



***2023 Legislative Session Coming In For A Landing!
Today and Tomorrow Last Days!***

The Briefing – Thursday – May 4 - 2023

Day 59 of the 60 day Legislative Session – 1 day til Sine Die!

The last Briefing was Wednesday, May 4, 2023

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

You can watch Legislative Meetings on [The Florida Channel](#)

Tonya Shays

Retiring from the Senate after 35 years!



After 35 years of service in the Florida Senate, Tonya Shays will be retiring. Tonya was recognized for her service by Senator Jennifer Bradley Wednesday morning on the floor of the Senate during the opening session. Tonya has worked under the leadership of 26 Senate Presidents coming to work when Senator Dempsey Barron served as President of the Senate. Ms. Shays has served five senators during her 35 years of service – George Kirkpatrick, Rod Smith, Steve Oelrich, Rob Bradley, and currently Jennifer Bradley. She has served with distinction, and over the years has shown deep concern for Florida's rural and small counties. The people of Florida have been well served.

The Quick

The next day and ½ will be frenetic as House and Senate bills wait for final Action. With the way things have gone – no surprises/tricks are predicted just limited time! The relationship between Senator Passidomo and Speaker Renner has been very cooperative with each getting their

priorities passed very early in the Session. Much earlier than is customary setting the table for smooth sailing. The Conference process over the budget is over and is being touted as one of the smoothest budget negotiations every – having a lot of money does make things easier. The “72 hour cooling off” period required in the Constitution began mid-morning on Tuesday. A vote on the budget could come as early as 10:30ish Friday morning.

Rural Economic Development Legislation Postured for Final Passage

The Rural Economic Development bill HB 1209 which includes provisions for the State to pay invoices for local governments and other changes to match provisions is in House messages after adoption in the Senate. That’s a big one for rural areas.

Here's a quick glance at some of the issues

- 😊 Sovereign Immunity Changes Died!
- 😊 Term Limits for County Commissioners died!
- 😊 Florida Retirement Changes were Scaled back to 10% of original proposal.
- 😊 Funding for Small Districts Protected
- 😊 Sparsity was repealed but a Small District Factor was included in the FEFP
- 😊 Comparable Wage Factor increased the old “DCD” so every district receives a factor of 1.0.
 - 😊 Special Facilities – fully funded
 - 😊 Regional Consortia – fully funded
- 😊 Reduction of Concordant Score needed to receive high school diploma!
 - 😊 Major funding for County Projects and Program Priorities
 - 😊 Over \$100,000,000 to support Fiscally Constrained Counties
 - 😊 Over \$100 million to support Small County Road Programs
 - 😊 Over \$100 million to support continue Broadband and Digital Expansion
- 😊 Significant funding supporting Infrastructure, Water, and Springs protection
 - 😊 Over \$700,000,000 to funding Housing Programs
 - 😊 \$80,000,000 to support Visit Florida
- 😊 Funding for Agriculture, Cultural, Historic Preservation and Parks Projects

Bills that have passed Pertaining to Education and Local Governments

<u>HB 0001</u>	Education by Tuck
<u>HB 0003</u>	Government and Corporate Activism by Rommel
<u>HB 0031</u>	Partisan Elections for Members of District School Boards by Roach
<u>HB 0095</u>	Rights of Law Enforcement Officers and Correctional Officers by Duggan
<u>SB 0102</u>	Housing by Calatayud

<u>HB 0109</u>	State Park Campsite Reservations by Canady
<u>HB 0111</u>	Flooding and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Studies by Hunschofsky
<u>HB 0125</u>	Utility System Rate Base Values by McClain
<u>SB 0170</u>	Local Ordinances by Trumbull
<u>HB 0199</u>	Ethics Requirements for Officers and Employees of Special Tax Districts by Hunschofsky
<u>SB 0214</u>	Sales of Firearms and Ammunition by Burgess
<u>SB 0240</u>	Education by Hutson
<u>SB 0250</u>	Natural Emergencies by Martin
<u>SB 0256</u>	Employee Organizations Representing Public Employees by Ingoglia
<u>SB 0258</u>	Prohibited Applications on Government-issued Devices by Burgess
<u>SB 0284</u>	Energy by Brodeur
<u>HB 0329</u>	Electronic Monitoring of Persons Charged with or Convicted of Offenses Involving Schools or Students by Maggard
<u>SB 0346</u>	Public Construction by DiCeglie
<u>HB 0477</u>	Term Limits for District School Board Members by Rizo
<u>SB 0540</u>	Local Government Comprehensive Plans by DiCeglie
<u>HB 0543</u>	Public Safety by Brannan III
<u>SB 0552</u>	Public Records/Broadband Opportunity Program by Hooper
<u>SB 0574</u>	Termination of Agreements by a Servicemember by Burgess
<u>HB 0645</u>	Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act by Brackett
<u>SB 0666</u>	Form of Candidate Oath by Collins
<u>SB 0718</u>	Local Government by Yarborough
<u>SB 0724</u>	Seagrass Restoration Technology Development Initiative by Boyd
<u>SB 0726</u>	Library Cooperative Grants by Rodriguez
<u>SB 0752</u>	Temporary Commercial Kitchens by Calatayud
<u>SB 0774</u>	Ethics Requirements for Public Officials by Brodeur
<u>HB 0829</u>	Operation and Administration of the Baker Act by Silvers
<u>HB 0847</u>	Vessel Regulations by Stark

<u>SB 1068</u>	Drone Delivery Services by Collins
<u>HB 1221</u>	Broadband Internet Service Providers by Tomkow
<u>HB 1281</u>	Preemption Over Utility Service Restrictions by Buchanan
<u>SB 1418</u>	Emergency Communications by Bradley
<u>SB 7030</u>	Trust Funds/State Opioid Settlement Trust Fund/Department of Children and Families by Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services

[Links to Monitor the Legislative Session](#)

[Link to the Florida Senate](#)

[Link the Florida House of Representatives](#)

[The Florida Channel](#)

[House and Senate Calendars for final days](#)

[House Calendar](#)

[Senate Calendar](#)

Broadband Technical Assistance Webinar

[Broadband Webinar - USDA Technical Assistance Grants .docx](#)

**FY2023 Broadband Technical Assistance (BTA) Funding Opportunity
Announcement (FOA) Webinar**

USDA is offering funding under the new Broadband Technical Assistance Program. \$20 million is available to support technical assistance projects such as conducting feasibility studies, completing network designs and developing broadband financial assistance applications.

RUS will be hosting its first BTA FOA webinar on **Monday, May 8, 2023 from 1:00PM to 2:00PM Eastern**. The webinar will include:

- An overview of the recently published FOA
- How to apply
- An opportunity for attendees to ask questions about the FOA

Monday, May 8, 2023 from 1:00PM to 2:00PM Eastern

[Register here!](#)

Headlines Around the State

[USA Today: Donors to Ron DeSantis know he's struggling. They still want him to be president in 2024.](#)

[The Hill: GOP on DeSantis: Don't underestimate him](#)

[Herald: Republicans romped in Florida last year. Biden may try to compete in the state anyway](#)

[NYTimes: In Blow to DeSantis, Florida Bills to Limit Press Protections Are Shelved](#)

[FlaPol: Ron DeSantis again decries 'anonymous sources' after anti-defamation bill fails](#)

[NBC Miami: Florida's Insurance Crisis Only Expected to Get Worse: Analysts](#)

[The Hill: Gaetz on cosponsoring lawmaker stock trade bill: Ocasio-Cortez is 'wrong a lot' but 'not corrupt'](#)

[Herald Tribune: Text messages show New College alum acted as liaison between DeSantis' office and board](#)

FlaPol: As pandemic ends, Legislature passes permanent ban on mask, vaccine mandates

DBNJ: Will new law help solve the housing crisis or create more problems?

Herald: 'This will hurt': Miami's real estate community fears impact of DeSantis-backed bills

My News 13: Former Disney World exec Lee Cockerell talks about DeSantis' fight with Disney

News4Jax: Florida executes man convicted of 1986 stabbing death of woman killed during an apartment break-in

PNJ: 'I can't explain why I did what I did': Florida inmate Darryl Barwick apologizes before execution

Sun-Sentinel: Florida OKs AP precalculus course after delay that worried educators

FlaPol: Former death row inmates slam new Florida law making it easier to impose capital punishment

Democrat: Gillum trial deliberations Day 4: 'Things have not unfolded in the normal way' with the jury

The Capitolist: Florida retains top nationwide higher education ranking for seventh consecutive year

Sun: Gainesville group, dedicated to immigrants' rights, worries about Florida proposal

WUSF: More Florida, Tampa Bay families are living paycheck to paycheck

Herald Tribune: New College fires librarian, second LGBTQ faculty member dismissed this year

News4Jax: Prosecutors will seek death penalty against man accused of orchestrating Jared Bridegan murder conspiracy

Daily News: These are the Southwest Florida murderers on death row

Post: Man who killed West Palm teen was spared the death penalty. Here's how he'll pay instead.

WUSF: Pulse memorial is set to move after onePulse and property owners fail to reach a deal

CBS Miami: Pulse nightclub National Memorial won't be built on property, foundation says

Post: Erika Mattfeld Kirk, widow of Florida Gov. Claude Kirk, dies at 88

Post: Brightline broke even in March but it's the Orlando leg that will turn a profit

WLRN: Underwater cemetery found off Dry Tortugas National Park

Sun-Sentinel: Fort Lauderdale mayor wants to hand out millions to flood victims. Commission says no way.

FlaPol: Absent a debate opponent, Donna Deegan meets the press

NBC Miami: Is Betting on Horses Legal in Florida? Here's What to Know Ahead of the Kentucky Derby

News4Jax: Attorney for Aiden Fucci's mother is requesting to eliminate state DNA analyst from testifying

Democrat: Florida Small Business Development Center at FAMU opens new incubator

Post: Three Palm Beach County attorneys among eight disciplined by Florida Supreme Court

Democrat: Marine Corps detachment dedicates monument at Tallahassee National Cemetery

My News 13: Multiple arrested at sit-in rally at Gov. DeSantis office

Democrat: About a dozen protesters arrested while singing in DeSantis' office during sit-in

Democrat: After culture clashes, Florida Legislature's last act is a state budget. What's in it?

City & State FL: In the money: Florida's 2023-24 budget by the numbers

My News 13: Florida Legislature votes to defund diversity, equity, and inclusion programs

Politico: Florida lawmakers restrict pronouns and tackle book objections in sweeping education bill

News4Jax: Florida Republicans pass school bills on pronouns, diversity

Times: 'Pronouns' bill OK'd; would further limit gender topics in Florida schools

My News 13: Bill expanding Parental Rights in Education headed to Gov. DeSantis

CBS Miami: Florida Gov. DeSantis signs restrictions on pharmacy benefit managers

Sentinel: DeSantis signs bill aimed at lowering prescription drug prices

Politico: Florida Republicans pass bill targeting transgender bathroom use

Bradenton Herald: House narrows restrictions on foreign buyers of Florida property except for Chinese

Post: Does firebrand Randy Fine want to lead FAU? He won't say. Others worry he's not a good fit.

FlaPol: 'It will absolutely save lives': Legislature approves bill decriminalizing fentanyl test strips

FlaPol: Legislature approves bill codifying TikTok ban on government devices, networks

Democrat: To those targeted by bills, session felt like a conveyor belt of trauma

Times: Lawmakers want to up the stakes for Floridians who challenge local development plans

WLRN: FL lawmakers pass hemp regulation bill without THC caps, heads to DeSantis' desk

FlaPol: House refuses amended Kratom Consumer Protection Act, sends original version back to Senate

WLRN: Lawmakers sign off on next step in Florida's fight against human trafficking

FlaPol: Bill aimed reclaiming abandoned African American cemeteries readied for final passage

WLRN: Bill threatens hundreds of Florida's historic buildings with demolition

FlaPol: Bill requiring tax money to pay for charter schools capital outlay readied for passage

FlaPol: Legislature passes 'Curtis' Law' requiring police transparency with families of murdered children

FlaPol: Legislature unanimously passes bill restricting social media, student phone use in school

FlaPol: Democrats fume as House votes to name road after Rush Limbaugh

FlaPol: House agrees to Senate language on septic tank, Florida Forever package

Sentinel: Tyre Sampson Act passes, aims at ride safety but shields records

FlaPol: Mental health funding tops Sam Garrison's 2024 priority list

Today: Florida lawmakers put Indian River Lagoon in line for \$100 million in cleanup projects.

Star-Banner: May 16 is Election Day for special Florida House District 24 race: What you need to know

Sun-Sentinel: Palm Beach County election showdown: Democratic mayor vs. DeSantis-appointed Republican

Sun: School superintendent's future questioned during heated debate

The Capitolist: Brevard County School District taps Mark Rendell as new superintendent

Daily News: Board votes, 3-2: Ricciardelli is new superintendent of Collier Schools. What we know

DBNJ: 'Never said' ban: Volusia Council backs off children's book review

WUSF: Red tide is still hanging around Sarasota County beaches

On the Docket

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023

— Legislature:

- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION -Thursday, 10 a.m. The Senate is scheduled to hold a floor session. Senate chamber, the Capitol.
- HOUSE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION -Thursday, 10 a.m. The House is scheduled to hold a floor session. House chamber, the Capitol.
- SENATE SPECIAL ORDER SET -Thursday, 15 minutes after floor session. The Senate Special Order Calendar Group is scheduled to set a special-order calendar, which will list bills to be heard on the Senate floor. 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS -Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023

— Legislature:

- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION -Friday, 10 a.m. The Senate is scheduled to hold a floor session. Senate chamber, the Capitol.
- HOUSE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION -Friday, 10 a.m. The House is scheduled to hold a floor session. House chamber, the Capitol.

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

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red **Briefing** button.

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