



The Briefing for Monday, April 13, 2026

The Last Briefing was Tuesday, April 7, 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](#)

Still in a holding pattern as state of Legislative Limbo continues!

Not much to brief! Very Quiet!

Special Session to convene for Congressional Redistricting

A Special Session is scheduled to convene next week to deal with a mid-term Congressional Redistricting proposal. Governor DeSantis called the Special Session to redraw district lines earlier this year. At this point, no maps have been released as concerns regarding the wisdom of redistricting are being expressed by some of Florida's Congressional delegation.

Budget Agreement has yet to be reached on Allocations for the FY26-27

Budget

The Regular Session of the legislature ended without passing a General Appropriations Bill for 26-27. At this point, there has yet to be an agreement on "how much" will be allocated for Senate and House negotiators to appropriate. Senator Albritton issued a memo to Senators last week indicating that discussions between Legislative leaders is ongoing, however, no agreement has been reached. [Link to President Albritton's Budget Update Memo](#)

Nothing on Property Tax at this point!

Once again, we share that there is no proposal regarding the reduction or elimination of property taxes for consideration by the votes in the November General Election. During the Regular Session the House passed a proposal to eliminate property taxes on Homesteaded properties.

Unfinished Legislative Business

Consideration of Property Tax Proposals

General Appropriations

House and Senate Budget Proposals As of End of Regular Session

Word Searchable Appropriation Proposals

Senate Budget Proposal - [SB 2500](#)

House Budget Proposal - [HB 5001](#)

Status of funding important to Small Counties

[26-27 - Budget Proposals Small County Programs .docx](#)

Education Funding

Education Provisions in the GAA.

[Comparison of House and Senate Current Budget Provisions](#)

Florida Education Finance Program

Status of K-12 Funding at the end of the 60 Day Session

[Senate FEFP Proposal for 26-27](#)

[House FEFP Proposal for 26-27](#)

Major Issues

Special Facility Construction Funding

Regional Consortium

Safe Schools Funding/Formula

Funding for Declining Enrollment – current year and 26-27

Impact of Increases for fuel on transportation funding.

Campaigns are in full gear around the state!

Recent Polls Showing potential for tight races!

Head to head – Donalds vs Jolly within margin of error!

AG race - Jose Javier Rodriguez has slight edge over current AG Uthmeier

DATA SETS ON STATEWIDE MILLAGE RATES AND LOCAL TAX ROLLS

[Report on Millage Rates and Taxes Levied](#)

[Data Sets on County Tax Roll Components](#)

Florida Association of Counties Property Tax Report

Florida DOGE Report Jan 2026 – Adobe cloud storage

Florida TAXWATCH Report How Florida Counties Compare!

Fiscal Structure & Revenue Resilience of Florida Municipalities

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](#)

Headlines Around The State

[CBS Miami: Attorney General James Uthmeier keeps silent on if he's blocking Hope Florida grand jury report](#)

[Politico: The fight for control of an iconic Florida fish scales up](#)

[FlaPol: Byron Donalds to announce industry-focused workforce initiative](#)

[FlaPol: Paul Renner's 'Affordability Now' tour continues Monday in Crawfordville](#)

[WUSF: Why Rep. Ryan Chamberlin wants to eliminate and replace Florida's property taxes](#)

[WUSF: Sarasota County blocks 'Live Local' law, risking clash with developers](#)

[WUSF: Electronic waste is piling up. Here's how Florida is managing the surge](#)

[Times: What's causing Central Florida trash haulers to collect hurricane volumes of debris?](#)

[Sentinel: DeSantis pushes ahead on redistricting, despite opposition](#)

[DBNJ: Influencer files to run against Florida congressman Randy Fine](#)

[WUSF: Officials warn about higher-than-average wildfire activity across Florida coming up](#)

[FlaPol: Jay Collins raises nearly \\$1.75 million in first quarter as active candidate, with big Ron DeSantis donor giving more than half](#)

[FlaPol: Paul Renner fundraising falls off, with roughly \\$800k raised to kick off 2026, as burn rate escalates](#)

[Times: Republican Byron Donalds surges ahead in fundraising for Florida governor](#)

[WUSF: Florida ag commissioner hopeful pushes Greenbelt reform, citing 'rent-a-cow' story](#)

[WUSF: Highlands County faces the harsh realities of public funding across the state being diverted to religious and private schools](#)

[FlaPol: Blaise Ingoglia distributes \\$1.4M in grants to Gulf Coast emergency workers](#)

[Times: Hillsborough has a class size problem. Leaders don't see an easy fix](#)

[Times: Still no state budget as Florida schools prepare for expected cuts](#)

[FlaPol: Florida TaxWatch urges Legislature to leave tourist development taxes alone](#)

[Floridian: Florida Police Benevolent Association Endorses Ashley Moody for Senate](#)

[Floridian: Mike Haridopolos Lauds 'Spectacular' Artemis II Mission](#)

[FlaPol: Teacher crisis: Push to extend property tax to pay Duval County teachers continues](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis receives education 'chimera' bill combining Democratic, Republican proposals](#)

[Floridian: National Association of Police Organizations Endorses Blaise Ingoglia for CFO](#)

[WLRN: DeSantis plays down lack of Supreme Court opinion in justifying congressional redistricting effort](#)

WUSF: DeSantis pushes redistricting as Democratic wins shake GOP outlook

Democrat: DeSantis, Abbott tout 'boom belt' but no mention of rising costs

FlaPol: 'Perfect recipe': Wilton Simpson warns that drought, freezes prompt spike in Florida wildfires

WUSF: Forest Service officials warn Floridians not to 'underestimate wildfire season'

FlaPol: Paul Renner talks rising costs in multimarket 'Affordability Now' tour beginning Wednesday in Miami

FlaPol: 'Implementation cycle': Jay Collins says homestead property tax relief may be phased in over years

Times: Florida should fund religious charter schools, AG Uthmeier says

WUSF: Rural school districts' financial woes a 'canary in a coal mine'

FlaPol: Florida Clerks of Courts use County Government Month to promote more interaction with public

Democrat: Leon County schools grapple with rising fuel costs for buses

News-Herald: Visit PCB officially announces Griffitts' role as president and CEO

ON THE DOCKET THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

- GREENWAYS COUNCIL - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Greenways and Trails Council opens a two-day meeting to discuss trail projects and elect the next leaders. Location: St. Petersburg Distillery; 855 28th Street South, St. Petersburg.
- JANUARY UNEMPLOYMENT - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Department of Commerce will release the January unemployment report. Location: The Department website.
- FLORIDA-ALABAMA PLANNING - Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. - The Florida-Alabama Transportation Planning Organization is holding a project priorities workshop. Location: Gulf Breeze Community Center, 800 Shoreline Drive, Gulf Breeze.
- BLUE-GREEN TASK FORCE - Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. - The Department of Environmental Protection Blue-Green Algae Task Force is meeting online. Location: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8316236914810190685>
- NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATERS - Wednesday, 1 p.m. - The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board is meeting, with presentations planned on the Apalachicola River Slough Restoration Project and the 2026 Operation Outdoor Freedom hunting and fishing event. Location: 81 Water Management Drive, Havana.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

- South Florida Water Management District Governing Board - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The will get an update on water supply conditions as part of its regular meeting. Location: SFWMD Headquarters, B-1 Building, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach.
- BOATING ADVISORY - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Boating Advisory Council opens a two-day meeting to review and discuss boating-related topics. Location: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, Esalen Room, 4431 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens.

- GREENWAYS COUNCIL - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Greenways and Trails Council concludes a two-day meeting with discussion on the Trail Town Alliance and the benefits of a public art program. Location: St. Petersburg Distillery; 855 28th Street South, St. Petersburg.
- GAMING COMMISSION - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Gaming Control Commission is meeting. Location: Joseph P. Cresse Hearing Room 148, 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.
- CENTRAL FLORIDA TOURISM - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The International Drive Resort Area Chamber of Commerce will host a presentation from TaxWatch President and CEO Jeff Kottkamp on Central Florida's Tourist Development Tax. Location: Hyatt Regency 9801 International Drive, Orlando.
- CITRUS FORECAST - Thursday, noon. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will release the second of three forecasts for the 2025-2026 citrus growing season. Location: The Department website.
- SECURITY FORUM - Thursday, 5 p.m. - The invite-only AGS Frontiers Forum begins a three-day session on emerging national and state issues that includes among its speakers Hillsborough County Republican Rep. Danny Alvarez, who is chairman of the forum. Location: The Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation, the University of South Florida, 124 South Franklin St, Tampa.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

- FINANCE REPORTS DUE - State candidates, political committees and parties face a Friday deadline for filing reports showing financial activity through Thursday.
- SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND THE BLIND - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Board of Trustees is holding a regular meeting at 10:30 a.m. after Enrollment and Endowment committee meetings. Location: Moore Hall's Center for Learning and Development, Room 215, FSDB Campus, 207 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine.
- BOATING ADVISORY - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Boating Advisory Council continues a two-day meeting to review and discuss boating-related topics. Location: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, Esalen Room, 4431 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens.
- EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - The State Emergency Response Commission is meeting "to discuss the requirements of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act, also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986." Location: Double Tree by Hilton St. Augustine Historic District, 116 San Marco Avenue, St. Augustine, FL 32084.
- CENTRAL FLORIDA MPO - Friday, 10 a.m. - The Central Florida MPO Alliance is holding its quarterly meeting. Location: MetroPlan Orlando, 250 South Orange Avenue, Orlando.

Here are key dates for 26-27

April 20 -
Redistricting
Budget and other

Special Legislative Session to deal with Congressional

Note: No information on Special Session to deal with
unfinished business

June 9-12	FSBA Summer Meeting – Tampa
June 11 –	Small District Breakfast – SSDCC Annual Meeting
June 23-26 –	FAC Annual Conference – Orlando
June 24 -	Small County Coalition Summer Meeting
August 18 –	Primary Elections
Sept 16-17 –	FAC Policy Conference – Jacksonville
Nov 3 –	General Election
Nov. 17-19-	Rural Summit – Ocala – Sponsored by FREDA
Dec 2-4 –	Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference
Dec 2 -	Small County Coalition Breakfast –
Dec 2-4 –	FSBA Legislative Conference – Tampa
Dec 3 -	Small District Breakfast – SSDCC Legislative Meeting
Dec - Feb. -	Legislative Committee Meetings
March 2 -	Legislature convenes
March 16 -	Small County Coalition – Legislative Reception
March 17 -	Small School District Council Consortium
March 17-18-	Rural Days 2027 – Tentative
March 17-18 –	FSBA Days in the Legislature
March 17 -	Florida Association Counties – Legislative Day
April 30 -	Legislative Session 60 Days – Sine Die!

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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