjection within framework of established protocol; revises continuing professional pharmaceutical educational requirements with respect to administering such vaccines or autoinjection.

SB 520 - Relating to Veteran's Guardianship – Senator Oscar Braynon, II:

Repealing provisions relating to guardians of incapacitated world war veterans, etc.

HB 521 - Relating to State Preemption of the Regulation of Hoisting Equipment – Representative Frank Artiles: Preempts to state regulation of certain hoisting equipment provides that act does not apply to regulation of elevators or to airspace height restrictions.

HB 579 Relating to Relief/Lopez, Guzman, Lopez, Jr., Lopez-Velasquez, and Guzman/Miami-Dade County – Representative Jeanette Nuñez: Provides for relief of Ronnie Lopez & Robert Guzman, as co-personal representatives of Estate of Ana-Yency Velasquez, deceased, & for minor children of Ana-Yency Velasquez, by Miami-Dade County; provides for appropriation to compensate estate & minor children for death of Ana-Yency Velasquez as result of negligence of employee of Miami-Dade County; provides limitation on payment of fees & costs.

SB 608 Relating to Florida Healthy Kids Corporation – Senator Anitere Flores - Florida Healthy Kids Corporation: Revising the membership of the board of directors of the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation to include a member nominated by the Florida Dental Association and appointed by the Governor, etc.

HB 701 Relating to Florida Evidence Code – Representative Ana Rivas Logan:

Florida Evidence Code: Provides that statement offered against party that wrongfully caused declarant's unavailability is not excluded as hearsay.

SB 730 Relating to Medicaid Managed Care Plans – Senator Anitere Flores:

Requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to establish per-member, per-month payments; substituting the Medicare Advantage Coordinated Care Plan for the Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plan; revising the definition of "eligible plan" to include certain Medicare plans; limiting the penalty that a plan must pay if it leaves a region before the end of the contract term; providing that certain Medicare plans are not subject to procurement requirements or plan limits; requiring dually eligible Medicaid recipients to be enrolled in the Medicare plan in which they are already enrolled; revising the list of Medicare plans that are not subject to procurement requirements for long-term plans; revising the list of Medicare plans in which dually eligible Medicaid recipients are enrolled in order to receive long-term care, etc.

HB 787 Relating to Nursing Home Facilities – Representative Carlos Trujillo:

Revises provisions relating to other needed services provided by licensed nursing home facilities, including respite care, adult day, & therapeutic spa services; revises provisions relating to facilities eligible to share programming & staff; deletes requirements for submission of certain reports to AHCA; provides requirements for nursing home facility operated by licensee that provides respite care services; provides for rights of persons receiving respite care in nursing home facilities; requires prospective respite care recipient to provide certain information to nursing home facility; provides exemption from certain certificate-of-need requirements to provide for creation of pilot project in any of specified AHCA subdistricts; requires nursing home to be affiliated with accredited nursing school that offers certain degree programs; provides requirements for affiliation with private accredited university; provides for pilot project to proceed notwithstanding any moratorium under certain conditions; provides for expiration of exemption; defines "day" for purposes of day care services provided to adults who are not residents; provides funding limitation on sheltered nursing home beds used to provide assisted living, rather than extended congregate care, services; authorizes certain sharing of areas, services, and staff between such sheltered beds & nursing home beds in those facilities; redefines "geriatric outpatient clinic" and "resident care plan" and defines "therapeutic spa services" applicable to regulation of nursing home facilities.

HB 803 Relating to Child Protection – Representative Jose Diaz:

Revises definitions; revises provisions relating to criminal history records check on persons considered for child placement; provides procedures for certain hotline calls that do not meet criteria for report of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect, but indicate need for assistance; revises requirements for child protective investigations; revises provisions relating to required services; revises requirement for DCFS's training and quality assurance programs; revises provisions relating to child protective injunction; requires home study report if child has been removed from home & will be remaining with parent; provides additional requirements for case plans; provides that Children and Youth Cabinet shall meet at least 4 times but no more than 6 times each year.

HB 877 Relating to Relief/Odette Acanda and Alexis Rodriguez/Public Health Trust of Miami-Dade County – Representative Carlos Trujillo: Provides for relief of Odette Acanda & Alexis Rodriguez by Public Health Trust of Miami-Dade County, d.b.a. Jackson Memorial Hospital; provides for appropriation to compensate Odette Acanda & Alexis Rodriguez for death of their son, Ryan Rodriguez, as result of negligence of employees of Public Health Trust of Miami-Dade County; provides limitation on payment of fees & costs.

HB 909 Relating to Relief/Anais Cruz Peinado/School Board of Miami-Dade County – Representative Eddy Gonzalez: Provides for relief of Anais Cruz Peinado by School Board of Miami-Dade County; provides for appropriation to compensate Anais Cruz Peinado, mother of Juan Carlos Rivera, deceased, for death of Juan Carlos Rivera as result of negligence of School Board of Miami-Dade County; provides limitation on payment of fees and costs.

HB 917 Relating to Jurisdiction of the Courts – Representative Michael Bileca: Includes as additional basis for subjecting person to jurisdiction of courts of this state provisions which state that person submits to jurisdiction of courts of this state by entering into contract that designates law of this state as law governing contract & that contains provision by which such person agrees to submit to jurisdiction of courts of this state; clarifies that arbitral tribunal receiving request for interim measure to preserve evidence in dispute governed by Florida International Commercial Arbitration Act need consider only to extent appropriate potential harm that may occur if measure is not awarded or possibility that requesting party will succeed on merits of claim; revises application dates of provisions relating to jurisdiction of courts.

HB 959 Relating to State and Local Government Relations with Cuba or Syria – Representative Michael Bileca: Prohibits SBA from being fiduciary with respect to voting on any proxy resolution advocating expanded U.S. trade with Cuba or Syria; prohibits SBA from being fiduciary with respect to having right to vote in favor of any proxy resolution advocating expanded U.S. trade with Cuba or Syria; creates reporting requirements; prohibits state agency or local governmental entity from contracting for goods & services of more than certain amount with company that has business operations in Cuba or Syria; requires contract provision that allows for termination of contract if company is found to have business operations in Cuba or Syria; provides exceptions; requires certification upon submission of a bid or proposal for contract, or before company enters into or renews contract, with agency or governmental entity that company is not engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria; provides procedures upon determination that company has submitted false certification; provides for civil action; provides penalties; provides attorney fees and costs; provides statute of repose; prohibits private right of action; requires DMS to notify U.S. Attorney General after act becomes law.

HB 965 - Relating to Relief/Aaron Edwards/Lee Memorial Health System/Lee County – Representative Jose Diaz: Provides for relief of Aaron Edwards, a minor, by Lee Memorial Health System of Lee County; provides for appropriation to compensate Aaron Edwards for damages sustained as result of medical negligence by employees of Lee Memorial Health System of Lee County; provides limitation on payment of fees and costs.

HB 967 - Relating to Relief/Kristi Mellen/North Broward Hospital District – Representative Jose Diaz: Relief/Kristi Mellen/North Broward Hospital District: Provides for relief of Kristi Mellen as personal representative of Estate of Michael Munson, deceased, by North Broward Hospital District; provides for appropriation to compensate estate & statutory survivors for wrongful death of Michael Munson as result of negligence of NBHD; provides limitation on payment of fees & costs.

HB 979 - Relating to Developments of Regional Impact – Representative Jose Diaz: Developments of Regional Impact: Requires that comprehensive plan amendments proposing certain development follow state coordinated review process; limits scope of certain recommendations and comments by reviewing agencies regarding proposed developments; revises review criteria for regional planning agency reports; provides that specified changes to development orders are not substantial deviations; provides exemption from development-of-regional-impact review for certain proposed developments; revises conditions under which local government is required to rescind development of regional-impact development orders; provides presumption that certain agricultural enclaves do not constitute urban sprawl; establishes qualifications for designation as agricultural enclave for such purpose and establishes exceptions from definition for designated protected areas.

HB 1013 Relating to Residential Construction Warranties – Representative Frank Artiles: Provides legislative findings; provides legislative intent to affirm limitations to doctrine of implied warranty of fitness & merchantability or habitability associated with construction & sale of new home; prohibits cause of action in law or equity based upon doctrine of implied warranty of fitness & merchantability or habitability for off-site improvements, except as otherwise provided by law; provides for applicability of act; provides for severability.

HB 1417 - Relating to State Investments – Representative Jose Oliva: Increases amount of money that may be invested in alternative investments by State Board of Administration.

SB 1486 - Relating to Taiwan Policy Act of 2011 – Senator Oscar Braynon, II: Urging Congress to pass H. R. 2918, the Taiwan Policy Act of 2011, etc.

SB 1856 - Relating to Public Records and Public Meetings/Peer Review Panels /Biomedical Research Grants – Senator Anitere Flores: Providing an exemption from public meeting requirements for certain meetings of a peer review panel under the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program and the William G. "Bill" Bankhead, Jr., and David Coley Cancer Research Program; providing an exemption from public records requirements for certain records related to biomedical research grant applications; providing an exemption from public records requirements for research grant applications provided to, and reviewed by, the peer review panel, etc. Effective Date: on the same date that SB 616 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes law

HB 4003 - Relating to Growth Policy – Representative Jose Diaz: Terminates Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program.

VI. List of Registered Lobbyists



Lobbyists Registered for Miami-Dade County 2012 Legislative Session

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Joe Rasco, Director
Juan del Cerro, State Affairs Coordinator

County Attorney's Office

Jess McCarty

Lobbyists

Ronald Book, PA (prime contract lobbyist)
Ron Book, Kelly Mallette, Rana Brown

Pittman Law Group
Sean Pittman, Phillip Singleton

Rutledge, Ecenia & Purnell, P.A (prime contract lobbyist)
Gary Rutledge, Diana Ferguson, Ryan Anderson

Gomez Barker
Fausto Gomez, Manny Reyes, Evan Power

Becker Poliakoff
Yolanda Cash Jackson, Mario Bailey Edgar Castro, Nelson Diaz

Dutko Poole McKinley
Will McKinley, Sophia Patent, Fred Dickinson

VII. Florida Association of Counties Final Report

<http://www.fl-counties.com/Docs/Legislative%20Division/Leg%20Programs/2012%20Leg%20Report.pdf>

VIII. Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation Contact Information

2011-2012 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

Chair: Representative Carlos Lopez-Cantera
 Vice Chair: Representative Jose Diaz

Delegation Offices
 Stephen P. Clark Center
 111 NW 1st Street, Suite 1032
 Miami, FL. 33128-1994

2300 Coral Way
 Suite 111
 Miami, FL. 33145

Delegation Director: Alex Dominguez
 aad@miamidade.gov
 305-375-5600 O
 305-375-5639 F

FLORIDA SENATE

Name and District	District Office	Tallahassee Office	Committee Assignments
<p>Sen. Oscar Braynon, II 33rd District Braynon.oscar.web@flsenate.gov</p> <p>Staff: Oneca Lowery Katia St. Fleur</p>	<p>(305)654-7150</p> <p>606 NW 183rd Street Miami Gardens, FL. 33169</p>	<p>(850)488-5116</p> <p>213 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399</p>	<p>Budget Subcommittee on General Government Appropriations</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee on Higher Education Appropriations</p> <p>Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities</p> <p>Judiciary</p> <p>Reapportionment</p> <p>Regulated Industries</p> <p>Rules Subcommittee on Ethics and Elections</p> <p>Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight</p>
<p>Sen. Nan H. Rich 34th District rich.nan.web@flsenate.gov</p> <p>Staff: Erica Ortiz Kristin Carter Ellen Anderson</p>	<p>(954) 747-7933 Fax:(954) 747-7935</p> <p>777 Sawgrass Corporate Pkwy Sunrise, FL 33325</p>	<p>(850) 487-5103</p> <p>228 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Senate Minority Leader</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee Health and Human Services Appropriations, Vice Chair</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Children, Families, and Elder Affairs, Vice Chair</p> <p>Environmental Preservation and Conservation</p> <p>Reapportionment</p> <p>Regulated Industries</p> <p>Joint Legislative Budget Commission</p>
<p>Sen. Gwen Margolis 35th District margolis.gwen.web@flsenate.gov</p> <p>Staff: Jeff Branch Zoraida Druckman Zachary Kobrin</p>	<p>(305)571-5777</p> <p>3050 Biscayne Blvd Suite 600 Miami, FL. 33137</p>	<p>(850)487-5151</p> <p>414 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Reapportionment, Vice Chair</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations, Vice Chair</p> <p>Banking and Insurance</p>

			<p>Budget</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax</p> <p>Communication, Energy, and Public Utilities</p> <p>Criminal Justice</p> <p>Governmental Oversight and Accountability</p> <p>Rules</p>
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FLORIDA SENATE

<p>Sen. Miguel Diaz de la Portilla 36th District portilla.miguel.web@flsenate.gov</p> <p>Staff: Pat Gosney Anabel Castillo Julio Guillen</p>	(305)643-7200	(850)487-5109	<p>Rules Subcommittee on Ethics and Elections, Chair</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee on General Government Appropriations</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations</p> <p>Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities</p> <p>Health Regulation</p> <p>Reapportionment</p> <p>Regulated Industries</p>
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<p>Sen. Anitere Flores 38th District flores.anitere.web@flsenate.gov</p> <p>Staff: Maria Chamorro Patricia Flor Lissette Vasquez</p>	(305)270-6550	(850)487-5130	<p>Judiciary, Chair</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee on Education Pre K – 12 Appropriations</p> <p>Commerce and Tourism</p> <p>Communication, Energy and Public Utilities</p> <p>Governmental Oversight and Accountability</p> <p>Reapportionment</p> <p>Rules</p> <p>Select Committee of Protecting Florida's Children</p>
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<p>Sen. Larcenia Bullard 39th District bullard.larcenia.web@flsenate.gov</p> <p>Staff: Jennifer Rojo Merdochey LaFrance Ralph McCloud Angela Lane</p>	<p>(305) 668-7344 Fax: (305) 668-7346</p> <p>8603 S. Dixie Highway, #304 Miami, FL 33143</p>	<p>(850) 487-5127</p> <p>218 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Agriculture, Vice Chair</p> <p>Education Pre K – 12, Vice Chair</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations</p> <p>Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security</p> <p>Reapportionment</p> <p>Rules</p> <p>Transportation</p>
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Florida Senate

<p>Sen. Rene Garcia 40th District garcia.rene.web@flsenate.gov</p> <p>Staff: Lily Oliveros David Marin Chastity Acosta</p>	<p>(305)824-5058</p> <p>3814 West 12th Avenue Hialeah, FL. 33012</p>	<p>(850)487-5106</p> <p>310 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Health Regulation, Chair</p> <p>Agriculture</p> <p>Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations</p> <p>Governmental Oversight and Accountability</p> <p>Reapportionment</p> <p>Transportation</p>
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FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

<p>Rep. Eduardo “Eddy” Gonzalez 102th District eddy.gonzalez@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Manny Cid Douglas Zamora</p>	<p>(305) 364-3066 Fax (305) 364-3055</p> <p>10001 NW 87 Avenue Hialeah Gardens, FL 33016</p>	<p>(850) 488-1683</p> <p>214 House Office Building 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee, Vice Chair</p> <p>Health and Human Services Committee, Vice Chair</p> <p>Health and Human Services Quality Subcommittee</p> <p>Governmental Operations Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Rules and Calendar Committee</p>
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<p>Rep. Barbara Watson 103rd District Barbara.watson@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Sheila Robinson Priscilla Johnson</p>	<p>Suite 204 610 NW 183rd Street Miami Gardens, FL. 33169</p>	<p>(850) 488-0766 1402 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Subcommittee Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee Rulemaking and Regulation Subcommittee Governmental Operations Subcommittee Health and Human Services Committee Joint Administrative Procedures Committee</p>
<p>Rep. John Patrick Julien 104th District John.julien@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Jennifer Laurent Marie Fabre</p>	<p>(305)650-0022 Suite 600 633 NE 167th Street North Miami Beach, FL. 33162-2444</p>	<p>(850)488-7088 1401 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee Finance and Tax Committee Insurance & Banking Subcommittee Judiciary Committee Criminal Justice Subcommittee House Redistricting Subcommittee</p>

<p>VACANT 106th District</p> <p>Staff: David Lancz Amber Roth</p>	<p>(305)535-5445 Fax: (888)-864-7580 767 Arthur Godfrey Road Miami Beach, FI 33140-3413</p>	<p>(850) 488-0690 1402 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	
<p>Rep. Luis R. Garcia 107th District luis.garcia@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Mathew Monica Domingo Ginory</p>	<p>(305)325-2501 Fax: (305) 325-2503 1225 SW 8th Street Miami, FL. 33135</p>	<p>(850) 488-9930 1302 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Education Committee Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee Federal Affairs Subcommittee</p>

<p>Rep. Daphne Campbell 108th District Daphne.campbell@myfloridahouse.gov v</p> <p>Staff: Janice Shackelford Aaron Soriano</p>	<p>(305)795-1210</p> <p>Suite 309 9999 NE 2nd Avenue Miami Shores, FL. 33138-2346</p>	<p>(850)488-4233</p> <p>1401 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee</p> <p>Federal Affairs Subcommittee</p> <p>Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Judiciary Committee</p> <p>Criminal Justice Subcommittee</p> <p>House Redistricting Committee</p> <p>Joint Legislative Auditing Committee</p>
<p>Rep. Cynthia Stafford 109th District Cynthia.stafford@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Mary Cowart Gloria Barry</p>	<p>(305)571-2100</p> <p>Suite 405 3550 Biscayne Blvd Miami, FL. 33137-3854</p>	<p>(850)488-0625</p> <p>1401 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Pre K-12 Appropriations</p> <p>Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee</p> <p>Governmental Operations Subcommittee</p> <p>Education Committee</p> <p>Justice Appropriations Subcommittee</p>
<p>Rep. Jose Oliva 110th District Jose.oliva@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Chris Cantens Carmenhu Mingo</p>	<p>(305)364-3114</p> <p>3798 West 12th Avenue Suite A Hialeah, FL. 33012</p>	<p>(850)487-2197</p> <p>204 House Office Building 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Health and Human Services Quality Subcommittee</p> <p>Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee</p> <p>Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Civil Justice Subcommittee</p> <p>Education Committee</p>
<p>Rep. Erik Fresen 111th District Erik.fresen@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: David Winialski Alicia Araya</p>	<p>(305)663-2011</p> <p>6255 Bird Road Miami, FL 33155</p>	<p>(850) 488-4092</p> <p>313 House Office Building 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Pre K – 12 Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Education Committee</p> <p>K – 20 Competitiveness Subcommittee, Chair</p> <p>Insurance & Banking Subcommittee</p> <p>Redistricting Committee</p>

<p>Rep. Jeanette Nuñez 112th District Jeanette.nunez@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Kathy San Pedro John Norman Eddie Garcia</p>	<p>(305)227-7630</p> <p>Suites 205 2450 SW 137th Avenue Miami, FL. 33175</p> <p>and</p> <p>Collier County Administration Building 2399 East Tamiami Trail Suite 305 Naples, FL. 34112 (239)434-5094</p>	<p>(850)488-7897</p> <p>1005 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Deputy Majority Whip</p> <p>Economic Affairs Committee</p> <p>Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee</p> <p>Health & Human Services Quality Subcommittee</p> <p>Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>House Redistricting Subcommittee</p>
<p>Rep. Carlos Lopez-Cantera 113th District carlos.lopez-cantera@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Lourdes Gonzalez Christopher Wills</p>	<p>(305) 442-6877</p> <p>2300 Coral Way Suite 111 Miami, FL 33145</p>	<p>(850) 488-4202</p> <p>322 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Delegation Chair</p> <p>House Majority Leader</p>
<p>Rep. Ana Rivas Logan 114th District ana.logan@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Raquel Zuniga Beatriz Herrman Angelina Gold</p>	<p>(305)275-1912</p> <p>#102-A 11010 North Kendall Drive Miami, FL. 33176</p>	<p>(850)488-2831</p> <p>1301 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee</p> <p>Government Operations Subcommittee</p> <p>Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>Health and Human Services Access Subcommittee</p> <p>Pre K – 12 Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Senate Redistricting Subcommittee</p>
<p>Rep. Jose Felix Diaz 115th District jose.diaz@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Alexandra Dominguez Maria Lombard</p>	<p>(305)442-6800</p> <p>7901 SW 24th Street Miami, FL. 33155</p>	<p>(850)488-3616</p> <p>1101 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Delegation Vice Chair</p> <p>Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee, Vice Chair</p> <p>Finance and Tax Committee</p> <p>Health and Human Services Access Subcommittee</p> <p>Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Criminal Justice Subcommittee</p> <p>House Redistricting Subcommittee</p>

<p>Rep. Carlos Trujillo 116th District carlos.trujillo@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Alex Miranda Carmen Perez</p>	<p>(305)596-3030</p> <p>Suite 150 13550 SW 88th Street Miami, FL. 33186</p>	<p>(850) 488-5047</p> <p>1301 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Subcommittee</p> <p>Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee</p> <p>Higher Education Appropriation Subcommittee</p> <p>K-20 Competitiveness Subcommittee</p> <p>Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee</p>
<p>Rep. Michael Bileca 117th District michael.bileca@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Alejandro Garcia Judith Ruiz</p>	<p>(305)442-6868</p> <p>Suite 202 1000 SW 57th Avenue Miami, FL. 33144</p>	<p>(850)488-6506</p> <p>1003 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Education Committee</p> <p>K-20 Competitiveness Subcommittee, Vice Chair</p> <p>Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Health and Human Services Access Subcommittee</p> <p>Pre K -12 Appropriations Subcommittee</p>
<p>Rep. Dwight M Bullard 118th District dwight.bullard@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Rashida Bartely Venusmia Lovely</p>	<p>(305) 234-2208</p> <p>10720 Caribbean Blvd Cutler Bay, FL. 33189</p>	<p>(850) 488-5430</p> <p>1302 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee</p> <p>Criminal Justice Subcommittee</p> <p>Higher Education Appropriations</p> <p>Education Committee</p> <p>K-20 Competitiveness Subcommittee</p>
<p>Rep. Frank Artiles 119th District frank.artiles@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Raena Wright Beatriz Lopez</p>	<p>(305)273-3288</p> <p>Suite 115A 13501 SW 128th Street Miami, FL. 33186</p>	<p>(850)488-9550</p> <p>1102 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee</p> <p>Rulemaking and Regulation Subcommittee</p> <p>Economic Affairs Committee</p> <p>Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee</p> <p>Joint Administrative Procedures Committee</p>
<p>Rep. Ron Saunders 120th District ron.saunders@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Staff: Elaine Higgins Sue Ellen Spencer</p>	<p>(305) 853-1947</p> <p>Suite A-90311 Overseas Highway Tavernier, FI 33070</p> <p>P.O. Box 699 Tavernier, FL 33070</p>	<p>(850) 488-9965</p> <p>316 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL. 32399</p>	<p>Appropriations Committee</p>

IX. 2013 Preview



2013 Preview

Senate President-Designate Don Gaetz and Speaker-Designate Will Weatherford will preside over their respective chambers after the November 2012 elections. In the House, Majority Leader Carlos Lopez-Cantera is termed-out, and Minority Leader Ron Saunders and Representative Dwight Bullard are leaving early to run for the seat being vacated by Senator Larcenia Bullard, the only Senate vacancy in our delegation and Representative Luis Garcia is leaving early to run for the County Commission, against Commissioner Bruno Barreiro. Redistricting will pit some incumbents against each other, notably Representatives Jose Felix Diaz and Ana Rivas-Logan.

The session will likely also bring with it another push to approve legislation that would pave the way to destination resort casinos in South Florida, with the stakeholders expected to expend significant money in the upcoming elections. Other significant issues of interest will include: possible changes to how Citizens Property Insurance charges its policyholders and changes to the state's "Stand Your Ground" law on the heels of the Trayvon Martin shooting.