

It Is Our Responsibility to Take Care of Planet Earth.  
It Is Our Responsibility to Handover Mother Earth  
in a Healthier Shape to Our Coming Generation.  
Let Us Work to Make It a Better Place.

Happy Earth Day

## ***The Briefing – Friday – 4-22-22***

**The last Briefing was *Thursday – 4-21-22***

The Briefing is compiled **2-3 times a week** to provide information to County Commissioners and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and School Board members, Superintendents, and staff in districts that are members of the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates.

**For Questions Email – [Cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com](mailto:Cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)**

***Happy Birthday Shirley Owens***

***Holmes County School Board Member and Chair of the FSBA Small District Council.***

***Updated Websites***

***[Small County Coalition Website](#)***

***[Small School District Council Consortium Website](#)***

Bob Jones and I are pleased to present two newly upgraded websites representing the interests of our major clients – the Small County Coalition (SCC) and the Small School District Council Consortium (SSDCC). These websites are designed to provide comprehensive information about the mission, objectives, and leadership of the SCC and the SSDCC. In addition, the websites provide an archive of the Daily Briefings and up-to-date information about the legislative process. You will find important links providing relevant information about local, state, and federal officials; data sets, publications, reports and other important links. We hope you find it useful!

***Senator Manny Diaz Jr. to be Florida's Education Commissioner***

Senator Manny Diaz Jr. has been recommended by Governor DeSantis to be the next Education Commissioner. Upon his appointment by the State Board of Education, Sen. Diaz would be the first Hispanic Commissioner of Education in Florida history. Sen. Diaz received his bachelor's degree from St. Thomas University, a master's degree in education from Nova Southeastern, and completed a Harvard Graduate School of Education program for principals. Since 2019, Sen. Diaz has sponsored and supported a number of educational initiatives relating to Accountability; Charter Schools; Choice Programs. This year, Diaz sponsored six highly visible pieces of legislation –

- SB 1048, eliminating the FSA and creating the F.A.S.T. progress monitoring assessment in Florida.
- SB 758, creating the Charter School Review Commission.
- SB 268/HB395, creating the proclamation on “Victims of Communism Day.”
- SB 148/HB 7, eliminating CRT and woke training in Florida schools and businesses.
- SB 7044, reforming higher education in Florida.
- SB 1054, requiring financial literacy education in Florida schools
- SB 2524, expanding access to Family Empowerment Scholarships.

***Legislature Approves Congressional Map and 2 additional Bills in Special Session***

The Florida Legislature acting in Special Session adopted legislation addressing three issues.

1. Congressional Redistricting –SB 2C
2. Special Districts –SB 4C - dissolves 6 special districts, - if not reauthorized by Summer of 2023. Areas impacted include districts in Bradford, Hamilton, Franklin/Eastpoint, and one covering Disney World.
3. Social Media Platforms –SB 6C – removes exemption for theme parks.

***Bills Passed in Special Session 2022C Bills***

Ordered by Bill Number

**SB 2C - Establishing the Congressional Districts of the State by Rodrigues (R)**

Establishing the Congressional Districts of the State; Adopting the United States Decennial Census of 2020 as the official census of the state for use in redistricting the state's congressional districts; redistricting the state's congressional districts in accordance with the United States Decennial Census of 2020 (plan P000C0109); providing for the inclusion of unlisted territory in contiguous districts in accordance with figures from the United States Decennial Census of 2020; specifying that certain electronic maps serve as the official maps of the congressional districts of the state; requiring such maps to be made available to the public by the Office of Economic and Demographic Research within a specified timeframe; requiring actions challenging the state's congressional districts to be brought in a specific venue; specifying limitations for actions challenging the state's congressional districts, etc.

**SB 4C - Independent Special Districts by Bradley - Independent Special Districts; Dissolving certain independent special districts; authorizing the reestablishment of certain independent special districts, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2022 Under the proposal, Disney or any of the other five special districts established prior to 1968 will have to request the Legislature for an updated agreement.**

**SB 6C - Social Media Platforms by Bradley - Social Media Platforms; Revising the definition of the term “social media platform”, etc. Effective Date: Upon becoming a law repeals a carve out tucked into**

a law passed last year that exempted Disney and other theme parks from a law cracking down on tech companies. The law is currently being challenged in federal court.

### ***Upcoming Meeting of State Associations***

June 8-10 - FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference – Tampa  
June 9 - Small District Breakfast – Annual Joint Business Meeting of the FSBA Small District Council and the SSDCC

June 28 - July 1 - [FAC Annual Conference - Small County Coalition Annual Meeting - Orlando](#)  
The Small County Coalition will meet for breakfast on Wed. – June 29<sup>th</sup>

### ***Headlines from Around the State***

*WLRN: DeSantis' power is on full display as he pushes lawmakers on Disney and redistricting*  
*Democrat: DeSantis unchained: Disney fight shows a powerful governor, emboldened and vengeful*  
*FlaPol: Legislature approves Gov. DeSantis' controversial congressional redistricting map*  
*Politico: Florida approves DeSantis-backed congressional maps that dismantle Black lawmaker's seat*  
*Herald: Wild scene in Florida House: As Democrats loudly protest, congressional map passes*  
*AP: Florida passes congressional map over Black lawmaker protest*  
*Roll Call: Florida map boosts Republicans partly at Black voters' expense*  
*FlaPol: House Democrats lead sit-in to protest vote on Gov. DeSantis congressional map*  
*My News 13: Experts say lawsuits are certain after Florida House OKs new congressional map*  
*Politico: Florida lawmakers vote to dismantle Disney's special privileges over 'Don't Say Gay'*  
*AP: Disney self-government in peril after Florida House vote*  
*FlaPol: House passes bill ending Disney Plus carve-out, gavel out amid protests*  
*Sentinel: Charlie Crist defends Disney, says DeSantis acting like he wants to be 'king of Florida'*  
*Herald Tribune: Is the magic still there? Disney fans react to feud with DeSantis, Florida lawmakers*  
*FlaPol: 'Just let me live!': Transgender Floridians, allies say trans youth are no longer safe in Florida following new DOH guidelines*  
*The Hill: LGBTQ advocacy group launches billboard campaign to repeal Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' law*  
*WUSF: DeSantis signs health department measure that includes medical-marijuana regulations*  
*News Herald: DeSantis drops into Destin to announce red snapper season extended to 57 days*  
*WLRN: State ag commissioner proposes Florida's first renewable energy goals*  
*WLRN: Florida students share their (sometimes) rocky roads to college graduation*  
*WLRN: Environmental group releasing more clams into Sarasota Bay this weekend*  
*TCPalm: ACLU of Florida challenges Fort Pierce redistricting plan, but City Commission moves forward*

*Ledger: All Polk lawmakers support DeSantis' congressional maps, vote to end Disney's self-governance*

*News Herald: 'A monumental step': Panama City Beach voters approve 7 changes to 50-year-old city charter*

*NWF Daily News: 'Ramping up enforcement': Okaloosa passes waterway rental ordinance to combat BUIs, other issues*

*PNJ: Should Escambia allow economic tax breaks for new business developments? Voters to decide*

*Bradenton Herald: Bradenton wants \$10M to sell City Hall. Will a nationwide ad attract better offers?*

*FlaPol: State suspends Destin nursing home license, orders it to discharge 100-plus residents*

*NWF Daily News: Gaetz family extortionist sentencing postponed until June*

*AP: Florida man charged with attacking officers at Capitol riot*

*FlaPol: Personnel note: FFBF promotes Courtney Larkin to Legislative Affairs Director*

*NYTimes: A Look Inside the Textbooks That Florida Rejected*

*FlaPol: State education officials release examples of 'impermissible' materials in math textbooks*

*Herald: After week of suspense, Florida reveals why some math texts are too woke*

*Herald: How will state's textbook rejections impact Miami schools? Hint: School boards have last say*

*PNJ: State rejects Escambia schools' K-5 math textbooks. Time is running low to find new ones*

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis recommends Sen. Manny Diaz as Education Commissioner*

*AP: DeSantis recommends Manny Diaz for education commissioner*

*Herald Tribune: Buchanan and Steube stick with districts they currently represent, avoiding primary*

*FlaPol: Vern Buchanan announces he will seek re-election in CD 16*

*FlaPol: First to the ball? Greg Steube announces re-election campaign in CD 17*

*FlaPol: Aaron Bean exploring run in new Jax-area congressional seat*

*FlaPol: Dennis Ross makes clear he's sticking with CD 15 run*

*Times: Money flows into Florida congressional races despite uncertain boundaries*

*FlaPol: Robert Gonzalez debuts with \$84K in four-way GOP contest for HD 119*

*FlaPol: Jimmy Patronis earns 60 Sheriff endorsements*

*FlaPol: Florida Police Benevolent Association backs Vance Coley in HD 5*

*FlaPol: RNC boot camp aims to empower campaigns with data*

*Times: Hillsborough schools' handling of sexual harassment under federal scrutiny*

*Times: Finding superintendent finalists in one of Florida's biggest school districts*

*Sentinel: 'Sick to my stomach': Orlando Free Falls altered harnesses raise safety questions, expert says*

*News 4 Jax: Jacksonville officer shoots, kills man who was wielding ax, police say*

*Sentinel: 'I'm going to start shooting people': 911 calls released in Hungry Howie's hostage standoff*

*Herald: Broward family savagely beat gay man because they felt he made son gay, victim told cops*

*Sun-Sentinel: Family beat gay man utterly close to death because they believed he made their relative gay, records say*

*Herald: After years of suspicion, South Florida dentist charged in murder of FSU professor Dan Markel*

*Sentinel: Port Canaveral-based Royal Caribbean cruise ship struck by cargo ship in Bahamas*

*Times: Housing bubbles have hit Florida hard. Is it ready for another one?*

*Bradenton Herald: Manatee County takes a giant leap in helping the homeless with a coordinated effort*

### ***On the Docket***

#### **FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022**

##### **Legislature:**

- TENTATIVE TIME FOR FLOOR SESSION: The Senate has scheduled time to hold a floor session, if it is needed, to consider a congressional redistricting plan. (Friday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)
- HOUSE FLOOR SESSION: The House has scheduled a floor session to consider a congressional redistricting plan. (Friday, 10 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)

##### **Also:**

- ETHICS COMMISSION: The Florida Commission on Ethics will meet. (Friday, 8:30 a.m., 1st District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Dr., Tallahassee.)
- SPEECH-LANGUAGE BOARD: The Florida Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology will meet. (Friday, 9 a.m. Call-in number: 1-866-899-4679. Code: 363379613)
- STATE COLLEGES: The Florida College System Council of Presidents will meet in Pinellas County. (Friday, 9 a.m., St. Petersburg College, EpiCenter, 13805 58th St. North, Clearwater. Call-in number: 1-888-585-9008. Code: 332636803)

### **Agency Websites**

- Weather – NOAA - <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>
- Dept. of Health – Weekly Stats on Covid - [Link to Weekly Updates](#)
- DEO Re-employment Claims - [Link to Up to date weekly employment data](#)
- DEP Algae Bloom Weekly Report - <https://floridadep.gov/AlgalBloomWeeklyUpdate>
- DEP Algae Bloom Dashboard - <https://floridadep.gov/AlgalBloom>
- DEO - Office of Broadband - <https://floridajobs.org/community-planning-anddevelopment/broadband/office-of-broadband>
- FDOT – Florida Transportation Plan - <http://floridatransportationplan.com/>