

# TALLAHASSEE WEEKLY REPORT

## November 28-December 2, 2011

### Bills of Interest Filed This Week

The following bills of interest to Miami-Dade County were filed this week for consideration during the upcoming legislative session:

- **HB 771, Bail Bond Agencies and Agents, Rep. Artilles** - Requires law enforcement agencies to provide information to DFS relating to criminal charges filed against licensees; provides for expiration of temporary bail bond agent's license; limits eligibility for reissuance of temporary bail bond agent's license after expiration or termination of license; revises requirements relating to licensure & appointment of managing general agent; increases delinquent fee applicable to appointing entity's failure to timely notify department of appointment; requires prior licensure & appointment as bail bond agent for specified period of time before person or entity may engage in activities relating to bail bond agency; requires appointment of primary bail bond agent in charge; prescribes requirements relating to posting of build-up funds; prescribes requirements relating to reporting & accounting of funds; provides conditions & requirements relating to payment of bail bond premiums; provides criminal & administrative penalties; prescribes licensure requirements relating to apprehension, detention, or arrest of principals on bond; prohibits bail bond agent from aiding or abetting unlicensed person to engage in actions relating to apprehending, detaining, or arresting defendant; revises various other provisions relating to regulation of bail bond agencies & agents. <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0771>
- **HB 783, School Speed Zones, Rep. Sands** - Provides penalties for using handheld cellular telephone or other handheld electronic communications device while operating motor vehicle in school zone; provides for proceeds from fines collected to be used to enhance funding for district school resource officer programs. <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0783>
- **HB 809, Communications Services Taxes, Rep. Grant** - Revises legislative intent; modifies definitions; removes definitions of terms "cable service" & "enhanced zip code"; adds definitions for terms "digital good," "digital service," "Internet access service," & "video service"; clarifies provisions exempting from public records law proprietary confidential business information held by local governmental entity for purpose of assessing local communications services tax; provides exception to provision holding dealer of communications services harmless from liability when dealer fails to correct customer's local taxing jurisdiction following notice by DOR; eliminates provisions requiring department provide database for determining local taxing jurisdiction in which service address is located; removes provision relating to assigning purchaser to local taxing jurisdiction; requires DOR to aggregate monthly & make available to public

on jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis certain sales & net tax information; eliminates requirement department adopt rule governing databases; deletes provisions imposing penalty against dealer of communications services which incorrectly assigns service address; revises definition of term "prepaid calling arrangement"; provides for specified retroactive effect.  
<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0809>

- **HB 825, Local Bids and Contracts for Public Construction Works, Rep. McBurney** - Eliminates specified conditions under which local government is exempt from requirement to competitively award contracts.  
<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0825>
- **SB 1066, Cancer Chemotherapy Treatment, Sen. Garcia** - Requiring that a group insurance policy or group health maintenance contract that provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment provide coverage for orally administered anticancer medication on a basis no less favorable than that required by the policy or contract for intravenously administered or injected anticancer medications; prohibiting an insurer from increasing a copayment, deductible, or coinsurance amount for intravenously administered or injected anticancer medications covered under a policy or contract; providing that an insurer is not prohibited from requiring prior authorization or imposing other appropriate utilization controls in approving coverage for any cancer chemotherapy. <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/1066>
- **SB 1070, Term Limits/Constitutional County Officers and County Commissioners, Sen. Ring** - Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize the imposition of term limits on constitutional county officers and county commissioners when provided by county charter.  
<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/1070>
- **SB 1086, Reclaimed Water, Sen. Garcia** - Revising the definition of the term "water" or "waters in the state" to exclude reclaimed water; providing that reclaimed water is an alternative water supply and eligible for such funding; authorizing specified contract provisions for the development of reclaimed water as an alternative water supply; prohibiting water management districts from requiring permits for the use of reclaimed water; authorizing permit conditions for certain surface water and groundwater sources; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection and each water management district to initiate rulemaking to adopt specified revisions to the water resource implementation rule. <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/1086>

## Interim Committee Meetings

Next week, the Florida Legislature will hold its final set of interim committee meetings, in preparation of the start of the 2012 session, which begins on January 10. Below, please find issues of interest to Miami-Dade County that will be taken up:

- On Monday, the Senate Community Affairs Committee will hear three bills of interest to the county: SB 488 by Sen. Rich related to Animal Control or Cruelty Ordinances (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0488>); SB 538 by Sen.

Bogdanoff related to Preference to Florida Businesses in Procurement of Personal Property and Services (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0538>); and SB 600 by Sen. Bennett related to Electronic Filing of Construction Plans (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0600>).

- On Tuesday, the House Finance and Tax Committee will hear HB 55 by Rep. Nunez related to Homestead Assessment Limitation/Senior Citizens (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0055>).
- Also on Tuesday, the House Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee will hear HB 225 by Rep. Gaetz related to Ticket Sales (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0225>).
- On Wednesday, the Senate Regulated Industries will hold a second workshop on destination resorts, this one centering on its effect on the state's compact with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.
- Also on Wednesday, the House Civil Committee will hear HB 609 by Rep. Goodson related to Wage Protection for Employees (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0609>).
- On Thursday, the Senate Budget Subcommittee will hear SB 222 by Sen. Margolis related to Disabled Parking Permits (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0226>).
- Also on Thursday, the House State Affairs Committee will hear HB 359 by Rep. Lopez-Cantera related to the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0349>) and HB 377 by Rep. Nunez related to the Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Mitigation Plan (<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/0377>).

## Florida Association of Counties

The Florida Association of Counties, on the heels of its legislative conference two weeks ago, has released its 2012 Legislative Program. The program, which can be accessed by clicking the link below, includes its priorities and guiding principles.

<http://www.fl-counties.com/Docs/Legislative%20Division/2011/2012%20Legislative%20Program%20final.pdf>

## Redistricting

The Florida Senate has released proposed committee bills which contain its version of redrawn Congressional and state Senate maps. Senate President-Designate Don Gaetz, chair of the Senate Reapportionment Committee, has said his chamber will not release a state House maps, and will take up the House's version of these maps in exchange for their taking up his Senate map. House Speaker-Designate Will Weatherford, chair of the House Redistricting Committee, has said his chamber will release versions of a state Senate map.

The maps released by the Senate can be found below.

Congressional map and statistics:

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Redistricting/Plan/s000c9002>

State Senate map and statistics:

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Redistricting/Plan/s000s9004>

## **Governor Scott**

While speaking the editorial board of The Daytona Beach News-Journal this week, Governor Rick Scott said he would not be raising taxes. However, he left the door open for the collection of sales taxes on purchases made online.

Later in the week, while meeting the editorial board of The Lakeland Ledger, the Governor stated that his top priority in the upcoming legislative session will be education, both K-12 and higher education, with an emphasis on science, engineering, technology and math. His thinking is that he wants higher education to focus on where the job openings currently exist.

The Governor is set to release his proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year next Wednesday, prior to departing on a trade-mission to Israel.

## **Ecosystem Restoration Summit**

OIA attended the "Ecosystem Restoration Summit" this week, which included participation from county commissioners from all 16 counties in South Florida for a discussion of state and federal priorities associated with ecosystem restoration and related issues of water supply and the economy. The meeting was facilitated by the Florida Association of Counties, with representation from the South Florida Water Management District, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.