



The Briefing for February 24, 2025

The Last Briefing was Feb. 20, 2025

What's the weather outlook?

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

**Major Events Scheduled for March 18-20
Make Your Plans and Register Where Required**

Tuesday – March 18 -

Small County Coalition Legislative Welcome Reception - 5:30pm-7:00pm
Florida Headquarters American Institute of Architects – 104 E. Jefferson St.

Wednesday – March 19

Small School District Council Consortium Special Briefing - 9:45am-11:15am
Coffee and Danish at The Hayward House - 228.Adams Street

Wednesday – March 19

[Florida Association of Counties Legislative Days](#)
Briefing – Lobbying – Reception
Registration Required

Wednesday /Thursday – March 19-20

[Florida School Boards Association Legislative Days](#)
Link provides information and schedule
Registration Required

Rural County Days -2025 – March 19 – 20

Registration Required
[Link for Registration, Information and Schedule](#)
Reception – March 19
Displays and Fish Fry in the Capitol Courtyard – March 20

If you're coming to Tallahassee - Book your hotel - [📄 Tallahassee Hotels .docx](#)

Legislator Contacts

<https://www.flhouse.gov/representatives>

<https://flsenate.gov/Senators>

Headlines From The Weekend

[FlaPol: Pam Bondi was 'seriously considering' running for Florida AG before Donald Trump called her up](#)

[Floridian: Rep. Juan Porras Praises Trump's Endorsement of Byron Donalds, Jabs at DeSantis](#)

[FlaPol: Jason Brodeur upbeat about state role in planning of Donald Trump library](#)

[Times: He renovated a rundown Florida house. County billed him \\$24K for previous owner's neglect.](#)

[FlaPol: Pam Bondi was 'seriously considering' running for Florida AG before Donald Trump called her up](#)

[NBC4 Washington: Florida congressman investigated for alleged DC assault as police probe their own handling](#)

[FlaPol: D.C. police investigate Cory Mills for alleged assault](#)

[The Hill: Florida Republican, alleged victim deny altercation after DC police open assault probe](#)

[WaPo: Prosecutors decline to charge Florida congressman after alleged assault](#)

[Floridian: EXCLUSIVE: Cory Mills and Alleged Victim Categorically Deny Any Physical Assault Took Place](#)

[FlaPol: Shane Abbott seeks lower drug costs for Medicaid program, hopes to save the state millions](#)

[FlaPol: Mack Bernard proposes pilot program to combat student hunger](#)

[FlaPol: Lori Berman, Lindsay Cross seek more info on sewage spills, to develop priority rankings for infrastructure upgrades](#)

[WLRN: The fight to save Overtown's community oversight: What's at stake](#)

[Herald Tribune: President McCullough says Florida State making the case for keeping Ringling museum](#)

[Florida Phoenix: At CPAC, Byron Donalds says 'stay tuned' following Trump endorsement for governor](#)

[The Hill: Donalds coy on potential Florida governor bid while thanking Trump for endorsement](#)

[FlaPol: Byron Donalds touts Florida-centric successes in speech to CPAC](#)

[Times: 'The race for governor is over': How Donald Trump upended Florida politics](#)

[News-Press: U.S. Rep. Byron Donalds gets recognition from FAMU interim President Beard](#)

[FlaPol: Jimmy Patronis, most GOP Senators to host fundraiser for Joe Gruters](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis reappoints Moms for Liberty co-founder to Commission on Ethics](#)

[Floridian: Descovich: Senate Will 'Have a Hard Time' Rejecting Her After DeSantis Reappointment](#)

[The Hill: Bondi says Epstein client list 'sitting on my desk for review'](#)

[FlaPol: Florida GOP sends cease and desist over flyer promoting Brian Hodgers, Debbie Mayfield](#)

[Herald: Secret study found Florida insurers sent billions to affiliates while crying poor](#)

[Herald: Ex-Proud Boy chair Tarrío arrested on assault charge in D.C. after news conference](#)

[FlaPol: Miami-Dade names new resilience chief after first pick's arrest, despite dropped charges](#)

[Herald: Miami-Dade's Zoom era may be ending. Mayor orders county workers back to their desks](#)

[Times: These park rangers oversaw Florida's only manatee refuge. Then they were fired.](#)

[FlaPol: GEICO joins Personal Insurance Federation of Florida](#)

[Times-Union: Land donations for UF campus worth \\$27.6 million on top of \\$100 million in cash from city](#)

[FlaPol: 'Run, Byron, Run!': Donald Trump all but endorses Byron Donalds to be next Florida Governor](#)

[The Hill: Trump endorses Donalds in potential bid for Florida governor](#)

[NBC: Trump backs Rep. Byron Donalds in his likely run for Florida governor in 2026](#)

[Herald: Trump announces who he wants to be Florida's next governor. It isn't DeSantis' wife.](#)

[Politico: 'Looks like that's that.' Trump may have just ended the Florida governor's race.](#)

[Herald: Trump administration rolls back extension of Temporary Protected Status for Haitians](#)

[Herald: South Florida's fleet of electric buses cost \\$126 million. Only a few are still running](#)

[Times: Billions in Tampa Bay hurricane relief funds in limbo amid proposed cuts to HUD](#)

[Times: Florida utility companies would make less profit, reveal executive pay under new bill](#)

[Times: Flooding, old meters and running toilets caused St. Pete high water bills?](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Board OKs Adam Hasner, Jeanette Nunez for university leadership posts](#)

[News4JAX: Department of Education withdraws \\$7M grant to UNF for program to address teacher shortages](#)

[Floridian: Evan Power Mocks Arizona Democratic Governor Over Ballot Counting Veto](#)

[Floridian: Waltz Says Ukraine Needs to 'Tone Down' Criticism of Trump Amidst Negotiations](#)

[PNJ: Rep. Salzman files bill to lower firearm purchasing age from 21 to 18](#)

[FlaPol: Robbie Brackett files measure to compensate child abuse victim](#)

[FlaPol: Back to the moon, then to Mars: Mike Haridopolos to hold hearing on accelerating Artemis program](#)

[FlaPol: Florida ports to evolve with changing policy, technology and environment](#)

[FlaPol: Wilton Simpson signs on to Gulf of America name change](#)

[FlaPol: Anna Eskamani backs Felipe Sousa-Lazaballet as her preferred successor in HD 42](#)

[FlaPol: Jimmy Patronis picks Robert Bage as choice for State Immigration Enforcement Council](#)

[FlaPol: Corey Simon files legislation to foster rural renaissance in Florida](#)

[FlaPol: Jimmy Patronis has 'heartburn' over DOGE stimulus check proposal](#)

[FlaPol: Donald Trump taps Ron DeSantis for bipartisan Council of Governors](#)

[FlaPol: James Uthmeier picks Ciro Dominguez for high-profile State Immigration Enforcement Council](#)

[Sentinel: Florida sues Target for 'leftist agenda that sexualized children', harm to retirement fund](#)

[AP: Florida files suit against Target, claiming DEI initiatives misled investors](#)

[Politico: In Trump's DC, K Street clamors for Florida-linked lobbyists](#)

[PNJ: DeSantis defends Scott Yenor, controversial UWF trustee called 'bigot' by Randy Fine](#)

[Sentinel: DeSantis '100 percent' behind UWF board chair called 'bigot,' 'misogynist' by GOP Sen. Fine](#)

[Floridian: Florida AG Uthmeier Files Brief at Supreme Court in Support of Trump's Executive Power Use](#)

[FlaPol: 'Tone it down': Mike Waltz, warns Volodymyr Zelenskyy that it's time for peace with Russia](#)

[AP: Florida holds off updating population projections because of uncertainties over immigration policies](#)

[Herald: At Saudi summit in Miami, Trump strikes Zelensky: 'Not going to have a country'](#)

[Herald: 'We fell short': Seven Broward Sheriffs deputies suspended after Tamarac triple murder](#)

[Times: Pinellas commissioner: Rays are 'lying to our residents'](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: 'Venal depravity': Countering Trump, South Florida Democrats decry budget-cutting plans](#)

[Sentinel: UCF student sues to stop Trump from stripping Venezuelans of legal protections](#)

[Floridian: Scott Introduces Bill to 'Restore Merit' and end DEI Hiring in Government](#)

[FlaPol: Department of Labor: Unemployment filings in Florida tumble for week ending Feb. 15](#)

[FlaPol: Prominent South Florida lobbyist pleads guilty to tax evasion](#)

[FlaPol: Pam Bondi welcomes terror designation for transnational cartels](#)

[FlaPol: So much for 'happy birthday': Rick Scott rips Mitch McConnell in CPAC remarks](#)

[Times-Union: Florida may try again to 'decouple' live racing requirement and horse track gambling](#)

[Times-Union: Land donations for UF campus worth \\$27.6 million on top of \\$100 million in cash from city](#)

[FlaPol: Tom Leek bill aims to strengthen employment agreements](#)

[FlaPol: Tom Keen to run for Orlando City Council in District 1](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis appoints Charles Broadway to State Immigration Enforcement Council](#)

[FlaPol: 'He could have been the king': Gov. DeSantis praises George Washington's restraint while unveiling statue](#)

[FlaPol: North Florida Land Trust adds 3 new members to Board of Directors](#)

On the Docket

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025

- KIDCARE - Monday, 9:30 a.m. - The Social Services Estimating Conference will analyze expenditures in the KidCare subsidized health-insurance program. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- GADSDEN DELEGATION - Monday, 10 a.m. - The Gadsden County legislative delegation, made up of Sen. Corey Simon, R-Tallahassee, and Rep. Gallop Franklin, D-Tallahassee, is scheduled to meet as it prepares for the 2025 session. Gadsden County Commission chamber, 9 East Jefferson St., Quincy.
- SHERIFFS DISCUSS ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION - Monday, 11:30 a.m. - Charlotte County Sheriff Bill Prummell, who is president of the Florida Sheriffs Association, and other sheriffs will hold an event to discuss the roles of sheriffs in addressing illegal immigration. Polk County Sheriff's Office, 1891 Jim Keene Blvd., Winter Haven.
- EMPLOYEE INSURANCE - Monday, 1:30 p.m. - The Self-Insurance Estimating Conference will look at enrollment in the state employees' health insurance program. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- POLK STATE TRUSTEES - Monday, 4 p.m. - The Polk State College Board of Trustees will meet. Polk State College, Lakeland, Campus, 3425 Winter Lake Road, Lakeland.

- ESKAMANI LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN - Monday, 6 p.m. - Rep. Anna Eskamani, D-Orlando, will hold an event to formally kick off her campaign for Orlando mayor. Location; The Beacham, 46 North Orange Ave., Orlando.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

- ATHLETIC TRAINING - Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. - The Florida Board of Athletic Training will meet. Call-in number: 850-792-1375. Code: 307989163
- SCHOOL BUILDING MONEY - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will analyze the Public Education Capital Outlay, or PECO, program. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- WATER QUALITY - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Harmful Algal Bloom Task Force will meet. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, 100 Eighth Ave. S.E., St. Petersburg.
- SOUTHWEST WATER BOARD - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. Southwest Florida Water Management District, 2379 Broad St., Brooksville.
- HIGHWAY SAFETY MONEY - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will analyze highway-safety revenues. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- BROWARD LAWMAKERS, LOCAL OFFICIALS - Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Broward County legislative delegation is scheduled to hold three workshops with the Broward County School Board, the Broward County Commission and the Broward County League of Cities and Broward County City Managers Association. The workshops will start at 9:30 a.m., noon and 2:30 p.m., respectively. Broward County Governmental Center, 115 South Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale.
- MEDICAID MONEY - Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. - The Social Services Estimating Conference will discuss the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage, or FMAP, which helps determine how much money Florida receives from the federal government for the Medicaid program. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- KEYS COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 2 p.m. - The College of the Florida Keys Board of Trustees will meet. The College of the Florida Keys, Key West Campus, 5901 College Road, Key West.
- TENDRICH HOLDS OPEN HOUSE - Tuesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Rep. Debra Tendrich, D-Lake Worth, will hold an open house at her district office. 1850 Forest Hill Blvd. Suite 200, Lake Clarke Shores.
- MANATEE-SARASOTA COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - The State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota Board of Trustees will meet. State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, Bradenton Campus, 5840 26th St. West, Bradenton.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025

- FISH, WILDLIFE PANEL - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will meet and take up issues such as restoration efforts for the commercial oyster industry. Florida State University Student Union, 75 North Woodward Ave., Tallahassee.
- LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - A panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear arguments in four cases, including a challenge to a 2018 Florida constitutional amendment aimed at preventing state and local officials from lobbying other government bodies while in office. James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building, 99 N.E. Fourth St., Miami.
- ELECTIONS ISSUES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Elections Commission is scheduled to meet. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.

- 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
- GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Government Efficiency Task Force will meet. Call-in number: 850-739-6768. Code: 757055560
- CHARTER SCHOOL PANEL - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The state Charter School Review Commission will meet and consider applications for Newberry Community School and Bradenton Classical Academy. Valencia College, 1800 South Kirkman Road, Building 6, Orlando.
- INSURANCE MARKET - Wednesday, 11 a.m. - The Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Market Accountability Advisory Committee will meet. https://citizensfla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YqTE_lT_RpqlGbuCLT3tyg#/registration. Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Code: 93846973798
- CONSUMER ISSUES - Wednesday, 1 p.m. - The Florida Consumers' Council, which is part of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, will meet. Information at https://www.fdacs.gov/News-Events/Event-Calendar/The-Florida-Consumers-Council-Meeting?instance_date=02/26/2025
- REFUGEE ISSUES - Wednesday, 1 p.m. - The Southwest Florida Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/southwest-florida-refugee-task-force-meeting>
- TRIUMPH GULF COAST BOARD - Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Central time. - The Triumph Gulf Coast Board of Directors, which helps oversee settlement money from the Deepwater Horizon disaster, will meet. Destin City Council chamber, 4100 Indian Bayou Trail, Destin.
- HILLSBOROUGH COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 2 p.m. - The Hillsborough Community College Board of Trustees will meet. Hillsborough Community College, Plant City Campus, 1206 North Park Road, Plant City.
- CENTRAL FLORIDA COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 3 p.m. - The College of Central Florida Board of Trustees will meet. College of Central Florida, Jack Wilkinson Levy Campus, 15390 N.W. Highway 19, Chiefland.
- UCF BOARD - Wednesday, 4:15 p.m. - The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees will meet. University of Central Florida, Fairwinds Alumni Center, Orlando.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025

- FISH, WILDLIFE PANEL - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will meet and discuss issues such as a slow-speed boating zone in part of the Intracoastal Waterway in Palm Beach County known as Jupiter Narrows. Florida State University Student Union, 75 North Woodward Ave., Tallahassee.
- ELECTIONS ISSUES - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Elections Commission is scheduled to meet. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- FINANCIAL AID - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Education Estimating Conference will analyze issues related to student financial aid. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Human Relations will meet. Florida Commission on Human Relations, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.

- GULF COAST COLLEGE BOARD - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The Gulf Coast State College Board of Trustees will meet. Gulf Coast State College, Robert L. McSpadden Student Union West, Panama City.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- CHILDREN'S ISSUES - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Children and Youth Cabinet will meet, Florida Department of Children and Families, 2415 Monroe St., Tallahassee.
- POLK DELEGATION - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The Polk County legislative delegation will meet as it prepares for the 2025 session. The delegation is made up of Senate President Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula; Sen. Colleen Burton, R-Lakeland; Rep. Jon Albert, R-Frostproof; Rep. Jennifer Kincart Jonsson, R-Lakeland; Rep. Jennifer Canady, R-Lakeland; and Rep. Josie Tomkow, R-Polk City. Polk County Commission board room, 330 West Church St., Bartow.
- MEDICAID EXPENDITURES - Thursday, 1:30 p.m. - The Social Services Estimating Conference will take up issues related to expenditures in the Medicaid program. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- LOBBYING FIRMS TO BE AUDITED - Thursday, 2 p.m. - Staff members of the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee will select lobbying firms whose compensation reports will be audited. Claude Pepper Building, 111 West Madison St., Tallahassee.
- NORTH CENTRAL COUNCIL - Thursday, 7 p.m. - The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Room, 213 S.W. Commerce Blvd., Lake City. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 870970221

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025

- CHARLOTTE DELEGATION - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - The Charlotte County legislative delegation will meet as it prepares for the 2025 session. The delegation is made up of Senate President Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula; Rep. Danny Nix, R-Placida; and Rep. Vanessa Oliver, R-Punta Gorda. Charlotte County Commission chamber, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte.
- FSDB TRUSTEES - Friday, 9:15 a.m. - The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet. Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, Moore Hall, 207 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine.
- FSU TRUSTEES - Friday, 10 a.m. - The Florida State University Board of Trustees will meet. Florida State University Student Union, 75 North Woodward Ave., Tallahassee.
- SOUTHEAST FLORIDA COUNCILS - Friday, 10 a.m. - The South Florida Regional Planning Council and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council will hold a joint meeting. Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization, 100 West Cypress Creek Road, #650, Fort Lauderdale.
- THOMPSON REMEMBERED - Friday, 11 a.m. - A service will be held for state Sen. Geraldine Thompson, who died this month at age 76. Majestic Life Church, 821 South Kirkman Road, Orlando.
- UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND - Friday, 1 p.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will update a forecast for the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- DESOTO DELEGATION - Friday, 1:30 p.m. - The DeSoto County legislative delegation, made up of Senate President Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula, and Rep. Vanessa Oliver, R-Punta Gorda, will meet as it prepares for the 2025 session. DeSoto County Commission chamber, 201 East Oak St., Arcadia.
- 'IMPACT' CONFERENCE - Friday, 1:30 p.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will hold an "impact" conference, which involves analyzing potential costs of legislation. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.

- HARDEE DELEGATION - Friday, 4 p.m. - The Hardee County legislative delegation, made up of Sen. Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula, and Rep. Kaylee Tuck, R-Lake Placid, is scheduled to meet as it prepares for the 2025 session. Location; 412 West Orange St., Wauchula.

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.ssdcc.org and click on the red **Briefing** button