



Kickoff at 6:30 on NBC

National Anthem: Charlie Puth; "America the Beautiful": Brandi Carlile

"Lift Every Voice and Sing": Coco Jones

The Briefing – Friday, February 6, 2026

Day 25 of 60 Day Session

The Last Briefing – Saturday – January 31, 2026

Note – All previous Briefings can be accessed at www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org

Click the Briefing button at the website!

What's the weather outlook?

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

State Budget Proposals to be released in Week Five

The Senate Timeframe for Budget Proposals Adjusted

Senate Appropriations Chair Ed Hooper announced this week that Appropriation Subcommittees will release initial budget proposals next Thursday. The proposed subcommittee proposals will be considered in the Senate Appropriations committee in Week Six. Senate Hooper indicated that the Budget Calendar coincides with the calendar for the House of Representatives. The Florida Senate had planned to roll out its first set of recommendations this week, but Senate leaders modified the plan to coincide with the anticipated schedule with the House. Senator Hooper, the Senate budget chief, said the rationale was that the House is not planning to release its spending recommendations until late next week. He said the two chambers normally roll out budgets at the same time.

“It’s important for us to keep that tradition and roll out the same week as our partners,”

Hooper said on the Senate floor.

The House Budget Chief responds on X to Senator Hooper’s announcement!

Rep. Lawrence McClure, the House budget chief responded to Senator Hooper’s announcement with the following post on on X -

“With respect to Senator Hooper, during this term the Florida Senate has demonstrated little interest in respecting legislative traditions,”

“Any timing issues they are having in pulling together their Senate budget have absolutely nothing to do with the Florida House.”

Education Funding - Report shows drop in K-12 student enrollment

Enrollment Drop could impact funding for over 45 school districts!

[FEFP 3rd Calculation](#)

(Check out enrollment and funding impacts on page 2 of 44 in the link above.)

The Florida Department of Education released the FEFP 3rd Calculation on Friday, January 23, 2026. The 3rd Calculation is an adjustment finalized after the October student survey, which is the first official, actual count of students. This calculation is used to adjust each districts funding based on the actual number of students attending in the fall, rather than the original estimates.

The 3rd calculation found a drop of 46,455.88 in FTE resulting in a reduction of 231,028,166 appropriated by the Legislature. Over 45 of the 67 school district enrollments dropped. Unless some provision is made to help offset the funding loss - \$231 million appropriated in the FEFP will revert.

Legislative Calendar

[Senate Calendar - Friday - Day 25 of 60](#)

[House Calendar - Friday - Day 25 of 60](#)

Week Four In The Books!

Week Five – Generally, Legislative Subcommittees will start shutting down. The Senate and the House met in floor sessions this week and legislative committees considered a significant number of bills. With the session moving to the halfway point next week, the pressure on for bills trying to make it through the process. Regarding action this week on bills – here a complete report links and a listing of bills of significant note.

 **[Week Four Action on Education Bills .docx](#)**

23 bills relating to Education were considered this week. These bills are listed in the action report. Here is a listing of Education Bills of significant note:

- [SB 0124](#)** **Florida Virtual School** by Rodriguez
- [SB 0178](#)** **Athletics in Public K-12 Schools** by Jones
- [HB 0371](#)** **Patriotic Displays at Public Schools** by Snyder
- [HB 0423](#)** **Student Elopement** by Eskamani (Missing Students during the School Day)
- [SB 0538](#)** **Extracurricular Activities** by Simon
- [HB 0561](#)** **Educator Certifications** by Gerwig
- [HB 0583](#)** **Protection of Religious Expression in Public Schools** by Tramont
- [HB 0615](#)** **Individual Education Plans** by Tendrich
- [SB 0824](#)** **Inventory of Unimproved Real Property Owned by School Districts** by Truenow
- [HB 1069](#)** **Background Screenings** by Trabulsy
- [HB 1073](#)** **School Districts** by Koster (School Board Bill of Rights) SB 1620 similar
- [HB 1147](#)** **School District Unimproved Real Property** by Nix, Jr.
- [SB 1170](#)** **Education** by Calatayud (Video Cameras in Public Schools)
- [SB 1620](#)** **Public Education** by Leek (School Board Bills of Rights – restricts employment of relatives)

 **[Week Four Action on Local Government Bills.docx](#)**

29 bills, maybe more, relating to Local Government Bills were considered the week. These bills are outlined in the action report. I've chosen to highlight several of the Local Government Bills of significant note:

<u>HB 0103</u>	Local Business Taxes by Botana
<u>HB 0433</u>	Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services by Alvarez, D.
<u>HB 0635</u>	Cybersecurity Standards and Liability by Giallombardo
<u>HB 0691</u>	Agricultural Enclaves by Botana
<u>SB 0698</u>	Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System Permits by Martin
<u>HB 0803</u>	Building Permits and Inspections by Trabulsy
<u>HB 0927</u>	Local Land Planning and Development by Sapp
<u>HB 0967</u>	Electronic Payments Made to Units of Local Governments by Buchanan
<u>HB 1001</u>	Official Actions of Local Governments by Black
<u>HB 1085</u>	Local Government Cyber Security by Miller
<u>SB 1134</u>	Official Actions of Local Governments by Yarborough
<u>HB 1139</u>	Impact Fees by Gentry
<u>HB 1285</u>	Biosolids Management by Boyles
<u>SB 1320</u>	Tax Referenda by Martin
<u>SB 1366</u>	Claims Against the Government by Brodeur

Here are some links that will assist you in monitoring the session.

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

<https://www.flsenate.gov/>

[The Florida Channel To Watch Proceedings](#)

[House Directory](#)

[Senate Directory](#)

Here's An Opportunity You May To Consider Workshops on Critical Infrastructure (registration link included below)

The following workshops are scheduled in the Panhandle and North Florida to offer practitioner-driven sessions on cyber preparedness, incident response, and operational resilience.

Designed for both technical and executive audiences, the workshop emphasizes real-world challenges, peer discussion, and actionable guidance to help organizations strengthen readiness against evolving cyber threats.

Purpose:

- Engage in a realistic cyber incident scenario facilitated by leading tabletop exercise conductors NUARI

- Challenge decision-making, communication, and cross-organizational coordination under pressure
- Identify common gaps, clarify roles and responsibilities, and gain practical insights to strengthen response plans, governance, and overall cyber resilience

To register please click on the links for the workshop that you would like to attend –

February 10, 2026 – PAEC in Chipley, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm Central
[Cyber Workshop for Critical Infrastructure 2/10/2026 Chipley FL | Cyber Florida at USF](#)

February 12 - Tallahassee State College in Tallahassee, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm Eastern
[Cyber Workshop for Critical Infrastructure 2/12/2026 Tallahassee | Cyber Florida at USF](#)

Important Reports

- **Governors Office DOGE Report on Local Government Spending –**
[Florida DOGE Report Jan 2026 – Adobe cloud storage](#)-The report includes recommendations including a suggestion that a review of Florida’s 411 cities should be done to see if some could be abolished or consolidated with other governments.
- **FAC PROPERTY TAX REPORT -** <https://www.fl-counties.com/report-property-taxes/>
- **FLORIDA TAXWATCH REPORT -** [How-Florida-Counties-Compare-2025.pdf](#) –
- **Fla. League of Cities –** [Fiscal Structure & Rev. Resilience of Florida Municipalities](#)

On The Docket

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

- **‘IMPACT’ CONFERENCE -** Friday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will hold an “impact” conference, which involves estimating potential costs of legislation. Location: 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.

Headlines Around The State

[*Politico: Florida push for mid-decade redistricting draws its first lawsuit*](#)

[*Sun-Sentinel: Audit blasts actions that resulted in bonuses for top Broward school administrators*](#)

[*FlaPol: Land-use preemption bill clears penultimate House Committee hurdle, with softer pushback than in first stop*](#)

[*FlaPol: Aaron Bean to host health care summit on prescription drug policy*](#)

[*Herald: Miami Beach shares spring break rules for 2026. They're less strict than before*](#)

[*FlaPol: Bill to fast-track dense housing on contaminated South Florida land clears first House Committee*](#)

[*FlaPol: Dean Black measure nixing municipal DEI moves in House*](#)

[*FlaPol: Proposal to overhaul voter citizenship verification clears House Committee*](#)

[*FlaPol: House Committee backs Adam Botana's proposal easing development in agricultural enclaves without comp plan changes*](#)

[Herald Tribune: DeSantis pushes for AI regulation in Florida amid federal inaction](#)
[FlaPol: Democrat Jennifer Jenkins challenges 'vulnerable' Randy Fine, says she can flip CD 6](#)
[Democrat: Leon Schools sends email to parents, students amid ICE protests](#)
[Times: As students walk out over ICE, lawmakers call out Hillsborough principal](#)
[FlaPol: Florida Chamber: Childhood poverty continues to decline](#)
[NBC 6: Over 5,000 iguanas captured in Florida during 2-day cold weather roundup: FWC](#)
[Floridian: Florida Council of 100 Releases \\$10M Campaign Targeting CEO's to State's 'Gold Coast'](#)
[Democrat: Florida moving to require proof of citizenship for new voters](#)
[FlaPol: Senate leadership delays release of budget proposal until Feb. 12](#)
[Floridian: Paul Renner Outlines Steps to End Government Corruption](#)
[CBS Miami: Florida Senate approves allowing more garage apartments to boost affordable housing](#)
[WLRN: Balancing act: Bills to both regulate, promote AI data centers advance to final committee](#)
[FlaPol: Cursive, foiled again? House passes penmanship bill, but future unclear in Senate](#)
[FlaPol: Senate panel advances bill putting tighter leash on dog breeders](#)
[FlaPol: Senate Committee supports educational push to prevent child drownings](#)
[WUSF: Lawmakers advance proposal to restore natural Ocklawaha-St. Johns water flow](#)
[Times: Student protests must not disrupt class, Florida education chief says](#)
[WUSF: GOP effort to add House seats in Florida through census lawsuit hits a snag](#)
[Post: Why new numbers show life expectancy in Florida reached new peak](#)
[Democrat: Measles cases are rising in Florida, higher than what DOH data shows](#)
[DBNJ: Get free entry to Florida State Parks. Here's when and why](#)
[Sun-Sentinel: Florida DOGE report has local officials asking: Where's the waste?](#)
[FlaPol: Senate panel blesses proposed amendment on school religious freedom](#)
[CBS Miami: Florida Senate advances bill to regulate data centers amid concerns over energy and water use](#)
[WUSF: A Florida bill would prohibit local governments from eliminating their own fossil fuel use](#)
[FlaPol: Bill to allow high school coaches to pay for athletes' basic needs scores support in second Committee](#)

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

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdc.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