



Tallahassee Report

Miami-Dade Priorities and Key Issues That Passed

SB 2430 – Miami-Dade Affordable Housing Surtax – presented to the Governor on May 26. He must act by June 10

SB 2108 – Local Option Court Facility Funding – not presented to the Governor yet.

SB 360 – Growth Management – signed by the Governor on June 1.

SB 2666 – CCNA/Architects and Engineers – not presented to the Governor yet.

HB 611 – Public Construction Contracts – not presented to the Governor yet.

HB 227 – Prohibition on Increases and Challenges of Impact Fees – signed by the Governor on May 21.

SB 2600 – FY 2009/2010 State Appropriations Act – signed by the Governor on May 27.

Miami-Dade Bills and Issues of Interest

SJR 532 – Property Tax Limit/Additional Homestead Exemption – this Constitutional amendment will appear on the 2010 ballot.

HB 521 – Presumption of Correctness – signed by the Governor on June 4.

SB 216 – Local Government Campaign Preemption – presented to the Governor on May 26. He must act by June 10.

SB 1000 – Fire/Rescue Sales Surtax – presented to the Governor on June 3. He must act by June 18.

SB 2282 – Accident Response Fees – presented to the Governor on June 3. He must act by June 18.

HB 1205 – Charter County Transit System Surtax – presented to the Governor on May 26. He must act by June 10.

SJR 1302 – Military Property Tax Credit – this Constitutional amendment will appear on the 2010 ballot.

SB 1580 – Partial Payment of Property Taxes – presented to the Governor on May 26. He must act by June 10.

HB 1495 – Property Insurance – signed by the Governor on May 27.

HB 1065 – Airport Safety/Wildlife Hazards – presented to the Governor on June 1. He must act by June 15.

HB 1423 – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission – signed by the Governor on May 27.

HB 7141 – Seaport Security – presented to the Governor on June 4. He must act by June 19.

HB 903 – Workers Compensation – signed by the Governor on May 29.

SB 1030 – Corrections Blue Lights – not presented to the Governor yet.

SM 1330 – Silver Alert Programs – not presented to the Governor yet.

SB 412 – Service of Process – not presented to the Governor yet.

HB 479 – State Retirement System – not presented to the Governor yet.

HB 1021 – Florida Department of Transportation – signed by the Governor on May 27.

HB 285 – Low Income Pool Council – signed by the Governor on May 20.

Update on Bills and Issues Tracked by Miami-Dade County

Below, please find an update as to the status of legislation Miami-Dade County was tracking, in support of, or in opposition of during the 2009 Legislative Session which passed.

This bill is updated as of Friday, June 5. As of this time, there are over one hundred bills that have not been presented to the Governor yet.

If there are any questions with regards to a particular legislation, please feel free to contact our office.

2010 Elections

The conclusion of the 2009 Legislative Session brought with it several announcements with regards to the 2010 election season. Below please find a brief summary of these announcements.

US Senate – Senator Mel Martinez's decision not to seek reelection opens up one of Florida's seats in the US Senate. On the Republican side, Governor Charlie Crist and former House Speaker Marco Rubio will be facing off in the primary. On Democratic side, Congressman Kendrick Meek will be facing off against North Miami Mayor Kevin Burns. Congresswoman Corrine Brown has stated she is interested in running, but has not made a formal announcement as of yet. State Senator Dan Gelber had been in the race, but announced during the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner on Miami Beach at the end of May he would be "stepping back" from the race.

Governor – Governor Crist's decision to run for the US Senate set off a scramble in the state's Cabinet. CFO Alex Sink will be running, unopposed, in the Democratic primary. On the Republican side, Attorney General Bill McCollum has already filed. It was thought that Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson would be running, after announcing during Session he would, but party leaders asked him to step aside so as not to create a divisive primary season. State Senator Paula Dockery and former State Senator and House Speaker Dan Webster have been mentioned as possible challengers to McCollum, but saying they will be making their intentions known soon. Webster's name is also mentioned as a possible Congressional challenger to newly elected Alan Grayson.

Attorney General – Bill McCollum's decision to run for Governor has created an opening in the Attorney General's office. On the Republican side, it is widely thought that Lieutenant Governor Jeff Kottkamp will be making a formal announcement soon. State Representative Bill Galvano is also rumored to be entering the Republican primary. On the Democratic side, State Senator Dave Aronberg has already formally announced that he will be seeking his party's nomination. He is likely to face opposition from State Senator Dan Gelber and former State Senator and gubernatorial candidate Rod Smith

CFO – Senate President Jeff Atwater will be seeking the Republican nomination for CFO. As of now, no other Republican has been mentioned. On the Democratic side, there is only speculation to date, as no candidates have emerged. There are several names that have been rumored, including State Senator Al Lawson, Miami Mayor Manny Diaz, and former Congressional candidate Annette Taddeo.

Agriculture Commissioner – On the Republican side, State Senator Carey Baker will be squaring off against Congressman Adam Putnam. These two gentlemen have been in the race since before Session started and have raised a significant amount of money. On the Democratic side, former FAC President Randy Hatch is facing off against Eric Draper, a lobbyist for the Audubon Society

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