



The Briefing for Monday – January 23 – 2023

The last Briefing was Saturday – January 21 – 2023

How's your weather - <https://weather.com/>

Legislative Committee Action

[Calendar of House of Representatives Committee Meeting This Week](#)

[Senate Calendar of Committee Meetings Being Held this Week](#)

Senate Budget Chief Requests Information On Projects Funded with Recurring Dollars

Senate Appropriations Chair Doug Broxson authored a letter Friday requesting entities that receive recurring state dollars provide information to assist the Senate in its budget review process. Forms must be submitted by Friday, February 17, 2023. [Senate Recurring \(Base\) Projects Review and Evaluation - Letter and List](#)

[Deadline for Senate Budget Proposal – February 17, 2023.](#)

[Senate Recurring \(Base\) Projects Review and Evaluation - FY 2023-24 Form](#)

DeSantis Outlines Proposals Dealing with Teachers, Unions, and School Elected Officials

Governor Ron DeSantis is calling on the Florida Legislature to create a Teacher's Bill of Rights, reduces terms for school board members from twelve to eight years, invests another \$1 billion in teacher pay, restricts union activities, and empowers educators to be leaders in their classrooms. For more information, click [here](#).

What does the Governor's proposal do:

- **Proposes an additional \$200 million to continue raising teacher pay, bringing the total to \$1 billion for teacher pay.**
 - The \$200 million increase over the current year's budget will be provided to school districts with maximum flexibility to best fit the school district's needs.
 - School districts will be able to apply the funding to continue raising starting teacher salaries or to provide salary increases for veteran teachers and other eligible instructional personnel.
 - No eligible full-time classroom teacher will receive a base salary less than the minimum base salary established during the 2022-2023 school year.
- **Reduces term limits for school board members from 12 years to 8 years.**
- **Makes school board elections partisan.**
- Prohibit school board members and superintendents from accepting a personal or work-related benefit such as a secret "office account" from a school union.
- Requires school unions to represent at least 60% of employees eligible for representation, an increase over the current 50% threshold, and allow state investigations into unions suspected of fraud, waste and abuse. Additionally, the proposal will require annual audits and financial disclosures for unions.
- Prohibits any union representing public employees from having its dues and assessments deducted by the public employee's employer.
- Require employees to submit a form acknowledging that Florida is a right to work state and union participation is optional.
- Require school unions to annually notify members of the cost of membership.
- Prohibit the distribution of union materials at the workplace.

- Union officials cannot be paid more than the highest paid union member.
- Prohibit union work while on the clock for their taxpayer funded job.
- Clarify that teachers have the choice to join their local teachers union and will not face any repercussions if they opt not to join.
- Establishes a new process for individuals to notify the state of a violation of teachers' rights and ensure that the Department of Education can investigate those claims.
- Empower teachers to maintain safe classroom environments by creating a “stand your ground” classroom safety policy to protect teachers who are often judged unfairly for maintaining order and safety in their classrooms.
- Providing civil remedies for teachers who are asked to violate Florida law and punished by their employers for standing up for what is right.

Brad Drake Appointed DeSantis' Director of Rural and Community Affairs

Former Representative Brad Drake has been appointed by Governor DeSantis to serve as the Director of Rural and Community Affairs. Drake is well-known for his long-time service in the legislative process and a House member and a Legislative Assistant. Drake's position is House in the Capitol where he will engage on rural and local issues and legislation. If you need to contact him, his email address is brad.drake@eog.myflorida.com.

Headlines Around the State

City & State FL: Rubio's rules

Bradenton Herald: Thousands of Floridians could lose Medicaid coverage soon. What should you be doing now?

Post: Who's moving to Florida? What new driver's license data tells us

Times: Immigration influx tests newcomers and organizations in Tampa

Herald: A Fox News analyst was booted from a North Miami cafe. Then came drama and harassment

Sun-Sentinel: Vacation rentals are adding to South Florida's housing crunch, study suggests

Sun-Sentinel: Do white sex trafficking victims get more attention? Broward summit takes aim at bias

WUSF: A surge in migrant students at Miami-Dade schools is straining staffing and mental health services

AP: Off-duty Florida officer kills gunman in videotaped shooting

My News 13: "This is not over": Andrew Warren speaks after case against Gov. Ron DeSantis dismissed

Sentinel: Vice President Harris: Florida leaders 'extremist' for banning AP African American studies course

The Hill: Harris speaks to Florida lawmakers about DeSantis rejection of African American studies class

Herald: Vice President Harris blasts DeSantis for blocking AP African American Studies course

FlaPol: Blocked AP Black studies class draws Kamala Harris derision

WUSF: Florida says AP class teaches critical race theory. Here's what's really in the course

Times: Florida's anti-abortion movement won big last year. What do they want now?

FlaPol: Lawmakers return for third interim committee week ahead of 2023 Session

WUSF: A Florida bill could open the door for pregame prayers

WUSF: As VA benefits expand, Florida's female veterans are urged to apply

DBNJ: Ben Sasse to give first speech as UF's new president at Daytona Regional Chamber dinner

Democrat: An early look at celebration plans as Tallahassee turns 200 next year

Times: Here's how much the parties raised in Hillsborough, Pinellas counties

Democrat: Murders in Leon County saw uptick in 2022, but police cracked the case in 86% of them

TCPalm: The few mass shootings recorded on the Treasure Coast an 'aberration,' State Attorney says

Bradenton Herald: Woman kills ill husband in botched murder-suicide pact at Florida hospital, cops say

TCPalm: Army Corps: Lake O releases to St. Lucie River to start soon. Why so early?

FlaPol: Army Corps to increase Lake Okeechobee discharges

Daily News: Job market remains strong in Southwest Florida, despite Hurricane Ian

On The Docket This Week

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2023

Legislature:

- **FOSTER CARE:** Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. The Senate Children, Families and Elder Affairs Committee will receive presentations related to foster care. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION:** Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. The Senate Education Pre-K-12 Committee will receive presentations about increasing participation in career and technical education. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES:** Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. The Senate Transportation Committee will receive an update from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles about the state's specialty license-plate program. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS:** Tuesday, 11 a.m. The House Health & Human Services Committee will hold a panel discussion about pharmacy benefit managers. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **WATER REUSE:** Tuesday, 11 a.m. The House Infrastructure Strategies Committee will receive a presentation about water reuse. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **DOMESTIC SECURITY:** Tuesday, 1 p.m. The Senate Military and Veterans Affairs and Domestic Security Committee will receive presentations about domestic security from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Florida Sheriffs Association and the Florida Police Chiefs Association. 301 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **PROSECUTORS, PUBLIC DEFENDERS:** Tuesday, 1 p.m. The House Criminal Justice Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association and the Florida Public Defenders Association. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **PSC:** Tuesday, 1 p.m. The House Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee will receive an overview of the Florida Public Service Commission. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **WORKFORCE EDUCATION:** Tuesday, 1 p.m. The House Postsecondary Education & Workforce Subcommittee will receive a presentation about postsecondary and workforce education. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **BUILDING COMMISSION:** Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. The Senate Community Affairs Committee will receive a presentation from the Florida Building Commission. 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **TEACHER PREPARATION:** Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. The Senate Education Postsecondary Committee will receive a presentation about teacher preparation programs. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **STATE INVESTMENTS:** Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. The House Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee will receive an overview of the State Board of Administration, which is responsible for state investments. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE:** Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. The House Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee will receive an overview of the subsidized children's health-insurance program run by the Florida Healthy Kids Corp. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.

- COVID-19 MONEY: Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. The House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the Department of Education about federal COVID-19 relief money. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.

Also:

- SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER BOARD: Tuesday, 9 am. The Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. Southwest Florida Water Management District, 7601 U.S. 301 North, Tampa.
- GAS RATES: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Public Service Commission will consider a proposal by Florida Public Utilities Co. to increase natural-gas rates. The commission will take up the issue after an internal affairs meeting that will start at 9:30 a.m. Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- TURNPIKE LANES: Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. The Florida Department of Transportation will hold an online meeting about plans to add auxiliary lanes to Florida's Turnpike from State Road 821 to Griffin Road in Broward County. www.TurnpikeSouthBroward.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023

Legislature:

- MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE: Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The Senate Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an update from the Department of Children and Families about mental-health and substance-abuse funding. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- BUDGET REQUESTS: Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The Senate Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee will receive presentations about budget requests from the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of Military Affairs, the Department of State and the Division of Emergency Management. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- DERELICT VESSELS: Wednesday, 11 a.m. The House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission about derelict vessels. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- DCF: Wednesday, 11 a.m. The House Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee will receive an overview of the Department of Children and Families. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- FINANCIAL AID: Wednesday, 11 a.m. The House Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee will receive a presentation about state financial aid and tuition-assistance programs. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- NEW APPEALS COURT: Wednesday, 11 a.m. The House Justice Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an update about facilities for the new 6th District Court of Appeal. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- JUSTICE SYSTEM BUDGET: Wednesday, 1 p.m. The Senate Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations Subcommittee will receive presentations about budget requests from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the state court system and other agencies and programs. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- EDUCATION BUDGET PANEL: Wednesday, 1 p.m. The Senate Education Appropriations Committee will receive an overview. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- LAND BUYING: Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee will receive presentations about land acquisition. 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- SCHOOL LIBRARY MATERIALS: Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The House Education Quality Subcommittee will receive presentations about school library materials, including about parental involvement in the selection of materials. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONEY: Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the Florida Housing Finance Corp. about financing for affordable housing. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- DRIVER SAFETY: Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The House Transportation & Modals Subcommittee will host a panel discussion about driver safety. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.

- HURRICANE MICHAEL: Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. The Senate Select Committee on Resiliency will receive a presentation about the recovery from Hurricane Michael, which hit Northwest Florida in 2018. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- BROADER FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE: Wednesday, 4 p.m. The House Ethics, Elections & Open Government Subcommittee will consider a proposal (HB 37), filed by Rep. Spencer Roach, R-North Fort Myers, that would expand financial-disclosure requirements for many local officials. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS: Wednesday, 4 p.m. The House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview of county health departments. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- WATER QUALITY: Wednesday, 4 p.m. The House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee will receive an overview from the Department of Environmental Protection about water quality. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.

Also:

- PAROLE CASES: Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. Maitland City Hall, 1776 Independence Lane, Maitland.
- UNEMPLOYMENT CASES: Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet. 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Conference ID: 175899214
- REFUGEE ISSUES: Wednesday, 1 p.m. The Southwest Florida Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/>
- CENTRAL FLORIDA COLLEGE BOARD: Wednesday, 3 p.m. The College of Central Florida Board of Trustees will meet. College of Central Florida, Ocala Campus, Founders Hall, 3001 S.W. College Road, Ocala.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

Legislature:

- VOUCHER EXPANSION: Thursday, 9 a.m. The House Choice & Innovation Subcommittee will take up a bill (HB 1), sponsored by Chairwoman Kaylee Tuck, R-Lake Placid, that would dramatically expand school vouchers in Florida. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS: Thursday, 9 a.m. The House Civil Justice Subcommittee will consider a proposal (HB 85), filed by Rep. John Snyder, R-Stuart, that includes shortening a frame for homeowners to file lawsuits involving “latent,” or hidden, construction defects. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- BROADBAND ISSUES: Thursday, 9 a.m. The House Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the Department of Economic Opportunity about broadband. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- IAN IMPACTS: Thursday, 1 p.m. The House Select Committee on Hurricane Resiliency & Recovery will receive a presentation about the impacts of Hurricane Ian on the agriculture industry. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- WINTER SPRINGS AUDIT: Thursday, 1 p.m. The Joint Legislative Auditing Committee will consider a request by Sen. Jason Brodeur, R-Sanford, for the auditor general to conduct an audit of the city of Winter Springs. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.

Also:

- GULF COAST COLLEGE BOARD: Thursday, 10 a.m. Central: The Gulf Coast State College Board of Trustees will meet. Gulf Coast State College, Robert L. McSpadden Student Union West, 5230 West Highway 98, Panama City.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS: Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- BROADBAND ISSUES: Thursday, 2 p.m. The Florida Association of Counties will start a “Broadband Summit.”: Sawgrass Marriott, 1000 Tournament Players Club Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach.

- TURNPIKE LANES: Thursday, 5:30 p.m. The Florida Department of Transportation will hold a meeting about plans to add auxiliary lanes to Florida’s Turnpike from State Road 821 to Griffin Road in Broward County: Miramar Multi-Service Complex, 6700 Miramar Parkway, Miramar.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2023

- ETHICS COMMISSION: Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Commission on Ethics is slated to take up issues from Manatee and Wakulla counties and the cities of Margate and North Port. 1st District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Dr., Tallahassee.
- HOUSING ISSUES: Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Housing Finance Corp. Board of Directors will meet. Hilton Sandestin, 4000 South Sandestin Blvd., Miramar Beach.
- REVENUE CAP: Friday, 9 a.m. The Revenue Estimating Conference will discuss a “revenue cap limitation.”: 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- ‘IMPACT’ CONFERENCE HELD: Friday, 9:30 a.m. The Revenue Estimating Conference will hold an “impact” conference, which involves estimating potential costs of legislation. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- FINANCE REPORTS DUE: Candidates in a special election in Marion County’s House District 24 face a Friday deadline for filing reports showing finance activity through Jan. 20. The special election was called after former Rep. Joe Harding, R-Ocala, resigned after being indicted on federal charges of wire fraud, money laundering and making false statements. Five Republicans are competing in a March 7 primary, with the winner facing a write-in candidate in the May 16 general election.

Mark Your Calendars for Legislative Days

March 14 – Small County Coalition Legislative Briefing and Reception – [Sittig Hall](#)

March 15 – Pre-Conference Briefing – Small School District Council Consortium – Venue TBD

Registration for the following events-

March 15 - 2023 Legislative Day - Florida Association of Counties – FSU Turnbull Center

March 15-16 - 2023 Legislative Days - Florida School Boards Association – AC Marriott

April 25-26 - 2023 Rural Counties Days at the Capitol

Secure Your Hotel Room

[Hotels in Tallahassee .docx](#)

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared almost daily by Chris Doolin cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com

The Briefing is compiled **2-3 times a week** to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email – cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

Chris Doolin

President – Christian B. Doolin & Associates

Vice – President – Robert P. Jones & Associates

Mobile – 850-508-5492

Email – cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com