

Happy Holidays from our family to yours!
Looking forward to a great year in 2023!

Christian, Leo, Leila, and
Carla Doolin



Chris and Kathy
Doolin



Dave, Doris, Sarah, Sloane aka
Sunny



The Briefing for Thursday, December 22, 2022

The last Briefing was Monday – December 19 - 2022

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

Bills Filed Pertaining to Education and Local Governments

Bill Tracking Report - [Bills Filed Pertaining to Education and Local Governments.docx](#)

Seventy-three bills have been filed for consideration as of Wednesday afternoon. Eighteen bills are marked for tracking. Eight deal with Education and 10 deal with local governments – this is simply a small portion of the bills that will be filed. Throughout the session we will provide reports in the briefing for our clients to monitor. The link below is categorized by the folders that the bills are assigned. The link is listed in numeric order and the bill numbers are active links to additional information.

Florida Child Well-Being Index Report Released

[The Policy Institute](#) has published the [2022 Florida Child Well-Being Index](#). These rankings were developed using **KIDS COUNT®** data. The outcomes in communities relate to resources - Counties with higher rankings tend to be well-resourced, high-quality child care, education, and other opportunities for their children. Counties that rank near the middle tend to have a mixture of well-resourced and less well-resourced areas, such as some larger counties with a combination of big cities and suburban and rural areas. Counties with lower rankings tend to be places that have borne the brunt of the state's disinvestment in public services and where people face historic barriers to economic opportunity. The report is provided for your information.

County Commission Authority in Preparation of Constitutional Officer and Sheriff's Budgets

During the recent legislative session – several actions were taken that pertain to the Sheriffs Budget –

1. A \$15,047,787 in recurring funds was appropriated from the General Revenue Fund for salary increases for deputy sheriffs and correctional officers employed by sheriff's offices in fiscally constrained counties, as defined in section 218.67(1).
2. Subsection 12 was added to FS 30.49 stating that – “Notwithstanding any other law, and in order to effectuate, fulfil, and preserve the independence of sheriffs as specified in s. 30.53, a sheriff may transfer funds between the fund and functional categories and object and subobject code levels after his or her budget has been approved by the board of county commissioners or budget commission.”

These two provisions have raised some questions at the local level regarding whether the amount appropriated for the Sheriffs was sufficient to meet targeted salary levels comparable to Dept of Corrections Salary Increases.

Here's the bottom line- If your Sheriff has expressed concerns about their allotment - County Commissioners need to discuss with their Sheriffs whether the amount provided in the Fiscally Constrained salary supplement enabled your Sheriff to achieve a \$45,000 base salary. If not – it is advised that your local sheriff prepare a local budget request for additional funding- that is if the Sheriff feels his allotment was insufficient. The local budget request should be submitted by the Sheriff to the local legislative delegation. If funding is provided during the session – good! If not, there are options available.

Here are the statutes governing preparation of budget which gives County Commissioners authority to approve Budget requests. Even with the new section giving the Sheriff broad authority – that authority comes after the County Commission exercises their authority under the budget development laws.

***Florida Statutes - [129.03](#) Preparation and adoption of budget by Constitutionals and County Officials.
Florida Statutes - [30.49](#) Budgets. -Pertaining to Sheriff Budget Preparation and County Commission Authority.***

For Information on the Local Appropriation Process check out the following websites.

www.ssdcc.org

www.smallcountycoalition.org

Special Election Set for Vacated House Seat in Marion County

Gov. DeSantis has announced spring special election dates to replace former Republican state Rep. Joe Harding, who resigned earlier this month after being indicted on charges related to defrauding a federal pandemic relief fund. DeSantis set a March 7 primary and picked May 16 for the general election date. So far, Ocala-area Republican Ryan Chamberlin is the only candidate to fill Hardings seat, which is very Republican-leaning. Republican Jose Juarez has also openly expressed interest in running. It is also rumored that former Rep. Charlie Stone is considering entering the race. Stone served 8 years and was termed out in 2020 when Harding was elected.

Headlines Around the State

WUSF: Florida's effort to charge 20 people with voter fraud has hit some roadblocks

Post: The 7 mentions of Florida in House committee report on Jan. 6 attack

City & State FL: When the South Florida blues turned red hot

The Floridian: Donalds Cosigns Letter Encouraging GOP Senators to Stop 1.7 Trillion Omnibus Bill

NPR: How 2 new House members plan to 'work across the aisle' in the next Congress

Bradenton Herald: Citizens policies keep growing. State-backed insurer is up 14,000 since Nov. 30

Times: Florida's mental health care system is a 'mess.' Group will pitch reforms.

WLRN: Florida is pursuing companies over their compliance with worker verification laws

Sentinel: Unequal Futures: Florida's universities admit far fewer students from low-income areas

CBS Miami: Former Miami Congressman David Rivera appears in federal court

Herald: Ex-congressman David Rivera says charges of being a Venezuelan agent 'completely false'

Sentinel: Florida homeowners go without property insurance at their own peril

The Capitolist: Sports generated \$146.5B in economic impact for Florida the past two years

WUSF: A judge rejects an injunction request over Medicaid wage case

Sentinel: Florida beekeepers reel from Hurricane Ian; farms across U.S. could get stung, too

The Capitolist: Three Florida universities crack top 100 of National Science Foundation research rankings

CBS Miami: Thousands of families suffer after justice delay

The Capitolist: Florida energy storage companies bring battery projects to the Southeast

Yahoo News: Annual report ranks Polk County 51st out of 67 in Florida for childhood well-being

FlaPol: \$1.7 trillion spending bill has \$95 million for South Florida

Sun-Sentinel: South Florida in line for funding for new courthouse, police body cams and lots more

Sun-Sentinel: Former Broward judge Mel Grossman, who famously clashed with 2 Live Crew, dies at 79

WLRN: DeSantis will take aim at teacher union dues, with contentious 'paycheck protection' proposal

Sun-Sentinel: DeSantis: Don't let union dues come out of teachers paychecks

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis directs \$7 million to infrastructure projects in rural towns

Democrat: Trulieve spending big on Florida recreational ballot measure

FlaPol: Joe Gruters, Spencer Roach renew push for partisan School Board races

FlaPol: John Stemberger endorses Christian Ziegler for Florida GOP chair

FlaPol: Florida insurance department has lost its top three regulators

Sun: State Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo will work with UF in COVID-19 vaccine research

Times: In Warren v. DeSantis, Tampa's appointed prosecutor says how she got here, where she's going

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis: Mark Glass remains FDLE Commissioner for 2nd term

FlaPol: Ileana Garcia refiles bill to add transparency to vacation rental regulation, upkeep

FlaPol: Angie Nixon 'strongly considering' leaving Florida House for Jacksonville City Council run

Post: Energy efficiency can help Floridians save on bills. Will new rule help?

WUSF: Three words in a new law threaten Florida's rental boat industry

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis appoints ousted judge who blocked teens abortion to new appeals district

Sentinel: Orlando-area judges among 3 appointed to new appeals court by DeSantis

Sun-Sentinel: Rod Velez won't be charged, as Broward School Board seat remains in limbo

WLRN: Velez's attorneys argue he's eligible to take Broward school board seat after all

Sun-Sentinel: Embezzled by casino employees, laundered by spouses: Miccosukee Tribe sues to recover stolen \$5.3 million

WLRN: Pompano Beach vice mayor engaged in 'criminal' misuse of leftover campaign funds, says watchdog report

On th Docket This Week

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2022

- CITRUS ISSUES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Citrus Commission will meet. - Florida Department of Citrus, 605 E. Main Street, Bartow.
- 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

- BROWARD DELEGATION - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The Broward County legislative delegation will meet as it prepares for the 2023 session. - Miramar City Commission chamber, 2300 Civic Center Place, Miramar.
- FINE HOSTS HOLIDAY PARTY - Wednesday, 5 p.m. - Rep. Randy Fine, R-Brevard County, will host a holiday party. - Fine district office, 2539 Palm Bay Road N.E., Palm Bay.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2022

- CITIZENS INSURANCE BOARD - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - The Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Board of Governors is scheduled to meet. - Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Code: 95637927111
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release its weekly opinions.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2022

- STATE OFFICES CLOSED

Important Meeting

Important Broadband Summit – January 26 and 27th

Open for participating entities

 [FAC BROADBAND SUMMIT.docx](#)

[Registration for BROADBAND SUMMIT](#)

Sawgrass Marriott – St. Johns County

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