

In Memoria

Thank you President Jimmy Carter and Governor Buddy Mackay!

The Briefing for January 10, 2025

The Last Briefing was January 8, 2025

Here's the link to the College Football Playoff Matchups!

How about that Notre Dame – Penn State game? ND kicks winning field goal with 7 secs on the clock!
Texas and Ohio State up tonight – 7:30pm – ESPN

What's the weather outlook?

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

Great News – Ausley continues her recovery!

Former state lawmaker Lorraine Ausley, who was seriously injured in a November bicycle accident in Bay County, has returned home from a spinal cord and brain injury rehabilitation center in Atlanta. You can check her progress on FACEBOOK.

What's Going On?

State Board of Education Meeting Next Week at Destin High School

SBE Agenda - Jan 15

Items of Interest:

- **Update on Classroom Teacher and Other Instructional Personnel Salary Increase Allocation** - Section 1011.62(14)(c)2., F.S., requires each school district to submit to the Department an approved district salary distribution plan, along with the approved salary distribution plan for each charter school in the district, by October 1 of each fiscal year. An update will be provided on the department's review of district salary plans and districts' charter school salary distribution plans that were due by October 1, 2024.
- **Identification of High Demand Teacher Needs Areas for 2025-26** - Section 1012.07, F.S., requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to annually identify High Demand Teacher Needs Areas based on the recommendations of the Commissioner of Education. Rule 6A-20.0131, F.A.C., specifies that the list of high-demand areas identify high-need content areas and high-priority location areas.
- **Approval of Turnaround Plans** for the School Districts of Bay, Escambia, Madison, Pasco and Polk County

Delegation Hearings

Over two dozen legislative delegation hearings were held this week throughout Florida. Over 20 were in small counties. Local Officials presented local priorities that will be requested and outlined other issues of importance to local communities. If you want to watch a video of your local hearing, you can go to <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/>. Infrastructure; Road funding; Law Enforcement Communication systems; and water projects seem to be on the list for many local communities.

98 Briefings in 2024!

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. **98 briefings were sent out during 2024. An inventory of past Briefings can be accessed at [Briefings](#).**

Websites Updated

www.smallcountycoalition.org and www.ssdcc.org

Websites for the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium have been updated to reflect changes from the fall elections. Information on legislative priorities has also been added.

Legislature Comes to Tallahassee for Committee Meetings Next Two Weeks

Calendar for Senate Committee Meetings - Jan. 13-17

Calendar for House of Representatives Committee Meetings- Jan. 13-17

Committee Deliberations can be watched live on

[The Florida Channel: Home](#)

Deadline for Local Appropriation Projects – February 14th

Contact your legislative Offices for guidance on any internal deadlines.
Check the January 8th Briefing for key links for local project submissions.

Helpful Links to Bookmark

[Florida Senate](#)

[Florida House of Representatives](#)

[The Florida Channel](#)

www.ssdcc.org

www.smallcountycoalition.org

[Office of Economic and Demographic Research](#)

Mark Your Calendars

2025

- January 13-17- Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
- January 21-24 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
- February 2 - Deadline for release of Governors recommended budget
- February 3 – 7 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
- February 10 – 14 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
- February 17 – 21 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
- March 4 Regular Session Begins
- March 18 - Small County Coalition Legislative Briefing/Reception
- March 19- FAC Day in the Legislature
- March 19 – 20 FSBA 38th Annual Day in the Legislature, Tallahassee, FL
- March 19 Small School District Legislative Briefing
- March 19 -20 Rural Counties Day in the Legislature
- May 2 - Regular Session Ends

Headlines Around the State

[Politico: Trump eyes Florida's emergency management director to lead FEMA](#)

AP: US orange juice and steel will be on Canada's list for retaliation if Trump imposes tariffs

AP: Trump hosts Republican governors in Florida and talks anew about Greenland and drones

WLRN: Trump's mass deportation plans could be a major blow to Florida's economy

WUSF: Sarasota seeks ways to hand out \$210 million in hurricane recovery cash

Floridian: Scott Introduces Bill Guiding Venezuela Back Into Democracy

Sun-Sentinel: Delray says firefighters in Brightline crash were responding to fire, releases 911 calls

Democrat: Lorraine Ausley says she's back home after bike accident

Sentinel: Ex-commissioner, state senator raise ruckus over putting Winter Park commissioner's home on historic register

Post: After arrests of Palm Beach Central admins, schools may change policy on reporting abuse

DBNJ: Flagler sheriff's office removes inmate mugshots from website, citing court ruling, scams

PNJ: Pensacola wants to add affordable homes for military members and families with new grant

News-Press: 'Anti-trans bias': Florida school district met with blowback for banning LGBTQ+ book

News-Press: DeSantis lauds environmental successes, wants more control of federal funding for Everglades restoration

Florida Phoenix: Why the rush? Florida legislators not sold on DeSantis' call for a special session

FlaPol: Personnel note: Clare Lattanze takes over as Rick Scott's Communications Director

FlaPol: UF researchers develop tree that could combat greening in Florida citrus

Herald: Millions watch as they swim with gators, snatch snakes. Meet the Everglades influencers

WUSF: DeSantis will seek control over federal Everglades restoration funds

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis appeals to Donald Trump to delegate environmental projects to the states

Times: Did DeSantis take a shot at Matt Gaetz for considering a governor bid?

Florida Phoenix: Challengers: Florida GOP politicians potentially eye 2026 gubernatorial run

Times: FEMA hotel assistance ends for some next week. Guests are confused.

Sun-Sentinel: Parkland families' civil suits against ex-deputy Scot Peterson can move forward, court rules

Sentinel: Drone show proceeds at UCF, despite Lake Eola drone show crash

Axios: Pasco population boom spurs shift from bedroom-community past

Democrat: Local officials and residents pay tribute to President Jimmy Carter at memorial service

PNJ: PNJ photographer spent 15 years photographing President Carter around the globe

NWF Daily News: Okaloosa County approves \$3.3 million to help finish gap in Destin Crosstown Connector

FlaPol: Putnam County priorities take center stage with legislators, who warn of tightening belts

FlaPol: Danny Burgess seeks better access to grandparent visitation


About the Briefing

The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin

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 District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email _cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

www.smallcountycoalition.org or
www.ssdcc.org and click on the red **Briefing** button



Chris Doolin

President – Christian B. Doolin & Associates

Vice – President – Robert P. Jones & Associates

Mobile – 850-508-5492

Email – cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com