



## *The Briefing for January 13, 2025*

*The Last Briefing was January 10, 2025*

### *What's the weather outlook?*

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

### *What's Going On?*

#### *Governors Budget Recommendations Deadline – February 2<sup>nd</sup>*

#### *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](#)

#### *Meetings on the Docket – this week!*

**MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2025**

**Legislature:**

- **AHCA RULES** - Monday, 3:30 p.m. *The Joint Administrative Procedures Committee will consider issues related to a series of Agency for Health Care Administration rules. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **PUBLIC COUNSEL APPEARS** - Monday, 3:30 p.m. *The Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight will receive a presentation from state Public Counsel Walt Trierweiler. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **AUDITOR GENERAL** - Monday, 3:30 p.m. *The Joint Legislative Auditing Committee will receive presentations about the Office of the Auditor General and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, or OPPAGA. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.*

**Also:**

- **MARIJUANA** - Monday, 8 a.m. *The Medical Marijuana Business Association of Florida will hold a marijuana policy conference, with speakers expected to include Sen. Tracie Davis, D-Jacksonville, Sen. Tina Polsky, D-Boca Raton, and Rep. Allison Tant, D-Tallahassee. Donald L. Tucker Civic Center, 505 West Pensacola St., Tallahassee.*

- **JUSTICES HEAR FIREFIGHTER CASE** - Monday, 10 a.m. The U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments in two cases, including a dispute about whether the city of Sanford violated the Americans with Disabilities Act by limiting a health-insurance subsidy for a firefighter who retired early because of Parkinson’s disease. The lawsuit was filed by Karyn Stanley, a fire-department lieutenant who retired in 2018 at age 47 because of the effects of Parkinson’s disease. The dispute stems from Stanley losing a health-insurance subsidy two years after she retired. She took the case to the Supreme Court after the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled she could not sue under part of the Americans with Disabilities Act. U.S. Supreme Court, Washington, D.C.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025**

**Legislature:**

- **PROPERTY INSURANCE** - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The Senate Banking and Insurance Committee will hear presentations about property insurance from Insurance Commissioner Michael Yaworsky and Citizens Property Insurance Corp. President and CEO Tim Cerio. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **INSTITUTES, CENTERS** - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The Senate Education Postsecondary Committee will receive presentations and institutes and centers at Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Florida State University and the University of Florida. 301 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **ETHICS LAWS** - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The Senate Ethics and Elections Committee will receive a briefing from the Commission on Ethics about an ethics law that passed in 2024 and legislative priorities for 2025. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **ELECTRIC UTILITY** - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The House Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee will visit Tallahassee electric-utility facilities. Lawmakers will convene at Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT BUDGET** - Tuesday, 9 a.m. The House Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion about the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Citrus, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE** - Tuesday, 9 a.m. The House Careers & Workforce Subcommittee will discuss workforce needs and the manufacturing industry. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** - Tuesday, 9 a.m. The House Information Technology Budget & Policy Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion about state information-technology issues. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **SIMPSON SPEAKS TO SENATORS** - Tuesday, 11 a.m. The Senate Agriculture Committee will receive a presentation from Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson and a presentation about the effects of hurricanes on the agricultural industry. 301 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **‘LIVE LOCAL’ REVIEWED** - Tuesday, 11 a.m. The Senate Community Affairs Committee will receive a presentation from the Florida Housing Finance Corp. about the “Live Local Act,” a 2023 law aimed at adding workforce housing. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **AUTISM PROGRAMS** - Tuesday, 11 a.m. The Senate Education PreK-12 Committee will receive presentations about programs that provide support services for families and students with autism. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.

- **WATER QUALITY** - Tuesday, 11 a.m. *The Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee will receive presentations from the Department of Environmental Protection about water-quality issues. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **COURT PROCESSES DISPLAYED** - Tuesday, 1 p.m. *The House Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee will receive a presentation on court processes. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **HEALTH DEPARTMENT GIVES BRIEFING** - Tuesday, 1 p.m. *The House Health Professions & Programs Subcommittee will receive a briefing from the Department of Health about legislation passed in 2024. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **PROPERTY INSURANCE COSTS** Tuesday, 1 p.m. *The House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion about property-insurance cost drivers. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **'INCENTIVIZED' PRISONS** - Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. *The Senate Criminal Justice Committee will receive a presentation from the Department of Corrections about "incentivized" prisons. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **MATERNAL HEALTH** - Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. *The Senate Health Policy Committee will receive presentations about maternal health issues. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.*
- **HURRICANE RECOVERY** - Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. *The Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security Committee will receive a presentation from the Division of Emergency Management about hurricane recovery. 301 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **EDUCATION AGENCIES APPEAR** - Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House Higher Education Budget Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion involving several education agencies. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **DCF GIVES BRIEFING** - Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House Human Services Subcommittee will receive a briefing from the Department of Children and Families about a law passed in 2024. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **HURRICANE DAMAGE** - Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion about local governments affected by hurricanes. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **SCHOOLS BUDGET** - Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee will receive a presentation from Education Commissioner Manny Diaz Jr. and other officials about the schools budget. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH** - Tuesday, 4 p.m. *The Senate Children, Families and Elder Affairs Committee will hold a discussion about first-responder behavioral health access programs. 301 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **COURT SYSTEM** - Tuesday, 4 p.m. *The Senate Judiciary Committee will receive presentations from the Office of the State Courts Administrator on a series of issues. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **CONDO ISSUES** Tuesday, 4 p.m. *The Senate Regulated Industries Committee will hold a panel discussion about issues related to condominiums, including requirements for inspections and "structural integrity reserve" studies. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.*
- **TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT** - Tuesday, 4 p.m. *The Senate Transportation Committee will receive a presentation from the Florida Transportation Commission about a performance review of the Department of Transportation. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*

**Also:**

- FGCU TRUSTEES - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees will meet. Florida Gulf Coast University, Cohen Student Union, 10501 FGCU Blvd. South, Fort Myers.
- SUWANNEE WATER BOARD - Tuesday, 9 a.m. The Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board will meet. Suwannee River Water Management District, 9225 County Road 49, Live Oak.
- ST. JOHNS WATER BOARD - Tuesday, 10 a.m. The St. Johns River Water Management District Governing Board will meet. St. Johns River Water Management District, 4049 Reid St., Palatka.
- VOTING RIGHTS - Tuesday, noon. Common Cause will hold a media briefing about voting-rights issues in Southern states, including Florida. [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_P2EyFw1AR06NS366un7U8g#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_P2EyFw1AR06NS366un7U8g#/registration)
- WORKERS' COMP - Tuesday, 1 p.m. The Three-Member Panel, which makes recommendations about workers' compensation insurance issues, is scheduled to meet. Call-in number: 1-571-317-3116. Code: 625443429
- PALM BEACH COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 4 p.m. The Palm Beach State College Board of Trustees will meet. Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth Campus, 4200 South Congress Ave., Lake Worth.

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025**

#### **Legislature:**

- ***DENTAL SERVICES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Senate Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee will receive presentations about programs, including a dental-services program at the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.***
- ***SCHOOLS BUDGET - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Senate Pre-K-12 Education Appropriations Committee will receive an education budget overview. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.***
- ***ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Senate Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations Committee will receive presentations about programs such as the Job Growth Grant Fund and Visit Florida. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.***
- ***FOREIGN INVESTMENTS - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The House Government Operations Subcommittee will receive an update on a 2024 law dealing with foreign investments. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.***
- ***WORKFORCE HOUSING - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The House Housing, Agriculture & Tourism Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion on workforce housing. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.***
- ***JUSTICE SYSTEM BUDGETS - Wednesday, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. The House Justice Budget Subcommittee and the Senate Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations Committee will hold discussions about budgets of agencies such as the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice, the state court system, state attorneys and public defenders. House subcommittee at 9 a.m. at 314 House Office Building, Senate committee at 1 p.m. at 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.***
- ***SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The House Student Academic Success Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion about a law on technology in public schools. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.***

- **INVASIVE ANIMALS** - Wednesday, 1 p.m. *The Senate Agriculture, Environment and General Government Appropriations Committee will receive a series of presentations, including about invasive animal control. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.*
- **HIGHER ED FUNDING REVIEWED** - Wednesday, 1 p.m. *The Senate Higher Education Appropriations Committee will receive a budget overview. 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS** - Wednesday, 1 p.m. *The House Criminal Justice Subcommittee will receive a presentation about the criminal-justice process. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **HEALTH BUDGET** - Wednesday, 1 p.m. *The House Health Care Budget Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion with officials from the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Elder Affairs, the Department of Health and the Department of Veterans' Affairs. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **ILLEGAL GAMBLING** - Wednesday, 1 p.m. *The House Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion about illegal gambling. 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.*
- **HOME RULE** - Wednesday, 1 p.m. *The House Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee will discuss home-rule powers and preemption of local governments. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **EARLY LEARNING** - Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House Education Administration Subcommittee will receive an overview of the early learning system. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **HOME HEALTH AIDES** - Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House Health Care Facilities & Systems Subcommittee will receive a briefing about a law related to home health aides for "medically fragile" children. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **STATE ADMINISTRATION BUDGET** - Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House State Administration Budget Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion with officials from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the Department of Financial Services, the Department of the Lottery, the Department of Management Services, the Department of Revenue, the Gaming Control Commission and the Public Service Commission. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.*
- **TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET** - Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. *The House Transportation & Economic Development Budget Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion with officials from the Department of Commerce, the Department of State, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Military Affairs, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the Division of Emergency Management. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.*

**Also:**

- **REAL ESTATE** - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. *The Florida Real Estate Commission will meet. Zora Neale Hurston Building, North Tower, Suite N901, 400 West Robinson St., Orlando. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/603461895294460508>*
- **STATE EDUCATION BOARD** - Wednesday, 9 a.m. Central time. *The State Board of Education will meet. Destin High School, 4325 Commons Dr. West, Destin.*

- MENTAL HEALTH - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The state Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/commission-mental-health-and-substance-use-disorder>
- PAROLE CASES Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. Florida Commission on Offender Review, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- UNEMPLOYMENT APPEALS BOARD - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission is scheduled to meet. Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Code: 261180880
- REFUGEE ISSUES - Wednesday, 10 a.m. The Broward Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/broward-refugee-task-force-meeting>
- MACKAY REMEMBERED - Wednesday, 1 p.m. A service will be held for former Gov. Buddy MacKay, who died on New Year's Eve at age 91. Fort King Presbyterian Church, 13 N.E. 36th Ave., Ocala.
- LAKE-SUMTER COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 5 p.m. The Lake-Sumter State College Board of Trustees will meet. Lake-Sumter State College, South Lake Campus, 1250 North Hancock Road, Clermont.
- WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME EVENT HELD - Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. The Florida Women's Hall of Fame will hold a ceremony for new inductees. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025**

- MASSAGE THERAPY - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Board of Massage Therapy will meet. Hyatt Place St. Augustine/Vilano Beach, 117 Vilano Road, St. Augustine.
- SOUTHWEST FLORIDA COUNCIL - Thursday, 10 a.m. The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. South Florida Water Management District, 2301 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91588729954?pwd=OVERTVNQVVpRZjQrYlJab1dpMDBGUT09>. Meeting ID: 91588729954. Call-in number: 1-929-205-6099. Code: 082520
- 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>
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- PRO BONO WORK HONORED - Thursday, 3:30 p.m. The Florida Bar will hold a ceremony to present "Pro Bono Service Awards" to 21 attorneys for their work on behalf of low-income and disadvantaged clients. Florida Supreme Court, 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025**

- MASSAGE THERAPY - Friday, 9 a.m. The Florida Board of Massage Therapy will meet. Hyatt Place St. Augustine/Vilano Beach, 117 Vilano Road, St. Augustine.
- ARCHITECTURE BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. Central time. The state Board of Architecture and Interior Design will meet.: Hilton Pensacola Beach, 12 Via de Luna Dr., Pensacola Beach.

***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***

*FlaPol: Cory Mills has eyes on Rubio’s Senate seat in 2026 — no matter who DeSantis picks*

*FlaPol: Ron DeSantis says Florida school choice should be national model*

*FlaPol: Lori Berman brings back bill to cap the cost of breast exams for state employees*

*FlaPol: Evan Power re-elected as Florida GOP Chair by resounding vote*

*Times: Civilian police oversight in Florida crumbles after new law kicks in*

*FlaPol: St. Johns County need list includes airport renaming, infrastructure asks*

*Democrat: City Commissioner Jeremy Matlow quietly disbands One Tallahassee PC after 2024 election*

*NYT: The ‘Ice Maiden’ Cometh: Can Susie Wiles, Trump’s Chief of Staff, Survive?*

*Sun-Sentinel: After switching parties, state Rep. Hillary Cassel receives heavy blowback — and praise from Trump*

*ABC: Republicans huddle with Trump in Florida as they plot out GOP agenda*

*Sun-Sentinel: Florida graduation rate hits record-high, rebounds from post-pandemic dip, state says*

*AP: Florida man convicted of killing couple set to die in state's first scheduled execution of 2025*

*News4JAX: Florida deputy resigns after crashing patrol vehicle while looking at porn, sheriff's office says*

*FlaPol: Donald Trump plan to build 1,500 multimillion-dollar condos in Doral faces public hearing*

*The Hill: DeSantis rebuffs idea he could take Rubio’s Senate spot: ‘Absolutely not’*

*FlaPol: ‘Absolutely not’: Gov. DeSantis says he won’t appoint himself to replace Marco Rubio in the Senate*

*Floridian: DeSantis 'Never Considered' Himself for Rubio's Senate Seat, Laughs at Suggestion*

*Florida Phoenix: No, DeSantis won't appoint himself to replace Rubio in the Senate*

*Florida Phoenix: DeSantis defends UWF board nominee who criticizes women prioritizing their careers*

*Floridian: Patronis: 'The Values of Northwest Florida do not Exist' in Other Parts of Florida*

*FlaPol: 'You can't deport them': Mario Díaz-Balart says non-criminals shouldn't fear Donald Trump's expulsion plan*

*FlaPol: Mike Haridopolos sees Greenland as critically important to Space Force's mission*

***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](mailto:_cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)

[www.smallcountycoalition.org](http://www.smallcountycoalition.org) or  
[www.ssdcc.org](http://www.ssdcc.org) and click on the red **Briefing** button

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