



Saturday, Jan. 21

- (4) Jaguars at (1) Chiefs, 4:30 p.m. ET (NBC).
- (6) Giants at (1) Eagles, 8:15 p.m. ET (Fox).

Sunday, Jan. 22

- (3) Bengals at (2) Bills, 3 p.m. ET (CBS)
- (5) Cowboys at (2) 49ers 6:30 p.m. ET (Fox)

The Briefing for Saturday – January 21 – 2023

The last Briefing was Thursday – January 19 - 2023

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

Major Issues Emerge in Week Three

The Legislature returns to Tallahassee Monday for a third week of pre-session committee meetings. The slate is full – Monday through Thursday. This issues are significant. Major issues emerging are – School Choice; Hurricane Recovery; Workforce Education; Water Issues; Use of Covid Funding by School Districts, and, Broadband.

[Calendar of Senate Committee Meetings during the Week of 1/23 - 1/27](#) [Schedule for House of Representatives Committees for week of 1/23-1/27](#)

House Bill 1 – Expands School Choice Program to Provide Vouchers for All Students

Text of HB 1

Staff Analysis of HB 1 – School Choice/Voucher Expansion

“Universal choice” is how to describe the School Voucher proposal rolled out by Speaker Renner on Thursday. Under the measure, families could receive vouchers if “the student is a resident of this state and is eligible to enroll in kindergarten through grade 12 in a public school in this state.” The proposal would make all students eligible for school vouchers. The bill (HB 1) would essentially set up education savings accounts, or ESAs, which would provide state-funded vouchers that families would be allowed to use for private-school tuition and numerous other services and expenses.

The bill will be heard this Thursday in the House Choice & innovation. The Committee Chairwoman Kaylee Tuck is the prime sponsor of the legislation.

- The bill will -
 - Allow families to use vouchers to pay for tutoring expenses, instructional materials, fees for various exams and “contracted services” provided by public schools.
 - Eliminate income-based eligibility requirements for receiving vouchers.
 - Allow Home-schooled students to receive vouchers under the bill.
 - 10,000 vouchers for home-schooled students in the first year
 - 20,000 a year after that.

New Leadership Tapped to lead State Programs

Department of Economic Opportunity —Meredith Ivey has been appointed acting Secretary of DEO. She had been serving as Chief of Staff at DEO since May 2021.

Career Source Florida —Adrienne Johnston is replacing Michelle Dennard as President and CEO of CareerSource Florida.

Florida Housing Finance Corporation —Mike DeNapoli has been appointed Chair of FHDC. DeNapoli succeeds Trey Price, who had been Executive Director of the agency since 2017.

Office of Agricultural Water Policy —West Gregory has been tapped to serve as the Director of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Office of Agricultural Water Policy.

Headlines Around the State

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis' administration credits 'freedom first' policies with historic unemployment low

Capitolist: Florida's unemployment rate hits 2.5 percent in December

NYTimes: Judge Rules DeSantis Was Wrong, but Lets Prosecutor's Suspension Stand

WaPo: Federal judge finds DeSantis violated Florida Constitution but dismisses lawsuit

Times: Florida officials react to the Andrew Warren v. DeSantis ruling

WaPo: A Black professor defies DeSantis law restricting lessons on race

Times: National faculty group 'appalled' by Florida's stand on critical race theory

FlaPol: Black lawmakers alarmed at state decision blocking AP history class

Politico: 'Incomprehensible': White House condemns Florida ban on African American studies course

Chronicle: DeSantis Asked Florida Universities to Detail Their Diversity Spending. Here's How They Answered.

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis vs. Rick Scott? Speculation swirls of pending clash

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis names new leaders for DEO, CareerSource, Florida House Finance Corporation

FlaPol: Coral Springs visit by U.S. Interior Secretary to highlight Everglades restoration

FlaPol: Erin Grall pitches bill allowing charter school athletes to play in private academy programs

Capitolist: Filed bill would require Asian American and Pacific Islander history to be taught in schools

FlaPol: Legislators laud state hurricane response, eye future seasons

Times: These Tampa Bay U.S. Reps say it's time to trim the nation's debt

Sentinel: Brightline, SunRail extension complicated by multiple 'cooks in the kitchen'

PNJ: Pensacola bans smoking and vaping in city parks. What a violation will cost you:

PNJ: Dean of Warrington school accused of soliciting sex from student

Herald Tribune: GOP divisions highlighted in raucous Sarasota event featuring far right from across FL

FlaPol: Ronna McDaniel critics fail to attract quorum for no-confidence vote at Florida GOP meeting

Sentinel: CPAC leaves Orlando, keeps Trump as headliner. What about DeSantis?

Politico: One Republican governor. One Democratic. Two very different inaugural speeches.

Herald: Kamala Harris bringing politically charged abortion issue to DeSantis' front door

Politico: Trump withdraws Florida lawsuit against New York attorney general

The Hill: Tensions with evangelicals threaten Trump White House bid

FlaPol: TikTok dead for college students? Florida's flagship university hints at likely ban on campus

Times: Attorneys ask federal judge to end Scientology leader's 'cat and mouse game'

Times: New Port Richey names former Tarpon Springs chief Robert Kochen as its chief

Times: Pasco planning board wants more public safety input before development votes

WLRN: Miami-Dade schools welcome migrant students - but enrollment surge strains staffing and mental health services

Post: Field trips and 'biological sex at birth' among changes in Palm Beach County schools

Sun-Sentinel: Broward schools chief could be gone sooner under latest proposal to fire her

Daily News: Record for RSW: Most passengers ever for one year at Fort Myers airport

Today: 'Not going to stop': Family, community speak out for slain teens at Palm Bay City Council meeting

PNJ: Council passes mayor's \$3.25M spending plan. See what's in it.

On The Docket This Week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

- VICE PRESIDENT IN TALLAHASSEE: Vice President Kamala Harris is scheduled to appear in Tallahassee to mark the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision. Abortion-rights supporters are expected to hold a march and a rally at the state Capitol.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023

Legislature:

- AGRICULTURE INDUSTRI: Monday, 3:30 p.m. The Senate Agriculture Committee will receive presentations about the fruit and vegetable, cattle and dairy industries. 301 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- JUVENILE JUSTICE: Monday, 3:30 p.m. The Senate Criminal Justice Committee will receive an overview of the juvenile-justice system. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- MEDICAID MANAGED CARE: Monday, 3:30 p.m. The Senate Health Policy Committee will get an update on the procurement process for Medicaid managed-care contracts. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.

Also:

- SOUTH FLORIDA PLANNING COUNCIL: Monday, 10 a.m. The South Florida Regional Planning Council will meet after a 10 a.m. meeting of the Southeast Florida Regional Prosperity Institute. South Florida Regional Planning Council, 1 Oakwood Blvd., Suite 250, Hollywood. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86101420585?pwd=UnhRNFRUSGpIZDFvc3ppUIJWcDRxdz09>. Meeting ID: 86101420585. Code: 250072
- AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES: Monday, 11 a.m. A coalition of pastors and other community leaders will hold a news conference to fight a decision by Gov. Ron DeSantis' administration to prevent a new Advanced Placement course on African-American studies from being offered in Florida schools. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 224 North Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Tallahassee.
- SEMINOLE STATE BOARD: Monday, 2 p.m. The Seminole State College of Florida Board of Trustees will meet. Seminole State College of Florida, Heathrow Campus, 1055 AAA Dr., Heathrow.
- POLK STATE TRUSTEES: Monday, 4 p.m. The Polk State College Board of Trustees will meet. Polk State College, Winter Haven Campus, 999 Avenue H N.E., Winter Haven

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

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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

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