



On this day in 1860, the Republican National Convention meeting in Chicago selected Abraham Lincoln as the Republican Nominee

The Briefing for May 16, 2024

The Last Briefing was May 14, 2024

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

Front and Center

Budget

Although the Governor has not received the budget – Florida Tax Watch has issued its annual report on appropriations projects – placing some on a Turkey Watch Report see link below.

You can word-search any of the linked documents.

Florida Tax Watch Releases The 2024 Budget Turkey Watch Report

[2024 Budget Turkey Watch Report](#)

Florida Tax Watch has released the 2024 Budget Turkey Watch Report. This report scrutinizes the Florida FY2024-25 budget, identifying appropriations that bypass established legislative procedures. Known as Budget Turkeys, these appropriations often serve limited areas, are not core state functions, or circumvent competitive bidding and oversight.

Key Points

- The FY2024-25 budget includes 450 Budget Turkeys, totaling \$854.6 million.
- Projects totaling \$912.2 million, while not qualifying as Budget Turkeys, warrant close examination by the Governor.
- The budget contains over 1600 local member projects, amounting to approximately \$2.8 billion. This surge in member projects highlights the need for a more thorough review and fair selection process.

Also provided for your quick review are the following documents

- Pre-Veto [County-by-County Allocations](#)
- The actual budget document with funding and proviso language – currently under the Governor’s review. **[HB 5001 - General Appropriations Act \(128545\)](#)**
- [Florida Education Finance Program \(FEFP\)](#)

**Summer Meetings for School And County Elected Officials Coming Up Soon
DAYS UNTIL**

In 20 days the Florida School Boards Association/FADSS Summer Meeting

June 5 – 7 – Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay

[Tentative Conference Agenda](#)

In 22 days the Small School District Annual Joint meeting

FSBA Small District Council and the Small School District Council Consortium
JUNE 6, 2024 - 7:30-8:30am - Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay - Skylark Room – 14th Floor

In 40 days the Florida Association of Counties Summer Business Meeting

June 25 – 28 – Bonnet Creek Orlando

<https://www.fl-counties.com/event-directory/2024-annual-conference-exhibition/>

In 41 days the Small County Coalition Annual Organizational Meeting

Wednesday – June 26th - 7:00am-8:30am

Signia Hilton Bonnet Creek Orlando

Headlines Around the State

WUSF: Biden administration seeks dismissal of a Florida challenge over CHIP rules

FlaPol: Federal court declines to dismiss challenge to Florida Senate map

WLRN: A lawsuit over Florida's felon voting restrictions has been dropped

Sentinel: Felon voting-rights group drops lawsuit after state plans to develop eligibility rules

Democrat: Food programs, health coverage lacking for many Florida children

Bradenton Herald: A healthcare giant owes millions to Florida taxpayers. Will the state see the money?

Bradenton Herald: See how much a giant hospital company owes 30 creditors, including Florida taxpayers

The Floridian: Mast Demands Answers From VA After West Palm Veterans Left Without Mental Health Care

Times: The root of the Florida State-ACC dispute: Money or success?

News4Jax: Florida deputy's killing of Black airman renews debate on police killings and race

News4Jax: Who gets to claim self-defense in shootings? Florida airman's death sparks debate over race and gun rights

FlaPol: Does Florida law ban the state from taking action against a dentist for antisemitic remarks?

Axios: Hillsborough County OKs Israel investments over residents' objections

Times: Florida's history of migrant farmworker crashes spans decades

FlaPol: Florida ranked best state in U.S. for short-term rental owners

FlaPol: Cornel West speaking engagement to Florida Association of Counties now up in the air

WLRN: 'Short fuse storms' are a major concern as Florida prepares for hurricane season

Sun-Sentinel: South Florida isn't likely to face as many steep rent hikes, study says

Democrat: 'It's not easy': Some FSU students have no power but still have summer classes

News4Jax: DeSantis, amid criticism, signs Florida bill making climate change a lesser state priority

The Capitolist: DeSantis pushes back Against China, forced labor, and coastal wind turbines

Democrat: Florida TaxWatch says 2024-25 state budget larded with \$854.6M in 'turkeys,' urges vetoes

FlaPol: Turkey list: Florida TaxWatch finds \$855M in budget turkeys

The Capitolist: Budget report: Florida funds lower-priority college projects over high-need ones

Politico: Top FAMU official resigns amid \$237M donation calamity

WUSF: FAMU president apologizes for failed \$237M donation as trustees launch an investigation

Post: Storm season 2024: Experts at Governor's Hurricane Conference braced for active six months

FlaPol: Ashley Moody 'grateful' after Jacksonville Medicaid fraud arrests

Post: Street racing, intersection takeovers face stiffer penalties across Florida starting July 1

FlaPol: Gulf Breeze News publisher files to challenge Don Gaetz in SD 1

Herald: Insurer says it has no duty to pay millions in Carollo legal fees under city's policies

FlaPol: Miami insurer sues city over Joe Carollo's legal fees

FlaPol: Turkey list: Proposed Operation Pedro Pan museum in Miami marked Florida TaxWatch Budget Turkey

FlaPol: Turkey list: Flagler emergency shelter project slapped with Florida TaxWatch Budget Turkey label

FlaPol: Turkey list: Flagler College President rejects TaxWatch dorm spending critique

NBC Miami: Broward Superintendent grapples with school closure demands

Sun-Sentinel: Broward School Board may close schools, rejecting superintendent's proposal

Democrat: Leon County Commission OKs \$1 million emergency grant program for storm recovery

Times: Pinellas school board member objects to 'pornographic' library book

Democrat: Richard Morgan, husband of the late Lucy Morgan, dies in Tallahassee

On The Docket

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

- CHIROPRACTIC ISSUES ON TABLE - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Board of Chiropractic Medicine will meet. Tampa Airport Marriott, 4200 George J. Bean Parkway, Tampa.
- DEFENSE SUPPORT PANEL - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Defense Support Task Force is scheduled to meet. Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown, 316 West Tennessee St., Tallahassee.
- GULF COAST COLLEGE BOARD - Thursday, 10 a.m. The Gulf Coast State College Board of Trustees will meet. Gulf Coast State College, Gulf/Franklin Campus, 3800 Garrison Ave., Port St. Joe.
- REFUGEE ISSUES - Thursday, 10 a.m. The Palm Beach Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/palm-beach-refugee-task-force-meeting-0>

- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release its weekly opinions.’
- CAT FUND’ - Thursday, 1:30 p.m. The Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund Advisory Council will discuss issues such as the reinsurance fund’s claims-paying capacity. 1801 Hermitage Blvd., Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-872-242-7651. Code: 928883968
- INTERCHANGE PROJECT - Thursday, 5 p.m. The Florida Department of Transportation will hold a meeting about an Interstate 75 interchange project in Collier County. North Collier Regional Park Exhibit Hall, 15000 Livingston Road, Naples.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024

- DENTAL ISSUES - Friday, 7:30 a.m. The Florida Board of Dentistry will meet. Aloft Jacksonville Tapestry Park, 4812 West Deer Lake Dr., Jacksonville.
- LEGISLATIVE SESSION - Friday, 8 a.m. Rep. Cyndi Stevenson, R-Saint Johns, is expected to be among the speakers during a St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce event about legislative issues. Hyatt Place St. Augustine/Vilano Beach, 117 Vilano Road, St. Augustine.
- OSTEOPATHIC BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. The Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine will meet. Holiday Inn Tampa Airport Westshore, 700 North Westshore Blvd., Tampa.
- ORTHOTISTS, PROSTHETISTS BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. The Florida Board of Orthotists and Prosthetists will meet. Call-in number: 850-792-1375. Code: 651417862
- JUDICIAL CANDIDATES - Friday, 9:30 a.m. The 20th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission will interview candidates for a Collier County judgeship. Candidates slated to be interviewed are Pamela Barger, Karla Campos-Andersen, James Chandler, Deborah Cunningham, Sara Hushek, Ryan Kuhl and Jamie Ringhofer. Northern Trust Building, 4001 Tamiami Trail North, Naples.
- TREASURE COAST COUNCIL - Friday, 9:30 a.m. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council will meet. Indian River State College, Chastain Campus, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart.
- JOBLESS NUMBERS RELEASED - Friday, 10 a.m. The Florida Department of Commerce is scheduled to release an April unemployment report.
- TOP NURSING HOMES - Friday, 10 a.m. The Governor’s Panel on Excellence in Long-Term Care will discuss applicants for “Gold Seal” awards. Agency for Health Care Administration, 400 West Robinson St., Hurston South Tower, Suite 309, Orlando.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024

- SCOTT CAMPAIGNS IN MARTIN COUNTY - Saturday, noon. U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, R-Fla., is scheduled to appear at a Republican Party of Martin County “picnic in the park” event. Indian Riverside Park, 1707 N.E. Indian River Dr., Jensen Beach.

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 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**

