

**DAY
50**

With 10 days left – will they finish on time?

No conference yet – a lot of issues still in play!

House and Senate in Floor Sessions – Tomorrow and Thursday

The Briefing for Tuesday - April 22, 2025

The Last Briefing was April 17, 2025

What's the weather outlook?

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



The last briefing was sent as we monitored the active shooting on the FSU Campus. A tragedy, in an of itself, however, during the past few weeks there have been events that have shaken us –

- The shooting death of Walton County Deputy William May during a trespass incident!
 - The death of Ken Sposato, owner of tow-truck business in Highlands County, struck assisting a disabled vehicle.
 - The shooting at FSU – 2 dead, 6 injured - shaking the campus, community, and Nole Nation.
 - The passing of Pope Francis – a kind, compassionate, humble, and, loving pontiff.
- Let's take a "Briefing" moment to acknowledge these individuals and their impact on us
- individually and collectively. !

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace

The Calendar!

The House Calendar
The Senate Calendar

Today is Day 50

50th Day rule (Senate)

Unless approved by the President, no committee shall meet after the fiftieth (50th) day of a regular session except the Rules Committee

Events Today in Tally

Safety Net Hospital Day

Ceremony for Fallen Firefighters

Events Tomorrow in Tally

Florida Wildlife Corridor Day

CLAY COUNTY DAY! - One of my favorite days!!

Sen. Bob Graham Day.

Action on Major Legislation

The Florida House and Senate in the coming week will continue to pass major bills before the scheduled May 2 end of the legislative session. In addition to such policy issues, the House and Senate have proposed budgets that are more than \$4 billion apart. As of Friday, it remained to be seen when they would start formal negotiations on a budget for the fiscal year that will start July

Budget Conference – No News

House budget subcommittees meet this week to workshop comparisons of House and Senate budget spreadsheet figures, member projects, and proviso & back-of-the-bill language heading into conference.

School Start Time Legislation

The repeal of school start time mandate is awaiting final action on the House agenda. No apparent obstacles except time!

Regional Planning Councils Repeal Tabled -

SB1264 tabled in Rules Committee -

In a surprise announcement – SB 1264 was temporarily passed and did not take up in the Senate Rules Committee. The bill which repealed statutory reference to RPC's appears "dead" in legislative terminology. The Small County Coalition has been requesting that the RPC repeal be removed from the bill.

Sovereign Immunity

Staff Analysis of House Sovereign Immunity Legislation

Discussions continue regarding cap provisions. Currently, the House bill is in messages to the Senate. There are still behind the scenes discussions to reach a compromise but the Senate bill has not been heard yet.

Term Limits

Staff Analysis of Term Limit Proposal HJR 679

The House term limit bill is in messages to the Senate.

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

— Legislature:

- DEMOCRATS HOLD AVAILABILITY - Monday, 10 a.m. - House Minority Leader Fentrice Driskell, D-Tampa, Rep. Christine Hunschofsky, D-Parkland, and Rep. Kelly Skidmore, D-Boca Raton, will hold a media availability.
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81092277784?pwd=9TJN2iHHCxsQ7SwLLv26FAUG6uTAxu.1>
- CONDO LAWS ADDRESSED - Monday, 2 p.m. - The Senate Rules Committee will take up numerous issues, including a bill (SB 1742), filed by Sen. Jennifer Bradley, R-Fleming Island, that would revise condominium laws as many condo owners and associations grapple with rising costs. - 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- SPECIAL ORDER SET - Monday, 15 minutes after Senate Rules Committee meets.
- The Senate Special Order Calendar Group will set a special-order calendar, which lists bills that will be heard on the Senate floor. - 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.

— Also:

- SD 15 QUALIFYING STARTS - Monday, 8 a.m. - A candidate qualifying period will start in a special election in Orange County's Senate District 15, which was left vacant when Democratic Sen. Geraldine Thompson died in February. The qualifying period will continue until noon Wednesday.
- 'IMPACT' CONFERENCE - Monday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will hold an "impact" conference, which involves estimating potential costs of legislation. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- SEMINOLE STATE TRUSTEES - Monday, 2 p.m. - The Seminole State College of Florida Board of Trustees will meet. - Seminole State College of Florida, Sanford/Lake Mary Campus, 100 Weldon Blvd., Sanford.
- TALLAHASSEE STATE BOARD - Monday, 2:30 p.m. - The Tallahassee State College Board of Trustees will meet. - Tallahassee State College, Hinson Administration Building, 444 Appleyard Dr., Tallahassee.
- FIRE SERVICE AWARDS - Monday, 5:30 p.m. - Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson and JoAnne Rice, director of the Division of State Fire Marshal, will host an event to present the Florida Fire Service Awards. - 22nd floor, the Capitol.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

— Legislature:

- CONFIRMATION HEARINGS - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Senate Ethics and Elections Committee will hold confirmation hearings for dozens of appointees to state and local boards, such as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the state

university system's Board of Governors, the Board of Medicine, Space Florida, water management districts, universities and colleges. - 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.

- WILDLIFE COMMISSION CHANGES - Tuesday, 11 a.m. - The Senate Appropriations Committee will take up a bill (HB 1133), which has passed the House, that would make changes in the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, including requiring representation on the commission from different regions of the state and imposing term limits. - 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- PARKS PLAN - Tuesday, 11 a.m. - The Senate Fiscal Policy Committee will take up numerous bills, including a proposal (SB 80), filed by Sen. Gayle Harrell, R-Stuart, that would bar the construction of such things as golf courses, resort-style lodges and pickleball courts in state parks - 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- SPECIAL ORDER SET - Tuesday, 15 minutes after committee meetings. - The Senate Special Order Calendar Group will set a special-order calendar, which lists bills that will be heard on the Senate floor. Location; 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.

OTHER POTENTIAL MEETINGS

- House Commerce Committee (8 a.m., 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.)
- House Health & Human Services Committee (8 a.m., Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Education & Employment Committee (1 p.m., Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Judiciary Committee (1 p.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House State Affairs Committee (1 p.m., Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Budget Committee (3:30 p.m., Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Ways & Means Committee (3:30 p.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.)
- House Rules & Ethics Committee (6 p.m., 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.)

— Also:

- 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.
- ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - St. Petersburg College Board of Trustees will meet. - St. Petersburg College, Health Education Center, 7200 66th St. North, Pinellas Park.
- ARCHITECTURE BOARD - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The state Board of Architecture and Interior Design will meet. - The Shores Resort & Spa, 2637 South. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach Shores.
- FSU TRUSTEES - Tuesday, 1 p.m. - The Florida State University Board of Trustees will meet. - Information at <https://trustees.fsu.edu/meetings>
- IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT - Tuesday, 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>

- PENSACOLA COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 4:30 p.m. - The Pensacola State College Board of Trustees is scheduled to hold a workshop, committee meetings and a full board meeting. - Pensacola State College, 1000 College Blvd., Pensacola.
- OYSTER HARVESTING - Tuesday, 6 p.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will hold a workshop about regulation of oyster harvesting. - Cedar Key RV Resort, 11980 S.W. Shiloh Road, Cedar Key.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

— Legislature:

- HOUSE SECURITY PANEL - Wednesday, 8 a.m. - The House Security & Threat Assessment Committee is scheduled to meet. - 12 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- CONDOS, HORSE RACING - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The House is scheduled to take up dozens of bills during a floor session, including a proposal (HB 913), filed by Rep. Vicki Lopez, R-Miami, that would revamp laws about condominium associations and a proposal (HB 1467), filed by Rep. John Snyder, R-Stuart, and Rep. Adam Anderson, R-Palm Harbor, that could eventually allow the state's two thoroughbred horse tracks to end racing but continue offering other types of gambling. - House chamber, the Capitol.
- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The Senate is scheduled to hold a floor session. - Senate chamber, the Capitol.
- SPECIAL ORDER SET - Wednesday, 15 minutes after the Senate floor session. - 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. Location; 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.

— Also:

- UNF TRUSTEES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The University of North Florida Board of Trustees will hold a quarterly meeting. - University of North Florida, Adam W. Herbert University Center, Jacksonville. <https://unf.zoom.us/j/82702449680#success>. Webinar ID: 82702449680
- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Medical Malpractice Joint Underwriting Association Board of Governors is scheduled to meet. - Aloft, 200 North Monroe St., Tallahassee.
- 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
- USF TRUSTEES - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The University of South Florida Board of Trustees will meet to approve an accountability plan. - Information at <https://www.usf.edu/board-of-trustees/meetings/index.aspx>
- PAROLE CASES - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. - Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165

- DAYTONA STATE TRUSTEES - Wednesday, 2 p.m. - The Daytona State College Board of Trustees will meet. - Daytona State College, Wetherell Student Services and Administration Building, 1200 West International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach.
- DEVELOPMENT FINANCE BOARD - Wednesday, 2 p.m. - The Florida Development Finance Corp. Board of Directors will meet. - Florida Development Finance Corp., 156 Tuskawilla Road, Suite 2340, Winter Springs. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82348661768?pwd=coHtpWQcLtCzbAnETYfVBeNl2hGJN2.1>. Meeting ID: 82348661768. Code: 402838. Call-in number: 1-646-558-8656
- CENTRAL FLORIDA COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 3 p.m. - The College of Central Florida Board of Trustees will meet. - College of Central Florida, Wilton Simpson Citrus Campus, 3800 South Lecanto Highway, Lecanto.
- HILLSBOROUGH COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 4 p.m. - The Hillsborough Community College Board of Trustees will meet. - Hillsborough Community College, Dr. Gwendolyn W. Stephenson District Administration Center, 4115 North Lois Ave., Tampa.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

— Legislature:

- HEALTH CARE BUDGET PANEL - Thursday, 8 a.m. - The House Health Care Budget Subcommittee is scheduled to meet. - 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The Senate is scheduled to hold a floor session. - Senate chamber, the Capitol.
- OPTOMETRIST AUTHORITY DEBATED - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The House will take up numerous issues during a floor session, including a bill (HB 449), filed by Rep. Alex Rizo, R-Hialeah, that would expand the authority of optometrists to perform procedures. Optometrists and ophthalmologists have long battled about such issues in what have become known as the “eyeball wars.” - House chamber, the Capitol.
- SPECIAL ORDER SET - Thursday, 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. Location; 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.

— Also:

- INTERCHANGE FIGHT - Thursday, 9 a.m. - A three-judge panel of the 5th District Court of Appeal will hear arguments in a battle about a permit for a new Interstate 95 interchange in Volusia County. The case, filed by the groups Bear Warriors United and the Sweetwater Coalition of Volusia County and two individuals, went to the appeals court after the St. Johns River Water Management District moved forward with issuing a permit to the Florida Department of Transportation for the planned 74-acre project at a road known as Pioneer Trail. The district made the decision after Administrative Law Judge E. Gary Early issued a recommended order that said the permit should be denied. - Marion County Courthouse, 110 N.W. First Ave., Ocala.

- FAMU TRUSTEES - Thursday, 9 am. - The Florida A&M University Board of Trustees will meet.
- <https://famu.zoom.us/j/98573800108?pwd=YHPfN8VJKep845ErDDTxwFuonY41Ar.1>
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- NORTH CENTRAL COUNCIL - Thursday, 7 p.m. - The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. - Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 213 S.W. Commerce Blvd., Lake City. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 114572845

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

— Legislature:

- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION - Friday, 10 a.m. - The Senate is scheduled to hold a floor session. - Senate chamber, the Capitol.
- HOUSE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION - Friday, 10 a.m. - The House is scheduled to hold a floor session. - House chamber, the Capitol.
- SPECIAL ORDER SET - Friday, 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. Location; 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- RULES COMMITTEE - Friday, 15 minutes after the House floor session. - The House Rules & Ethics Committee will meet. - 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.

— Also:

- ETHICS PANEL - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Ethics will meet. - 1st District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Dr., Tallahassee.
- ‘IMPACT’ CONFERENCE - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will hold an “impact” conference, which involves estimating potential costs of legislation. - 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- NURSING HOMES - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Board of Nursing Home Administrators will meet. - Holiday Inn Tampa Airport Westshore: 700 North Westshore Blvd., Tampa.
- 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. Call-in number: 1-646-749-3122. Code: 268592461

Headlines Around The State

[WUSF: Florida Senate won't confirm DeSantis' ACHA, DCF nominees during session](#)

[Floridian: 'The Doors Don't Lock': After FSU Shooting, Petition Demands Locks on Classroom Doors](#)

[Democrat: All injured FSU students except one soon to be released from Tallahassee hospital](#)

[CBS Miami: FSU students return to campus amid grief after deadly shooting; classes resume with flexibility](#)

[Democrat: After shooting, students return with tears along flower-lined walkways](#)

[FlaPol: Florida political leaders mourn Pope Francis](#)

[Times: Why a fight over one Florida complex could nix disabled housing statewide](#)

[WUSF: FEMA cuts make landfall weeks before Florida's hurricane season begins](#)

[Democrat: Are you a Florida State student, staffer or friend who is hurting? Help is available.](#)

[Politico: Trump-connected lobbying firm Ballard Partners rakes in \\$14M in first quarter](#)

[Democrat: FAMU search committee identifies four final candidates for president. Here's who they are](#)

[Democrat: Pope Francis' death brings mourning, hope to Tallahassee residents](#)

[The Capitolist: Florida Gas Prices Down 59 Cents Year-Over-Year, Averaging \\$3.00 Per Gallon](#)

[Sentinel: Orange school district to lose 3,100 students, millions in funds next year](#)

[Democrat: Florida CFO and lieutenant governor seats remain unfilled for weeks](#)

[News4JAX: 'Not going to replace Parkland': Florida committee won't take up House-approved bill lowering gun buying age to 18](#)

[WLRN: Following FSU's shooting, House Democrats are calling for stricter gun legislation in Florida](#)

[FlaPol: Hope Florida counsel can't make Thursday hearing. Alex Andrade wants a special Friday hearing to question him.](#)

[News4JAX: 'How is this not unconstitutional?': Florida Senate higher education bill faces questions as it heads to full vote](#)

[FlaPol: Senate higher education bill still diverges from the House version](#)

[WLRN: Bills would make it harder to pass constitutional amendments -- with or without state money](#)

[FlaPol: Legislature deems bills expanding exceptions to abortion ban not viable in 2025 Session](#)

[The Capitolist: DeSantis Signs Bills on First Responders, Court Orders, Pet Insurance, and Resilience](#)

[FlaPol: Everyone loves pets: Gov. DeSantis signs pet insurance overhaul after zero opposition](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis signs off on peer support for crime scene investigators](#)

[FlaPol: House plan would force property tax relief by expanding exemptions for affordable housing](#)

[The Capitolist: Competing Florida tax relief packages require compromise before sessions end](#)

[FlaPol: Senate bill to lower minimum wage for workers gets TPed late Monday](#)

[FlaPol: House proposes killing all tourist development councils in Florida](#)

[FlaPol: Bill requiring parental consent for STD treatment ready for Senate floor](#)

[WLRN: Florida loops back on cursive as new bill looks to expand instruction in the classroom](#)

[FlaPol: Bill enhancing anaphylaxis training in schools ready for Senate floor](#)

[FlaPol: House tax amendment calls for big changes to TDT funding](#)

[FlaPol: Chip LaMarca sinks his anchoring limits bill, citing safety concerns](#)

[FlaPol: Equality Florida on high alert over 'dangerous' bills on voting, education, birth control access](#)

[FlaPol: RV parks would enjoy added exemptions under latest House tax package](#)

[WUSF: Florida bill seeks to end community reinvestment agencies, but Gainesville's unique model thrives](#)

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

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

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