



2024
Regular Legislative
Session
Day 2 of 60



The Briefing for January 10, 2024

The last Briefing was January 9, 2024
How's your weather – <https://weather.com/>

Opening Day Remarks – Leaders Outline Expectations

Governor DeSantis' State of the State Address

[Governor Ron DeSantis' State of the State to Joint Legislative Session.docx](#)

The Governor's State of the State primarily reviewed successes over the past four years and called on the Legislature to stay the course.

Senate President Kathleen Passidomo

[Senate President Kathleen Passidomo Opening Remarks .docx](#)

- **Health Care** -- Make sure our health care system is growing and innovating; Expand Florida's health care workforce with new opportunities for education, training and retention.
- **Public School Deregulation** - Cut the red tape and reduce bureaucracy in our neighborhood public schools, while maintaining high academic standards and school safety.
- **Environmental Protection** - Historic investments in the natural beauty of our state, ; Conservation and preservation of Florida's land and water resources and Preserve working farmland and rangeland, allow for strategic expansion of the wildlife corridor, and help protect endangered native species.

Speaker of the House Paul Renner

[Speaker Renner's Opening Remarks .docx](#)

- **Invest in Florida's long-term infrastructure** - commit new funds from the Seminole compact to support Florida's environmental infrastructure and protect our natural resources for the future.
- **Enhance Health care, including mental health.** - bring greater transparency to the price and quality of health care.; relieving critical shortages and providing more health care access to Floridians; Baker Act reforms; meaningful treatment and propose new solutions to homelessness and, funding for new initiatives to improve health care, including mental health
- **Prioritize the unique needs of children** - Help parents with children in poverty overcome the fiscal cliffs of public assistance programs and support other health care initiatives that benefit children, both before and after they are born. Address Social media and its negative impact on children's mental health.
- **Keeping Floridians safe** - Empower law enforcement to combat human trafficking, punish flash mobs that target retailers, and take a hard line against juveniles who steal guns and use them to commit crimes. Formation of a special task force to investigate and prosecute antisemitic acts in our state.

- **Congressional Changes** - support for imposing term limits and a balanced budget on the federal government.

Tracked Bills Getting Heard

Bills dealing with Economic Development; Bears and Deregulation on the docket in next two days

Wednesday Jan 10, 2024

- 8:00AM-10:00AM H Criminal Justice Subcommittee 404 H**
- HB 0601 Complaints Against Law Enforcement and Correctional Officers Duggan
- 10:30AM-12:00PM S Environment and Natural Resources 301 S**
- SB 0602 Release of Balloons DiCeglie
 - **SB 0632 Taking of Bears Simon**
- 10:30AM-12:00PM S Transportation 110 S**
- SB 0084 Transportation Facility Designations/Jimmy Buffett Highway Book
- 3:00PM-6:00PMS SESSION**
- **SB 7000 - Deregulation of Public Schools/Instructional, Administrative...- Education Pre-K - 12**
 - **SB 7002 - Deregulation of Public Schools/School District Finance and B...- Education Pre-K - 12**
 - **SB 7004 -Deregulation of Public Schools/Assessment and Accountability.- Education Pre-K - 12**
- 4:00PM-6:00PMH Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee 17 H**
- HB 0049 Employment and Curfew of Minors Chaney
- 4:00PM-6:00PM H Transportation & Modals Subcommittee 404 H**
- HB 0463 Lights Displayed on Police Equipment and Fire Department Veh... Bartleman
- #### **Thursday Jan 11, 2024**
- 10:00AM-12:00PM S Fiscal Policy 412 K**
- **SB 7016 Health Care Health Policy**
- 1:00PM-2:30PM - S Appropriations Committee on Trans, Tourism, and Eco Development 110 S**
- **SB 0196 Regional Rural Development Grants Program Simon**

Legislative Briefings Planned Next Week

Small County Coalition Legislative Reception

Tuesday - January 16th - 5:15pm-7:15pm

Venue -American Institute of Architects Florida Headquarters - 104 E. Jefferson St., Tallahassee

Small School District Council Consortium Special Legislative Briefing

Wednesday – January 17 - 10:00am-11:45am

Venue - The Hayward House - 228 Adams Street

Next week there will be Legislative Briefings for the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium members that will be coming to Tallahassee to participate in the Legislative Days of the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida School Boards Association. Individuals do not need to register for these events – just show up!

House Moves Homestead Exemption Expansion

The House Ways & Means Committee met yesterday and approved two constitutional proposals that, if adopted, will provide additional property tax reduction by expanding the current Homestead Exemptions.

- Proposal 1 [WMC1.pdf - Bill Text](#) - if adopted would be an increase increase the current allowable homestead by an additional \$25,000 – which will provide an estimated \$1 – 1.1 billion of ad valorem reduction of property owners that file homestead exemption on their property.

- Proposal 2 - [WMC2.pdf - Bill Text](#) - will add an annual CPI adjustment to existing homestead exemption values. The effect would be effectively eliminate growth in local ad valorem revenues available for local government use. The estimated negative impact will be \$23 million to over \$100 million.
- Proposal 3 is an implementing statute. [WMC3.pdf - Bill Text](#) The is a proposed statute that will implement WMC 1 and/or 2 if it goes into effect.

Tools to follow the Legislature

Links to House and Senate Home Pages

<https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/>

<https://www.flsenate.gov/>

Link to watch Legislative Committees

<https://thefloridachannel.org/>

Legislative Calendar

House Calendar for Jan. 9 - 10

Senate Calendar for Jan. 9-11

Full Slate of Upcoming Events

2024

January 9-	Legislative Session Begins
January 16 -	Small County Coalition Legislative Reception and Briefing Venue - American Institute of Architects - 104 E. Jefferson St.,
January 17-	Florida Association of Counties Legislative Day
January 17 -	Small School District Council Consortium Legislative Briefing Venue – Hayward House –228.Adams Street
January 17–18-	FSBA Day in the Legislature, Tallahassee, FL
January 24-25-	Rural Counties Day – A celebration of rural Florida.
March 8 -	Legislative Session Ends

Legislative Priorities

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

About the Briefing!

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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)

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