



Men's NCAA Basketball Championship Game
Tonight on CBS at 8:50pm
(1) Florida vs (1) Houston

The Briefing for Sunday – April 6, 2025

Day 34 of 60 – 26 Days to Go!

The Last Briefing was April 5, 2025

What's the weather outlook?

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

ACTION REQUESTED

Once Again there has been a great deal of participation by local officials in this years legislative session!

This Week is especially important regarding several major priorities. This Briefing contains substantial information and contact information – please help out by expressing opposition regarding these bills.

Meeting Times and Email Addresses Provided

We need your support on each of the bills outlined below.

Please Call or email the Committee Members and express your opposition
If you can come to the Committee Meeting(s) please consider coming to the Capitol.

HB 703 -Shifts Cost of Relocating Utilities to Local Govt. –up on Monday

[Staff Analysis for HB 703](#)

Bill Proposes mandating that public entities pay for Broadband Utility Relocation

Monday, April 7th at 3:00 PM - 214 House Office Building

[House Commerce Committee](#)

HB 703 by Rep. Will Robinson is a bill that would make state and local governments, including counties, pay the costs of moving broadband, cable, and video service lines instead of the private companies that own them. The Senate companion has two more committees. This bill will have a significant impact on the cost of roadwork requiring local governments and the state to pay for costs to move the lines associated with broadband.

Committee E

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JuanCarlos.Po

Chase.Tramo

C.Hunschofs

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David.Borre

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Kevin.Chamb

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Wyman.Dugg

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gallop.frankl

Mike.Giallomb

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Chip.LaMar

randy.magga

vanessa.oliv

Michele.Ray

Felicia.Robin

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Brad.Yeage

HB 679 - Term Limits Up in House Committee on Tuesday

Tuesday – 8:00am – 17 HOB

County Commissioner and School Board Term Limits

HJR 679 is on State Affairs Committee Agenda –

State Affairs Committee

This proposal is a statewide vote to implement term-limits in every county of the state. Your county does not want anyone other than the voters in your county to dictate the number of times an individual can offer themselves to serve the public.

This proposal is a hard cap at 8 years – you can't sit out and run again!

State Affairs Committee Email Addresses

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HJR 679 and SJR 302 propose a constitutional amendment implementing 8 year Term Limits for Members of County Commissions and District School Boards. Significant concerns have been raised regarding having a statewide vote where every county would be subservient to the results of the vote. We have requested that any proposal provide the local electorate in each county to determine the issue for their own county and not a statewide dictate. The Senate bill seems stalled – the House bill has one more committee. The committees are hearing testimony opposing the proposal.

HB 301 – Sovereign Immunity –Up in Judiciary Committee on Tuesday morning

**On agenda at 8:00 AM -404 House Office Building
Judiciary Committee**

**Details on the House Bill - Similar to the Senate Bill
Message – Oppose HB 301**

- **Increased Settlement Caps \$200K to \$1 million and \$300K to \$3million will Impact Cost of Liability Insurance**
- **Authority to settle over caps will eliminate elements of review and have unintended consequences.**

Contact Members of the Committee and/or come to meeting and file a card opposing the bill and waive your time

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LAWSUIT LIMITS - Tuesday, 8 a.m. - The House Judiciary Committee will take up a bill (HB 301), filed by Rep. Fiona McFarland, R-Sarasota, that would revamp the state's sovereign-immunity laws, which limit the amounts of money government agencies can be required to pay in lawsuits. - 404 House Office Building, the Capitol. The Senate Bill has not been heard in any committee – The House Bill has been heard in two committee. The proposal increases statutory limits on liability for tort claims against state & its agencies & subdivisions; authorizes subdivision to settle claim in excess of statutory limit without legislative action regardless of insurance coverage limits; prohibits insurance policy from conditioning benefits on enactment of claim bill; specifies that limitations in effect on date claim accrues apply to that claim; revises period within which certain claims must be presented; revises exceptions relating to instituting tort claims against state or agencies or subdivisions; revises period after which failure of certain entities to make final disposition of claim shall be deemed final denial of claim for

certain purposes; revises statute of limitations for tort claims against state or one of its agencies or subdivisions & exceptions.

***HB 123 - Charter Schools – Restricts School District land Purchasing –
Education & Employment Committee –***

On agenda Tuesday - 8:00 AM _ 102 HOB

HB 123 - Information Page for Proposals

***There are restrictive mandates and preemption regarding land purchasing.
Lines 114 – 118 – mandate disposing of surplus Property/facilities prior to
being able to purchase additional property for future needs. This could impact
districts seeking special facilities funding for a new school.***

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***SB 1466 - My Safe Florida Home Trust Fund/Department of Financial
Services***

***Proposed legislation threatens funding source for Local Emergency Grants
[Staff Analyses of SB 1466](#)***

We are aware of the concerns being expressed by the EM community regarding the impact of local EM grant funding ! Funding for the authority for local grants programs is in both of the Appropriations Bills and we are working with FAC to address the potential impact of the bill on local EM programs.

On the Docket

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

— Legislature:

- DEMOCRATS HOLD AVAILABILITY - Monday, 10 a.m. - House Minority Leader Fentric Driskell, D-Tampa, and Rep. Kelly Skidmore, D-Boca Raton, will hold a media availability. - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82265140916?pwd=Nx83KveaCWayFdvorJwFli7R0KBvgv.1>
- TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS - Monday, 12:30 p.m. - The House Information Technology Budget & Policy Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion about information-technology procurement. - 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- SPECIAL DISTRICTS - Monday, 1 p.m. - The House Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee will take up a bill (HB 973), filed by Rep. Toby Overdorf, R-Palm City, that would make a series of changes related to special districts. - 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- MINIMUM WAGE CHANGE - Monday, 3 p.m. - The House Commerce Committee will take up a bill (HB 541), filed by Rep. Ryan Chamberlin, R-Belleview, that would provide an exemption to the state minimum wage for workers in arrangements such as internships and apprenticeships. - 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- CHILD CARE FACILITIES - Monday, 3:30 p.m. - The House Health & Human Services Committee will take up a bill (HB 47), filed by Rep. Fiona McFarland, R-Sarasota, that includes revising licensing standards for child-care facilities. - Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.

— Also:

- HIGHER ED CUTS - Monday, 11 a.m. - Private college and university leaders will hold a news conference to discuss potential cuts in the state Effective Access to Student Education, or EASE, program, which provides grants to students. Participants are expected to include Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida President Bob Boyd, Barry University President Mike Allen, St. Thomas University President David Armstrong and Keiser University Chancellor Arthur Keiser. - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88162758966?pwd=ffbPioCn2A12t7yiG6Nku7v9cR5a4f.1>. Meeting ID: 88162758966. Code: 093966

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025

— Legislature:

- HIGHER ED SEARCHES - Tuesday, 8 a.m. - The House Education & Employment Committee will take up a bill (HB 1321), filed by Rep. Michelle Salzman, R-Pensacola, that would make a series of higher-education changes, including repealing a law shielding information about college and university presidential candidates from public disclosure. - Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.

- LAWSUIT LIMITS - Tuesday, 8 a.m. - The House Judiciary Committee will take up a bill (HB 301), filed by Rep. Fiona McFarland, R-Sarasota, that would revamp the state’s sovereign-immunity laws, which limit the amounts of money government agencies can be required to pay in lawsuits. - 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- OIL DRILLING - Tuesday, 8 a.m. - The House State Affairs Committee will consider a proposal (HB 1143), filed by Rep. Jason Shoaf, R-Port St. Joe, and Rep. Allison Tant, D-Tallahassee, that would set new guidelines for state approval of oil and gas drilling projects. - Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- HOUSING ISSUES - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The Senate Rules Committee will take up a bill (SB 1730), filed by Sen. Alexis Calatayud, R-Miami, that would address a series of housing issues, including making changes to a 2023 law known as the “Live Local Act,” which was aimed at increasing affordable housing. - 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- ELECTION LAW CENTER - Tuesday, 1 p.m. - The House Higher Education Budget Subcommittee will take up a bill (HB 1055), filed by Rep. Jon Albert, R-Frostproof, that would create the Florida State University Election Law Center at the university’s law school. - Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- ‘SCHOOLS OF HOPE’ - Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. - The House PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee will take up a bill (HB 1267), filed by Rep. Demi Busatta, R-Coral Gables, that could help what are known as “schools of hope,” a type of charter school. - Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- SENATORS WEIGH FARM BILL - Tuesday, 2 p.m. - The Senate Fiscal Policy Committee will take up a bill (SB 700), filed by Sen. Keith Truenow, R-Tavares, that would address a series of issues in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and is dubbed the “Florida Farm Bill.” - 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- VETERANS KIOSKS - Tuesday, 2 p.m. - Sen. Gayle Harrell, R-Stuart, is expected to help unveil two Veterans Museum touch-screen kiosks at the Capitol. - Plaza level, the Capitol.
- GAMBLING, FANTASY SPORTS - Tuesday, 3 p.m. - The House Budget Committee will consider a proposal (HB 1467), filed by Rep. John Snyder, R-Stuart, that would increase penalties for illegal gambling and set legal guidelines for fantasy sports contests. - 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS - Tuesday, 3 p.m. - The House Ways & Means Committee will take up a bill (HB 1169), filed by Rep. Bill Conerly, R-Lakewood Ranch, that would make a series of changes related to water management districts. - 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.

— **Also:**

- FLORIDA GULF COAST TRUSTEES - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees will meet. - Florida Gulf Coast University, 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.
- FAU TRUSTEES - Tuesday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees will hold committee meetings, followed by a regular board meeting. - Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. <http://www.fau.edu/bot/>

- 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.
- JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, noon. Descriptions: The Florida State College at Jacksonville Board of Trustees will hold a workshop, followed by a regular board meeting. - Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus, 3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Jacksonville.
- PALM BEACH COLLEGE TRUSTEES - Tuesday, 4 p.m. - The Palm Beach State College Board of Trustees will meet. - Palm Beach State College, Belle Glade Campus, 1977 S.W. College Dr., Belle Glade.
- TANZI EXECUTION - Tuesday, 6 p.m. - Michael Tanzi is scheduled to be executed in the 2000 murder of a woman in Monroe County. - Florida State Prison, 23916 N.W. 83rd Ave., Raiford.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025

— Legislature:

- SENATE TAKES UP BUDGET - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The Senate will take up its proposed budget (SB 2500) for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, which will start July 1. - Senate chamber, the Capitol.
- HOUSE CONSIDERS BUDGET - Wednesday, 1 p.m. - The House is scheduled to take up its proposed budget (HB 5001) for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. - House chamber, the Capitol.
- SPECIAL ORDER SET - Wednesday, 15 minutes after the Senate floor session. - The Senate Special Order Calendar Group will set a special-order calendar, which lists bills that will be heard on the Senate floor. - 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.

OTHER SCHEDULED MEETINGS

- House Criminal Justice Subcommittee (8 a.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.) House Health Care Budget Subcommittee (8 a.m., 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee (8 a.m., 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.)
- House Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee (8 a.m., Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)

— Also:

- HURRICANE RECOVERY - Wednesday, 8 a.m. - U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan and U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, co-chairs of the Florida congressional delegation, will hold a delegation hearing about hurricane recovery and resilience. - 2020 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.
- EDUCATION BOARD - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The State Board of Education will meet. - Tallahassee State College, Student Union, 444 Appleyard Dr., Tallahassee.
- 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

- CENTRAL FLORIDA COUNCIL - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. - Jack Stroup Civic Center; 355 West Center Ave., Sebring.
- REFUGEE ISSUES - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The Orlando Area Refugee Task Force will meet. - Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/orlando-area-refugee-task-force-meeting>
- SUICIDE PREVENTION - Wednesday, 1 p.m. - The state Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council will meet. - Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/suicide-prevention-coordinating-council>
- MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES - Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. - The state Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder is scheduled to meet. - Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/commission-mental-health-and-substance-use-disorder-1>
- IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT - Wednesday, 2 p.m. - The State Immigration Enforcement Council will meet. - Information at <https://www.fdle.state.fl.us/State-Board-of-Immigration-Enforcement/State-Immigration-Enforcement-Council>
- NEW COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 3 p.m. - The New College of Florida Board of Trustees will meet. - Sudakoff Conference Center, 5845 General Dougher Place, Sarasota. <https://www.youtube.com/@NewCollegeofF>

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

— Legislature:

- SPECIAL ORDER SET - Thursday, 15 minutes after the Senate committee meetings. - The Senate Special Order Calendar Group is scheduled to set a special-order calendar, which lists bills that will be heard on the Senate floor. - 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION - Thursday, 2:30 p.m. - The Senate is scheduled to hold a floor session. - Senate chamber, the Capitol.

OTHER SCHEDULED MEETINGS

- House Rules & Ethics Committee (7:45 a.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee (8 a.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Health Professions & Programs Subcommittee (8 a.m., Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee (8 a.m., Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- Senate Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee (8:30 a.m., 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.)
- Senate Pre-K-12 Education Appropriations Committee (8:30 a.m., 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- Senate Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations Committee (8:30 a.m., 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- Senate Agriculture, Environment and General Government Appropriations Committee (11 a.m., 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.)

- Senate Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations Committee (11 a.m., 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- Senate Higher Education Appropriations Committee (11 a.m., 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- Senate Finance & Tax Committee (11 a.m., 301 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Education Administration Subcommittee (11:30 a.m., Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Health Care Facilities & Systems Subcommittee (11:30 a.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House State Administration Budget Subcommittee (11:30 a.m., Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Transportation & Economic Development Budget Subcommittee (11:30 a.m., 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Government Operations Subcommittee (2 p.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Housing, Agriculture & Tourism Subcommittee (2 p.m., Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Justice Budget Subcommittee (2 p.m., 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Student Academic Success Subcommittee (2 p.m., Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)

— **Also:**

- SOUTH FLORIDA WATER BOARD - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. - South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach. https://sfwmd.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qIm5NR55QyW861YpK2L4oA#/registration
- GREENWAYS, TRAILS PANEL - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Greenways and Trails Council will meet. - 101 South Copeland Ave., Everglades City.
- GAMBLING ISSUES - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Gaming Control Commission will meet. - Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- CITRUS FORECAST UPDATED - Thursday, noon. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will update a forecast for the 2024-2025 citrus growing season. - Call-in number: 1-888-844-9904. Code: 8552986
- NORTHWEST WATER BOARD - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. - Northwest Florida Water Management District, 81 Water Management Dr., Havana.
- NORTH FLORIDA COLLEGE BOARD - Thursday, 4 p.m. - The North Florida College Board of Trustees will meet. - North Florida College, 325 N.W. Turner Davis Dr., Madison.
- SUNCOAST PARKWAY WIDENING - Thursday, 5:30 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise will hold a hearing on a study to widen the Suncoast Parkway in parts of Hillsborough and Pasco counties. - Hilton Garden Inn Tampa Suncoast Parkway, 2155 Northpointe Parkway, Lutz.

- FINANCE REPORTS DUE - State candidates, political committees and parties face a Thursday deadline for filing reports showing finance activity during the first three months of the year.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025

- TOBACCO TRUST FUND - Friday, 9 a.m. description: The Revenue Estimating Conference will discuss a forecast for the Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- LAND CONSERVATION - Friday, 9 a.m. - The state Acquisition and Restoration Council, which works on land conservation issues, will meet. - Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee. <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/431800649841551966>
- OPTOMETRY ISSUES - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Board of Optometry will meet. - Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown, Tallahassee.
- GREENWAYS, TRAILS PANEL - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Greenways and Trails Council will meet. - 101 South Copeland Ave., Everglades City.
- PODIATRY BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Board of Podiatric Medicine will meet. - Holiday Inn Tampa Airport Westshore, 700 North Westshore Blvd., Tampa.
- CHILD ABUSE DEATHS - Friday, 9 a.m. - The state Child Abuse Death Review Committee is scheduled to meet. - Embassy Suites Tampa/Brandon 10220 Palm River Road, Tampa.
- ‘IMPACT’ CONFERENCE HELD - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will hold an “impact” conference, which involves estimating potential costs of legislation. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- REFUGEE ISSUES - Friday, 10 a.m. - The Miami-Dade Refugee Task Force will meet. - Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/miami-dade-refugee-task-force-meeting> . Call-in number: 1-305-224-1968. Code: 91550331906

Headlines Around The State

AP: Florida makes push all the way to NCAA title game, will face Houston team that pushes others around

AP: Houston squares off against Florida in the National Championship

WUSF: Sarasota schools to end on-campus therapy program that helped hundreds of kids

Sun-Sentinel: Florida homeowners turn to this insurance strategy to save money. Agents say be careful.

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