

## ***BREAKING NEWS***



Gov. Ron DeSantis will announce a run for president on Wednesday.  
The news of DeSantis' plans was first reported by NBC.

## ***The Briefing for Tuesday – May 23 - 2023***

*The last Briefing was Wednesday, May 17, 2023*

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

***Remember - The Briefing is not every day more likely 2-3 times a week!***

### ***Florida Tax Free Weekends in 2023 Start May 27***

#### ***2023 Florida Sales Tax Holidays***

*Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holidays: May 27 – June 9, 2023 AND Aug 26 – Sept 8, 2023*

*Freedom Summer Sales Tax Holiday: May 29 – September 4, 2023*

*Back to School Tax Free Weeks: July 24 – August 6, 2023 AND January 1 – 14, 2024*

*Tool Time Sales Tax Holiday: September 2 – September 8, 2023*

*Sales Tax Savings for Parents – Diapers, Clothing, Books*

*Florida Sales Tax FAQ's*

Here's a link to all you need to know about Florida's Sales Tax Holidays

**[Florida's Sales Tax Holidays for 2023 .docx](#)**

### ***Budget Watch***

## **The General Appropriation Bill – SB 2500 has not been presented yet Expect Line-Item Vetoes of funding items in the Budget**

Florida TaxWatch is preparing to release a list of budget “turkeys,” but the Tallahassee-based group is already indicating its line-item veto suggestions to the governor could be lengthy.

The business-backed group highlighted more than 1,500 legislative-member projects that turned up in the proposed state spending plan (SB 2500) and \$670 million in “supplemental funding initiatives” that found their way into the record-high annual budget in the final days of the legislative session that ended May 5. The initiatives list is often referred to as the “sprinkle list.”

“The proliferation of member projects and the use of sprinkle lists are problematic,” Florida TaxWatch President and CEO Dominic Calabro said in a post-session press release. Calabro advised Gov. Ron DeSantis to focus on areas of the budget earmarking funds for projects involving water, local transportation, economic development, housing and community development, special local law enforcement and emergency management facilities.

### ***The Nation’s #1 Beach - St. George Island***

### ***Franklin County’s St. George Island tops list of nation's best beaches***



Franklin County’s St. George Island is a small barrier island off the Florida panhandle has been designated the [nation's best beach](#) for 2023, according to an annual ranking released by Florida International University professor Stephen Leatherman.

The beach, commonly referred to as St. George, is a nine-mile stretch of white sand in an unspoiled natural setting along the [Gulf of Mexico](#), known for its natural beauty, lack of development, abundant outdoor activities and an "unparalleled view" of the night sky.

Throughout the year, St. George Island showcases a variety of live music in several venues. The island is also home to a [number of events](#), including the annual Chili Charity Cook-Off each March. It is also just across the bridge from another great Franklin County destination, Apalachicola.

### ***Upcoming Meetings***

**June 7–9 - FSBA/FADSS Summer Conference, Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay**

**June 8 - Small School District Breakfast**

**June 27-30 - FAC Annual Summer Conference**

**June 28 - Small County Coalition Annual Meeting**

**November 29-30 - Just Announced – 2023 Rural Summit -**

***County By County Funding Contained in the 2023-24 General Appropriations Act***

### ***COUNTY BY COUNTY ALLOCATIONS***

**Fiscal Year 2023-2024 General Appropriations Act**

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

***Bradenton Herald: 'We've got a real dilemma': How Never Trump Republicans view DeSantis vs Trump***

***NBC News: Trump warned Ron DeSantis not to run. Now, he plans to keep hammering away.***

*The Floridian: Will Tim Scott Disrupt the Trump-DeSantis Rivalry?*

*FlaPol: Donald Trump props up Tim Scott at Ron DeSantis' expense*

*NBC News: Ron DeSantis is learning that not every state wants to be Florida*

*FlaPol: Ron DeSantis eyes SCOTUS replacements in next eight years*

*PNJ: 'Hostile to Black Americans': Breaking down 5 laws NAACP named in Florida travel advisory*

*Politico: NAACP president explains why the group issued Florida travel advisory*

*WUSF: The NAACP reached a breaking point in issuing a travel advisory, Hillsborough chapter president says*

*FlaPol: Byron Donalds slams 'stupid' NAACP Florida travel warning*

*FlaPol: NAACP President wants to 'get rid of' Ron DeSantis in the 'next election'*

*WUSF: Trial ends in lawsuit over Florida's ban on Medicaid coverage for gender-affirming care*

*CBS Miami: Drag show restaurant files federal lawsuit against State, Gov. DeSantis*

*Sentinel: Hamburger Mary's sues DeSantis to stop drag show law*

*The Floridian: Rick Scott Receives Citrus County Sheriff's Support of School Safety Bill*

*The Floridian: Donalds Rebukes Chuck Todd Over IRS, Govt. Spending*

*The Floridian: Jared Moskowitz Demands Compromise on Debt Ceiling*

*FlaPol: Francis Suarez says he appeals to a 'different segment' of America than Donald Trump*

*WUSF: Ex-Florida deputy charged with failing to confront Parkland shooter says he's eager for his trial*

*Yahoo News: Will more jurors need to walk through Stoneman Douglas mass shooting site? Judge to decide this week*

*FlaPol: Disney World business isn't hurt by Gov. DeSantis feud, parks leader says*

*Daily News: The Florida college student who tracked Elon Musk's jet on Twitter is now tracking Ron DeSantis*

*The Capitolist: Florida seaports accounted for 13.3 percent of Florida's GDP last year*

*Herald: Miami, Fort Lauderdale tourism leaders react to NAACP advising travelers to avoid Florida*

*Sun-Sentinel: Appeals court rejects lawsuit over FIU COVID shutdown*

*FlaPol: Lobbying compensation: Ballard Partners is top earning firm in Q1 of 2023*

*Yahoo News: 'Don't risk it': Worried about train-related deaths, cities help set up new rail safety campaign*

*Times-Union: 'Not the American dream': Hard times hit 1 in 3 Jacksonville-area families*

*WUSF: Sarasota County is expecting big help from the federal government for Hurricane Ian damage*

*DBNJ: As a local congressman, DeSantis always had his sights set on bigger things*

*The Floridian: 'DeSantis Presents the Greatest Threat to Donald Trump' says Campaign Spokesman*

*My News 13: What is the Florida State Guard? Its reauthorization and expansion is on DeSantis' desk*

*CBS Miami: Florida sued over new law blocking Chinese citizens, other foreigners from buying property*

*Politico: Chinese citizens sue Florida over law barring them from owning houses*

*Democrat: Chinese Floridians, real estate company sue over DeSantis' foreign land ownership law*

*My News: 12 more bills head to Gov. DeSantis' desk*

*FlaPol: Jimmy Patronis says NAACP is trying to 'tear down' Ron DeSantis with travel warning*

*FlaPol: VISIT FLORIDA leader Dana Young blasts travel warnings against the state as baseless partisan attacks*

*Times: New College of Florida faculty votes to censure trustees*

*FlaPol: Florida Public Health Integrity Committee members give WHO pandemic treaty mixed reviews*

*WLRN: Florida retailers await approval for two fast-approaching tax holidays*

*Sentinel: Florida sales-tax holidays could begin this weekend*

*Sun-Sentinel: DeSantis delays execution of South Florida killer*

*Times: DeSantis puts hold on Florida execution following insanity claim*

*Times: Florida senator sued by his family business for 'embezzling' money*

*FlaPol: Nick DiCeglie attorneys dismiss accusations in new lawsuit as garbage*

*WUSF: Questions abound following changes to Florida's school start times*

*TCPalm: New law sets mandated start times for schools, but no changes are coming before 2026*

*My News 13: Orlando woman wins fight to get education on Asian, Pacific Islander history in schools*

*FlaPol: Moms for Liberty activist Monique Miller running to succeed Randy Fine*

*Axios: Florida Pride organizers cancel events, warn of "climate of fear"*

*FlaPol: Chip LaMarca warns Broward Library over banned book promotion*

*WLRN: Broward School Board picks seven semifinalists in superintendent search*

*WLRN: Controversy as Broward School Board pushes for clear backpacks after closed-doors meeting*

*Times: USF faculty not sold on Bulls \$340 million football stadium plan*

*NBC Miami: Here's How Much Miami Taxpayers Have Paid So Far for Joe Carollo's Legal Fees*

*Daily News: Alfie Oakes files lawsuit against Collier School Board over superintendent search*

*Sun: University of Florida suspends research study that resulted in dogs' deaths*

*PNJ: Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program releases its first "state of the bays" report*

*Vanity Fair: How William F. Buckley Jr.'s Right-Wing College Crusade Paved the Way for Ron DeSantis*

*Politico: Why Ron DeSantis should hope he's the second coming of John McCain*

*FlaPol: New Hampshire gets to know Ron DeSantis*

*FlaPol: Never Back Down builds support in Iowa for Ron DeSantis*

*Politico: DeSantis largely avoids abortion at anti-abortion group's gala*

*Sun-Sentinel: 'This government promised us freedom': South Florida activists rally to get abortion on the ballot*

*The Hill: DeSantis embraces national GOP strategy on energy issues like ESG, gas stoves*

*FlaPol: NAACP says Florida is a travel no-go zone*

*FlaPol: Parents of transgender kids battle Ron DeSantis in court*

*Democrat: Florida religious leaders denounce DeSantis' years-long pause of Civil Rights Hall of Fame inductions*

*FlaPol: Duval Dems' chair describes Donna Deegan as 'once in a generation' candidate*

*Herald: Miami taxpayers' bill for Carollo legal fees: \$1.9 million. And that was before trial began*

### **On the Docket**

#### **MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023**

- PUBLIC HEALTH PANEL - Monday, 9:30 a.m. The state Public Health Integrity Committee, which is chaired by Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo, will meet. Cabinet -ing room, the Capitol.
- ST. JOHNS RIVER COLLEGE BOARD - Monday, 3:30 p.m. The St. Johns River State College Board of Trustees will meet. St. Johns River State College, St. Augustine Campus, Viking Center, 2990 College Dr., St. Augustine.

#### **TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023**

- DESANTIS, CABINET - Tuesday, 9 a.m. Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Florida Cabinet will meet. Cabinet -ing room, the Capitol.
- SOUTHWEST WATER BOARD - Tuesday, 9 a.m. The Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. Southwest Florida Water Management District, 7601 U.S. 301 North, Tampa.
- HURRICANE SEASON EYED Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. The Florida Public Service Commission will receive a briefing from utilities about hurricane-season preparations. The briefing will be held after a commission internal-affairs -ing, which will start at 9:30 a.m Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- APPELLATE COURTS DISCUSSED Tuesday, 11 a.m. The Florida Bar Media & Communications Law Committee and the Florida Supreme Court will present a free reporters' workshop about appellate courts in the state [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_VkTxnb-IRWihUgHqhag9IQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VkTxnb-IRWihUgHqhag9IQ)
- BROWARD COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 1 p.m. The Broward College Board of Trustees will meet. Broward College, Willis Holcombe Downtown Center, 111 East Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale.
- SUICIDE DETERRENCE DISCUSSED Tuesday, 2 p.m. The Florida First Responder Suicide Deterrence Task Force will meet. Information at <http://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events--ings/first-responder-task-force--ing>
- KEYS COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 2 p.m. The Board of Trustees of The College of the Florida Keys will meet. The College of the Florida Keys, Key West Campus, 5901 College Road, Key West.

- MANATEE-SARASOTA COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. The Board of Trustees of the State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota is scheduled to - State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, Bradenton Campus, 5840 26th St. West, Bradenton.
- WATER RATES -Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. The Florida Public Service Commission will hold an online hearing about rate increases sought by Keen Sales, Rentals and Utilities, Inc., which operates two water systems in Polk County <https://www.floridapsc.com/watch-archive-psc-events>

### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023**

- BOARD OF EDUCATION - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The State Board of Education will meet. in Miami-Dade County Miami-Dade College, Hialeah Campus, 1780 West 49th St., Hialeah.
- UNEMPLOYMENT CASES - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet. Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Conference ID: 175899214
- CITIZENS ISSUES - Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. The Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Consumer Services Committee will meet. [https://citizensfla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_wSEDciZnSvGkibno-KGiUQ#/registration](https://citizensfla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wSEDciZnSvGkibno-KGiUQ#/registration). Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Code: 97781432199
- CYBERSECURITY - Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The Florida Cybersecurity Advisory Council will meet. University of Florida, Emerson Alumni Hall, 1938 West University Ave., Gainesville.
- 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.
- HILLSBOROUGH COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 3 p.m. The Hillsborough Community College Board of Trustees will hold a workshop, followed by a full board -ing Hillsborough Community College, Dale Mabry Campus, 4001 West Tampa Bay Blvd., Tampa.

### **THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023**

- ‘PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY’ - Thursday, 9 a.m. House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast, is expected to be among the speakers at the Florida Chamber Foundation’s “Florida Prosperity & Economic Opportunity Solution Summit.”Location: Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, 225 East Coastline Dr., Jacksonville.
- ARTS AND CULTURE - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Council on Arts & Culture will meet. <https://-.goto.com/CultureBuildsFL/fcac-may-2023>. Call-in number: 1-872-240-3212. Code: 867868077
- INDEPENDENT EDUCATION PANEL - Thursday, 9 a.m. The state Commission for Independent Education will meet. Wyndham Orlando Resort, 8001 International Dr., Orlando.
- VALENCIA COLLEGE TRUSTEES - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. The Valencia College Board of Trustees will meet. Valencia College, East Campus, 701 North Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando.
- APALACHEE PLANNING COUNCIL - Thursday, 10 a.m. The Apalachee Regional Planning Council will meet. Apalachee Regional Planning Council, 2507 Callaway Road, Suite 100, Tallahassee.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINION - Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- NORTH CENTRAL PLANNING COUNCIL - Thursday, 7 p.m. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 213 Southwest Commerce Blvd., Lake City.

### **FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023**

- INDEPENDENT EDUCATION PANEL - Friday, 9 a.m. The state Commission for Independent Education will meet. Wyndham Orlando Resort, 8001 International Dr., Orlando.

**SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023**

- DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ‘HOLIDAY’ STARTS - Florida will start a disaster-preparedness tax “holiday” that will allow shoppers to avoid paying sales taxes when they buy a wide range of disaster-preparedness supplies and household

***Legislative Reports***

**[SCC - Legislative Report for the 2023 Regular Legislative Session - May 9, 2023](#)**

**[SSDCC 2023 -Legislative Report -May 8](#)**

***About the Briefing!***

***The Briefing is prepared almost daily by Chris Doolin***

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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](mailto:cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)

**If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go [www.smallcountycoalition.org](http://www.smallcountycoalition.org) or [www.ssdcc.org](http://www.ssdcc.org) and click on the red **Briefing** button.**

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