



**House and Senate Release Proposed
General Appropriations Acts
Senate Bill 2500
House Bill – APC 1**



Special Budget Briefing for January 26, 2024

The last Briefing was January 25, 2024

[Tallahassee, FL 10-Day Weather Forecast - The Weather Channel | Weather.com](#)

House and Senate Release Proposed Budgets for 24-25

Provided below are the links to the Initial Proposed budgets for the House and Senate General Appropriations Act for 24-25

**[*SB 2500 - Senate Proposed General Appropriations Bill*](#)
[*House Appropriations Committee Proposal - ACP 1*](#)**

The links below are word searchable - use the ctrl F function and then type in a recognizable word – like your county name.

Here are some highlights

- SCOP and SCRAP are funded at current levels.
- Fiscally Constrained funding is provided in substantial amounts in both budgets/
- Emergency Distribution is increased – Supplemental Distribution remains level funded.
- Significant funding is provided for School District Special Facility Projects recommended by the DOE along with requests for additional funding related to increase costs experienced with previous projects.
- Regional Education Consortia Program is fully funded.
- Substantial funding for Broadband however the Senate has 250 million while the House has 100million.
- Sheriff Salaries supplement is funding in both budgets.

Local Government Financial Information Handbook – 2023 Edition

The Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) has published the 2023 edition of the *Local Government Financial Information Handbook*. This report is produced annually by EDR to serve as a reference for many of the revenue sources available to local governments. It contains items useful for local government budgeting purposes, including descriptions of revenue sources, adjusted 2022 population estimates used in the FY 2023-24 state revenue-sharing calculations, estimated FY 2023-24 county and municipal government distributions for select state revenue-sharing and local option tax sources, and the most recently adopted 2024 local option fuel, sales, and tourist-related tax rates by county. This report also serves as a guide to understanding the constitutional and statutory provisions pertaining to these revenue sources.

The *Handbook's* discussion of local government revenue sources is organized as follows:

- **Part One: Revenue Source Authorized by the Constitution**
- **Part Two: Revenue Sources Based on Home Rule Authority**
- **Part Three: Revenue Sources Authorized by the Legislature**

The report is available on the EDR's website via the following link:

<http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/local-government/reports/lgfih23.pdf>

All are welcome to download and/or print the document from the EDR's website. This 318 page PDF has been formatted for duplex printing.

The Quick

Requirements for Emergency Management Directors – HB 1567

Stay Tuned – there will be changes!

HB 1567 as filed raised significant concerns in terms of impacting existing EM Directors and creating difficulty for small counties to recruit and retain. The Small County Coalition is working with the Florida Association of Counties, FEPA and DEM to develop proposed changes that are consistent with the Education Standards for EM Directors outlined by FEPA. We have been assured that **CHANGES WILL BE MADE!** The House Sponsor Represent Michael Grant is one of the most senior House members, is very reasonable, and has indicated that he is willing to work with folk to come up with the right mix of training requirements.

Additional Ad Valorem Proposals

Just a note that there are several proposals to expand ad valorem exemptions.

- One will provide an additional \$25,000 Homestead Exemption – this bill 7015 seems to have slowed down considerably and may not move forward.
- A Second bill – 7017 – proposes an annual Save Our Homes escalator. The fiscal impact will go up each year depending on the CPI. Note – ***A fiscally constrained provision has been added to the implementing bill – 7019.***
- A third ad valorem exemption proposal has also been filed. HB 1251 and SB 1560 propose exempting ad valorem taxation on lands classified as agriculture. The fiscal impact has not been determined at this point but it is clear that it will have a significant impact on rural counties. We have requested that an implementing bill be established that includes an offset appropriation for fiscally constrained counties.

Legislative Calendars

House Calendar for Friday and Monday

Senate Calendar for Friday and Monday

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/>

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin
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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

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