



The Briefing for Thursday, February 9, 2023

The last Briefing was Tuesday, February 7 – 2023

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

IMPORTANT CORRECTION -

Sheriff Deputy Salary Increases are recommended in the Governors Budget

The funding for the increase for Sheriff Deputies was included in the Governors Budget Proposal. It is in line item 1275 in the Governor's Budget. An earlier Briefing indicated that it was not included – that was wrong. The funding was included in a line item that did not identify the specific recipients or purpose.

But it's there!

AS WEEK FOUR OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS COMES TO A CLOSE!

Here's a listing of all bills filed – [2023 Bills Filed for Consideration - 2-9-23 .docx](#)

You can word search the document and click the bill number for additional information and text of the bill.

Here is the Video Library of all committee meetings held this week!

[Video Library of All Committee meetings](#)

Significant Actions

Sovereign Immunity

Representatives of School Districts, Counties and Municipalities joined in a chorus of testimony opposing the proposed changes to Sovereign Immunity caps. The House Civil Justice Subcommittee amended HB 401 increasing Sovereign Immunity Caps from \$200,000 to \$2.5 million per individual and from \$300,000 to \$5 million per incident. Although the bill passed concerns were expressed by several Republican committee members calling for the bill to be changed as it proceeds through the process.

What other issues got the spotlight this week?

- Presentation of the ***Governor's Proposed Budget***
- Education Bills passing Senate Education Committee
 - SB 52 (ED) by Senator Burgess—***Required Instruction in Public Schools***
 - SB 178 (ED) by Senator Berman—***Upgrades to Education Facilities as Emergency Shelters***
 - SB 190 (ED) by Senator Grall—***Interscholastic Extracurricular Activities***
 - SB 212 (ED) by Senator Collins—***Emergency Response Mapping Data***
- Presentation on ***Florida Springs***
- ***Special Session Bills - Emergency Response; Statewide Prosecutors; and, Transporting Unauthorized Aliens*** all proceeded to move through the Special Session.
- HB453 - A bill proposing ***Concealed Carry without a License*** passed House committee.
- In anticipation of an expanded choice program, the House Choice and Innovation Committee received a comprehensive overview of existing ***K-12 Choice Programs***

- The House committee on education also scheduled a discussion of ***Graduation Options and Graduation Rates***
- Two bills passed in Senate Community Affairs and will get a great deal of attention:
 - ***SB 102 – Affordable Housing*** – includes a number of changes and additional funding to stimulate and fast-track affordable housing development.
 - ***SB 170 – Local Ordinances***- is a bill that requires impact statements and provides for individual and businesses to challenge ordinances that they feel impacts their profits.
- Reconstituting 3 Special Districts including ***the Eastpoint Water and Sewer District, Franklin county***
- Presentation on the ***REACH Act*** to House Post-Secondary Committee
- Discussion of ***School Start Times*** in House Choice & Innovation Subcommittee
- HB 401 ***Sovereign Immunity*** was heard in House Civil Justice Subcommittee increasing SI caps from \$200,000 to \$2.5 million per person and from \$300,000 to \$5,000,000 million per incident.

Big Items for Next Week

- Monday at 5:00pm - Submission Deadline for House Appropriation Projects
- Tuesday – 1:30pm – House Choice and Innovation will take up
 - HB 31 – Partisan School Board elections and
 - HB 477 - Term Limits for School Board members – Limiting terms from 3-four year terms to 2-four year terms
- Wednesday – 2:00pm - House Local Administration, Federal Affairs, and Special Districts will take up
 - HB 131 – Recall of County Officers and Commissioners and
 - HB 209 – Recall of County Commissioners

Headlines Around the State

Politico: DeSantis on Trump's attack: 'I don't spend my time trying to smear other Republicans'

Sentinel: DeSantis decries 'smear' after Trump posts alleged photo of governor partying with teens years ago

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis deflects when asked about Donald Trump 'groomer' attacks

Herald: Trump's escalating criticisms force early political dilemma for DeSantis

The Hill: DeSantis edges closer to 2024 decision

NBC Miami: Focused on 2024, Biden Sees Opportunity in GOP-Held Florida

Politico: Biden's potential lifeline for Florida Democrats

WUSF: President Biden will speak at University of Tampa following his State of the Union

NYTimes: Biden Heads to Florida With a Fresh Political Foil in House Republicans

Times: Joe Biden will come to Tampa to tout agenda in increasingly red Florida

The Hill: Scott doubles down on sunseting all federal programs after Biden's jab

FlaPol: Rick Scott reboots ad calling Joe Biden a tax cheat ahead of President's Florida trip

FlaPol: 'They're getting rid of conservative views': Rick Scott redoubles Newsmax defense

The Floridian: Scott Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Increase Domestic Semiconductor Production

The Floridian: Moskowitz Calls Out House Republicans on Fentanyl at Border

The Floridian: Frost Calls Border Wall "Monument of Fear"

WLRN: About a million Floridians are getting kicked off Medicaid, here's how that could affect the state

Sun-Sentinel: Citrus forecast takes another hit as Florida growers still reeling from Hurricane Ian damage

Sun-Sentinel: This invasive butterfly seriously damages citrus trees. It has now reached Florida.

WUSF: Tallahassee Memorial resumes 'limited' elective procedures as IT security threat continues

Democrat: What's going on at TMH? Experts say incident has telltale signs of a ransomware attack

City & State FL: In the mail? Postal Service consolidations will affect Florida

WUSF: Red tide continues to plague Sarasota beaches

WUSF: Health officials issue red tide alert for four sites in Lee County

Sun-Sentinel: State of the rental market: A small drop in rent prices seen in South Florida

Yahoo News: FAMU hosting award-winning journalist Soledad O'Brien at free event. Here are the details

Star-Banner: Gov. Ron DeSantis makes a stop in Ocala, touts \$2 billion in proposed tax relief

WUSF: Some call a Republican plan to allow permitless concealed carry of guns a bait-and-switch

WLRN: Elections prosecution proposal is approved

NBC Miami: Florida GOP Advances Disney District, Migrant Flight Bills

Sentinel: 'There's a new sheriff in town.' House panel OKs remake of Disney's Reedy Creek

The Capitolist: DeSantis on Reedy Creek debt: "Disney is going to pay"

Times: DeSantis Reedy Creek bill passes committee, with tax benefits intact

FlaPol: Senate passes Blaise Ingoglia's overhaul of migrant flights bill

Sentinel: Florida senators back 'Live Local' housing plan that prevents rent control

FlaPol: Senate panel advances 'Live Local Act' to boost affordable housing, ban rent control

Times: Florida housing bill moves forward despite questions about local rent control ban

News4Jax: High school sports officials reconsider menstrual questions

WLRN: Florida Supreme Court questions approval of FPL's recent rate increase

Axios: Hillsborough County leads Florida in denying abortions to minors

FlaPol: Canadian drug importation program gets lift from feds, but safety is questioned in Senate committee

Times: Florida name, image and likeness repeal clears 2 committee hurdles Wednesday

The Capitolist: Lawmakers, industry leaders rally against step therapy treatment plans

Sun: UF President Sasse tells Daytona Chamber why he left the U.S. Senate

Times-Union: Mayor candidate Cumber says "no" to council panel investigating her

Herald: A TikTok ban for Miami-Dade? Proposal targets popular app from China as security risk

WLRN: Broward programs hope to give second chances to first-time offenders

Today: Brevard consultant failed to report political contributions, gambled with PAC funds

Bradenton Herald: Manatee County middle schooler arrested in shooting threat made on TikTok, sheriff says

Bradenton Herald: Sheriff working with FBI to trace bomb threats at Parrish high school. Here's the latest

On The Docket This Week

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023

Legislature:

- SENATE RULES COMMITTEE - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Senate Rules Committee will consider bills filed for the special legislative session. - 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- HOUSE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION - Friday, 10 a.m. - The House is scheduled to a floor session as part of the special legislative session. - House chamber, the Capitol.
- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION - Friday, 1 p.m. - The Senate is scheduled to a floor session to take up bills filed for the special legislative session.
- - Senate chamber, the Capitol.

Also:

- LAND CONSERVATION - Friday, 9 a.m. - The state Acquisition and Restoration Council, which works on land-conservation issues, will meet. - Department of Environmental Protection, Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/240496606129808470>
- ‘IMPACT’ CONFERENCE HELD - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will an “impact” conference, which involves estimating potential costs of legislation. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- OPTOMETRY ISSUES - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Board of Optometry will meet. - <https://meet.goto.com/621041269>
- FLORIDA DEMOGRAPHICS ANALYZED - Friday, 1:30 p.m. - The Demographic Estimating Conference will update a state demographic forecast. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- FINANCE REPORTS DUE - State candidates and political committees face a Friday deadline for filing reports showing finance activity through Jan. 31.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

- LAURA BUSH IN FLORIDA - Saturday, 4 p.m. - Former First Lady Laura Bush is scheduled to speak during an event at Florida Atlantic University. - Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton Campus, Carole and Barry Kaye Auditorium, Boca Raton.

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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