



December 7, 1941 a day that will live in infamy!

On the morning of December 7, 1941, the Japanese Imperial Navy launched a surprise attack on the US naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. More than 2,000 Americans were killed amid the bombings, which destroyed a significant number of US battleships and airplanes. In a speech to Congress the following day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the day of the attack "a date which will live in infamy." Shortly thereafter, Congress passed a declaration of war against Japan, casting the United States into World War II.

## ***The Briefing for December 7 - 2023***

*The last Briefing was December 5,– 2023*

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

### **Legislature Continues Preparation for the 2024 Legislative Session**

The House and Senate held committee meetings this week hearing presentations on various agency programs and considering some bills that have been filed. A major development this week was the release of the Governor's budget proposal for FY 24-25.

#### **Governor's Budget Proposal for 24-25**

#### **Governor's Budget Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Bill Format)**

#### **Proposed K-12 Funding**

#### **Recommendation for the Florida Education Funding Program**

#### **Education Funding - Summary Report**

#### **Senate Committee Approves Rural Development Legislation**

Of significance was the passage of SB 196 – Regional Rural Development Grants Legislation proposed by Senator Corey Simon. The bills companion bill is HB 141 filed by Representation Abbott. The bills are identical and specifically provide that that funding provided under the Regional Rural Development Grants Program are not matching grants. The bill eliminates the requirement that grant funds received by a regional economic development organization must be matched each year by nonstate resources in an amount equal to 25 percent of the state contributions. The bill also removes the requirement that the DOC consider the demonstrated need of the applicant for assistance when approving participants for the program. Lastly, the bill removes the requirement that an applicant must show proof that each local government and the private sector made a financial or in-kind commitment to the regional organization in order to receive funding. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

#### **House Committee Received Presentation on Invasive Plant Management**

The House Appropriations Subcommittee for Agriculture and Natural Resources received presentations from the FWC and the St. Johns River Water Management District programs on Invasive Plants. Below are the links to the committee meeting and the powerpoint presentation.

[Video of Meeting](#)

[Meeting Material Packet Power Point](#)

### ***Education Deregulation Bills on Senate Fiscal Policy Agenda Next Tuesday***

Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 9:30—11:30 a.m. - 412 Knott Building:

- SB 7000 <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2024/7000> - by the Committee on Education Pre-K -12 (Simon)— Deregulation of Public Schools/Instructional, Administrative, and Support Personnel
- SB 7002 <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2024/7002> by the Committee on Education Pre-K -12 (Simon)— Deregulation of Public Schools/School District Finance and Budgets, Facilities, and Administration and Oversight
- SB 7004 <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2024/7004> - by the Committee on Education Pre-K -12 (Simon)— Deregulation of Public Schools/Assessment and Accountability, Instruction, and Education Choice

### ***Legislature To Meet Next Week***

*Here are links to the final House and Senate meeting calendars for next week.*

[\*Senate Calendar for Next Week Committee Meetings\*](#)

[\*House Calendar for Next Weeks Committee Meetings\*](#)

### ***Legislative Priorities of the Small County Coalition***

[\*The Small County Coalition - 2024 Legislative Program - November 2023 .docx\*](#)

### ***Legislative Priorities of the Small School District Council Consortium***

[\*SSDCC 2024 Legislative Priorities - Adopted - Final Revised - November 2023 .docx\*](#)

### ***Links to Monitor the Legislative Session***

[\*Link to the Florida Senate\*](#)

[\*Link to the Florida House of Representatives\*](#)

[\*The Florida Channel\*](#)

### ***Headlines Around The State***

*Herald: DeSantis trains his fire on an ascendant Haley in latest Republican primary debate*

*Herald Tribune: 'She caves': Takeaways from Gov. DeSantis' aggressive debate performance against Haley*

*FlaPol: Ron DeSantis turns up the heat in fourth Republican presidential debate*

*The Capitolist: DeSantis amplifies stage presence amid consolidated debate stage, reiterates key campaign points*

*Post: Is Trump mentally fit? Debate question sparks Christie, DeSantis sparring*

*Herald: 'Afraid to answer': Christie challenges DeSantis on whether Trump is fit to be president*

*Politico: GOP strategist Phil Cox joins DeSantis super PAC*

*Yahoo News: Former Gov. Jeb Bush calls for older Americans to 'get off' the political stage*

*WUSF: The College Board releases a new framework for its AP African American Studies course*

*Politico: College Board's updated African-American studies course nods to Colin Kaepernick and Black feminism*

*NYTimes: Ron DeSantis Assailed the Florida State Playoff Snub. Will He Do It at Alabama?*

*Democrat: Florida faculty 'strongly object' to removal of sociology from core college courses list*

*WLRN: South Florida lawmakers push Congress for commission to study rise in antisemitism*

*The Capitolist: Citizens CEO in response to Senate inquiry: "We will always have the ability to pay our claims"*

*Sentinel: Florida low-income children's health insurance expansion delayed after paperwork issue*

*Sun-Sentinel: Surcharge risks drop sharply for Citizens Insurance customers next year*

*Post: Parkland survivor: Energize voters for Democrats in 2024, or 'the consequences are dire'*

*Times: Hundreds died using kratom in Florida. It was touted as safe.*

*Ledger: Unemployment claims in Florida declined last week*

*My News 13: Redistricting expert talks Florida's congressional map battle*

*AP: Florida man, already facing death for a 1998 murder, now indicted for a 2nd. Detectives fear others*

*WUSF: Free Palestine march winds through downtown Fort Myers*

*WLRN: Hanukkah message of light in darkness feels uniquely relevant for South Florida Jews amid war*

*Sun-Sentinel: Bible will still be allowed in Broward school libraries*

*Ledger: Florida Methodist Conference approves departures of 74 more churches*

*WLRN: 'Not even close': Clean-up of Everglades water polluted by Big Sugar struggles to keep up*

*Herald: Will insanity defense save man who admits to Coral Gables murders, from death penalty?*

*AP: Juanita Castro, anti-communist sister of Cuban leaders Fidel and Raul, dies in Miami at 90*

*Sentinel: Seminole charter school leaders did not criminally break Sunshine Laws, probe finds*

*Politico: Florida Republicans try to oust GOP chair amid rape probe*

*FlaPol: Republicans set in motion 30-day process to possibly expel Christian Ziegler*

*Post: Palm Beach County Republicans join calls for Florida GOP chair to resign*

*Herald Tribune: Sarasota GOP calls on Christian Ziegler to resign from leading state party*

*Herald Tribune: School Board Chair Karen Rose calls on Bridget Ziegler to resign, joining Edwards, others*

*Herald Tribune: Bridget Ziegler resigns director position at conservative nonprofit Leadership Institute*

*My News 13: State tourism funding increased to \$105 million in Gov. DeSantis' 2024-25 budget*

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis budget would add \$10M to Jewish day school security allocation*

*FlaPol: Disney board keeps quiet on scandal surrounding Bridget Ziegler's husband*

*FlaPol: Ethics panel tosses FDP complaint against Gov. DeSantis staff, cites 'insufficient evidence'*

*My News 13: In DeSantis' budget, citrus industry would see \$20 million in state funds*

*WUSF: DeSantis appointees accuse Disney district predecessors of cronyism; Disney calls them revisionist*

*Sentinel: Florida Supreme Court appears inclined to uphold DeSantis' suspension of Worrell*

*Politico: Democratic prosecutor suspended by DeSantis takes fight to Florida high court*

*WUSF: Suspended prosecutor Monique Worrell tells state Supreme Court that DeSantis exceeded his authority*

*Sentinel: DeSantis Disney board vows to take on affordable housing, traffic woes*

*PNJ: New Florida bill wants to expand vaccine exemptions and hold vaccine manufacturers liable*

*The Capitolist: Insurance Commissioner Michael Yaworsky claims federal overreach in climate risk data collection*

*FlaPol: Republican lawmakers introduce legislation that would ban local officials from getting gifts from 'countries of concern'*

*TCPalm: St. Lucie Republicans want DeSantis to remove Sheriff Keith Pearson, open ethics investigation*

*TCPalm: Who is Keith Pearson? New St. Lucie sheriff was a lieutenant last week*

*WUSF: Democrat who lost House race in South Florida may challenge results over winner's residency issue*

*WUSF: GOP candidate wins state House race in South Florida amid questions over district residency*

*WUSF: Florida Senate panel backs annual electric vehicle registration fees*

*FlaPol: Proposed jury duty exemptions for new mothers advances in House with recommendations*

*FlaPol: Lawmakers underline concerns with unrestricted local Communications Services Tax*

*Today: How does Brevard Public Schools' guardian program compare to other Florida districts?*

*WUSF: USF Trustees talk about free speech on campus and approve Rhea Law's performance bonus*

*WLRN: How low voter turnout can harm Miami-Dade residents — and how to fix it*

*Sentinel: onePulse must repay \$394,000 to Florida for unbuilt museum, letter states*

*My News 13: FLHSMV services back up after network outage*

*Sun: Alachua County educators disappointed with proposed \$50K raise for superintendent*

***On the Docket – Week of December 4***

***THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023***

***— Legislature:***

- MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES - Thursday, 8 a.m. - The House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the Department of Children and Families about state mental-health treatment facilities. - Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- LAKE APOPKA - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the St. Johns River Water Management District about Lake Apopka. - 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The House Education Quality Subcommittee will receive a presentation about chronic absenteeism. - Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- ELECTRIC VEHICLE FEE PROPOSED - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The House Transportation & Modals Subcommittee will take up a bill (HB 107), filed by Rep. Tiffany Esposito, R-Fort Myers, that would require electric-vehicle owners to pay registration fees aimed at helping make up for lost gas-tax dollars. - 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- VOTING MACHINES - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The House Ethics, Elections & Open Government Subcommittee will receive a presentation from the Department of State about certification of voting machines. - Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- 'PFAS' - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee will receive a presentation on substances known by the acronym PFAS. - 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.

**— Also:**

- FAMU BOARD - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida A&M University Board of Trustees will meet. - Florida A&M University, Grand Ballroom, Tallahassee.
- FGCU TRUSTEES - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet. - <https://www.fgcu.edu/about/leadership/fgcuboardoftrustees/boardcast>
- FIU TRUSTEES - Thursday, 9 a.m., with full board at 2 p.m. - The Florida International University Board of Trustees will meet after holding a series of committee meetings. - Florida International University, Graham University Center, 11200 S.W. Eighth St., Miami.
- UNCLAIMED PROPERTY - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will take up issues related to unclaimed property. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- GREENWAYS, TRAILS PANEL - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Greenways and Trails Council is scheduled to meet. - Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Carr Building, 3800 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee.
- PAROLE CASES - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. - 13th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office, 419 North Pierce St., Tampa. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- SOUTHWEST PLANNING COUNCIL - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. - South Florida Water Management District, 2301 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91588729954?pwd=OVerTVNQVVpRZjQrY1Jab1dpMDBPUT09>. Call -in number: 1-929-205-6099. Meeting ID: 91588729954. Code: 082520
- 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.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release weekly opinions.
- SIMPSON, SIMON SPEAK AT CHAMBER EVENT - Thursday, 1 p.m. - Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson and state Sen. Corey Simon, R-Tallahassee, are slated to be among the speakers during the Florida Chamber Foundation's "Florida Transportation, Growth & Infrastructure Solution Summit." - Information at <https://floridachamberfoundation.regfox.com/2023-virtual-florida-transportation-growth-infrastructure-solution-summit>
- SUICIDE PREVENTION - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The state Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council will meet. - Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/suicide-prevention-coordinating-council-quarterly-meeting-1>

- NURSING BOARD - Thursday, 1:30 p.m. - The Florida Board of Nursing will meet. - Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, 5001 Coconut Road, Bonita Springs.
- DEVELOPMENT PERMIT - Thursday, 4 p.m. - The Florida Department of Environmental Protection will hold a meeting about a proposed wetlands-related permit for the Bellmar development in Collier County. - Collier Public Library, Naples Regional Branch, 650 Central Ave., Naples.
- SUNRAIL EXTENSION - Thursday, 5:30 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation will hold a meeting about options for extending the SunRail commuter-rail service to Orlando International Airport and to the Orange County Convention Center and south International Drive areas. - Delta Hotels by Marriott, 12490 South Apopka Vineland Road, Orlando.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023**

- PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD - Friday, 8 a.m. - The Florida Board of Physical Therapy will meet. - Hyatt Place Titusville/Kennedy Space Center, 6299 Riverfront Center Blvd., Titusville.
- NURSING BOARD - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Board of Nursing will meet. - Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, 5001 Coconut Road, Bonita Springs.
- MEDICAID DRUGS - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - The state Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee, which makes recommendations for a preferred drug list, will meet. - Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Dr., Tallahassee.
- ACUPUNCTURE BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Board of Acupuncture will meet. - Call-in number: 1-866-899-4679. Code: 659073965
- FSDB TRUSTEES - Friday, 9:45 a.m. - The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Board of Trustees will meet. - Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, Moore Hall, 207 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine.
- UF TRUSTEES - Friday, 10 a.m. - The University of Florida Board of Trustees will meet. - University of Florida, Emerson Alumni Hall, Gainesville. <https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/d2ef05d935924d40b241ec1782c94b5d1d>
- CITRUS FORECAST UPDATED - Friday, noon. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will update projections for the 2023-2024 citrus growing season. - Call-in number: 1-888-844-9904. Code: 8552986
- 'IMPACT' CONFERENCE HELD - Friday, 1:30 p.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will hold an "impact" conference, which involves analyzing potential costs of legislation. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- OPTICIANRY BOARD - Friday, 2 p.m. - The Florida Board of Opticianry will meet. - Call-in number: 1-866-899-4679. Code: 113175853

***About the Briefing!***

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

***[cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com](mailto:cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com)***

The Briefing is compiled to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School Representing District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email [\\_cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com](mailto:_cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)

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