



There are 18 days until the August 18th Primary Election!
There are 95 days until the November 3rd General Election!

The Briefing for Friday, July 31, 2026

The Last Briefing was Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Next week my wife and I will be celebrating our 50th Wedding Anniversary with a trip to NYC. Four plays in 3 days! A Today show appearance! Visit to the NBA store, St. Patrick's Cathedral – and brunch at Sylvia's – Southern Soul restaurant in Harlem! And, of course, a "stacked" deli sandwich!

What's the weather outlook?

10-Day Weather Forecast for Tallahassee, FL – The Weather Channel

Circuit Judge Considering Ballot Language for Property Tax Proposal

Comments from Jeff Brandes – Plaintiff challenging ballot text

"I don't think there is anybody who can say when this amendment was drafted that it's not partial and it's not advocacy," said former Sen. Jeff Brandes, who along with former Congressman and State Senator Al Lawson, brought one of the lawsuits against the property tax cut proposal. "All we are asking the court to do is follow the law and follow what the constitution lays out when it relates to advocacy."

Florida DOE Weigh New Rules for Classroom AI

Florida education officials are considering a [proposed rule](#) requiring each school district and charter school to adopt an artificial intelligence policy by January 1. Parents would need to opt their children into classroom AI use or limit access, while schools would provide non-AI alternatives. Districts would also notify parents when AI tools receive instructional approval, create a formal objection process, and bar programs from monetizing or profiling student data. The Department of Education will workshop the proposal on August 5th.

Notice of Development of Rulemaking
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - State Board of Education
RULE NO.: RULE TITLE: 6A-1.0957 Internet Safety Policy

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: This amendment will require each district school board and charter school governing board to adopt and implement an amendment to their internet safety policy to include the use of Artificial Intelligence.

SUBJECT TO BE ADDRESSED: District school board and charter school governing board policies for internet safety

RULE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD August 5, 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET, or upon conclusion of business, whichever is earlier.

PLACE: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/243660447318324?p=DLDQZTJy02Y9RGzY69>

Meeting ID: 243 660 447 318 324 Passcode: ce9WF6d7

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY: 1001.02(1), (2)(n), 1002.22(3), 1003.02(1)(g), 1006.1494 , F.S.

LAW IMPLEMENTED: 1002.22, 1003.02(1)(g), 1006.1494, F.S.

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT AND A COPY OF THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT, IF AVAILABLE, IS: THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT IS:

Dr. Andre Smith, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Technology and Innovation, Andre.Smith@fldoe.org

To comment on this rule development, please go to <https://web02.fldoe.org/rules> or contact: Chris Emerson, Director, Office of Executive Management, Department of Education, Christian.Emerson@fldoe.org.

THE PRELIMINARY TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT IS NOT AVAILABLE.

State Economists Evaluate Changes in Value of Taxable Property

State economists meet today to draw up new estimates on the taxable value for property in Florida. The new estimate will look at the potential value of property minus any tax exemptions. The updated property values, which will include any new construction, will be a key figure used to help the Florida Legislature annually set the tax rate for the state's school funding program. The new estimates are being derived before voters will consider whether to greatly increase the current exemptions now in place for the primary homes of Florida residents.

Economists have previously estimated that Amendment 3 could reduce tax collections as much as \$12 billion a year by 2031 but that figure relied on previous property tax calculations. If economists increase the overall value of the state's tax rolls it could change that estimate.

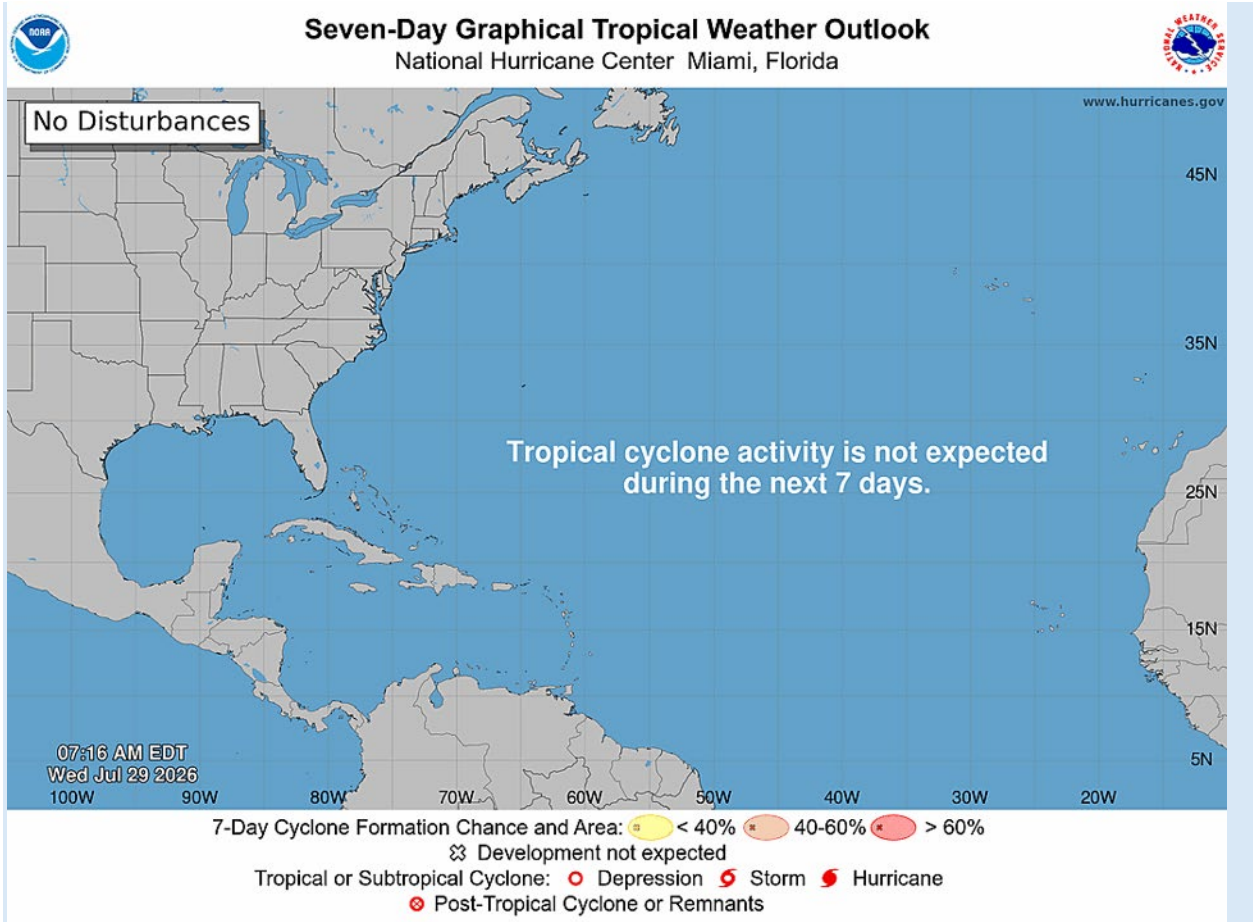
On The Docket

FRIDAY, JULY 31

- **REVENUE ESTIMATORS ON AD VALOREM** - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference is looking at ad valorem taxes. Location: Senate Office Building, Room 301, The Capitol.
- **INDEPENDENT EDUCATION** - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Commission for Independent Education will hold a meeting on non-degree granting institutions. Location: Mission Inn Resort and Club, 10400 County Road 48, Howey-In-The- Hills.
- **FINANCE REPORTS** - Friday - State candidates and political committees face a deadline for filing reports showing finance activity between July 18 and July 24. Location: Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee.

Tropical Outlook

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



Here are key dates for 26-27

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– SSDCC Legislative Meeting in Tampa
Dec - Feb. -	Legislative Committee Meetings
March 2 -	Legislature convenes
March 16 -	Small County Coalition – Legislative Reception
March 17 -	Small School District Council Consortium Briefing
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!

Headlines Around The State

FlaPol: 'A no-brainer': 5 of 7 Miami Beach Commission members say Fabián Basabe should resign

Capitolist: Central Florida Tourism Generates \$98.6 Billion in Economic Impact

FlaPol: 'Integrity, sound judgment': 2 more local leaders endorse Annette Taddeo for CFO

FlaPol: Orlando's tourism industry generated \$100B in economic impact in 2025, Visit Orlando says

News Herald: Next Miami-Dade superintendent was principal at school district is consolidating

Gainesville Sun: With Trump nod, Donalds looks poised to win GOP primary for governor

Capitolist: Florida court weighs challenge to Amendment 3 ballot language

Gainesville Sun: Can David Jolly flip Florida for the Democrats?

FlaPol: St. Johns County officials plead not guilty in fake voter guide case

NBC 6: Parkland parents get court date for lawsuit against BSO

Gainesville Sun: Florida is a closed primary, but non-partisan races are on ballots too

Floridian: Rick Scott, Mark Kelly Push for Senators to Cosponsor Bipartisan Clean Water Allotment Bill

WUSF: Florida teachers turn to their own wallets to stock classrooms

News-Press: Water, once something to be drained and feared, now a precious resource

Democrat: Florida governor candidate does damage control on ties to fraud defendant

DBNJ: EXCLUSIVE: Jay Collins contradicts bio, says Florida move came in 2018

FlaPol: Byron Donalds 'game time' spot shows candidate hooping it up while talking affordability

FlaPol: 'Adult in the room': Paul Renner makes 'vision' his campaign's closing argument

CBS Miami: Judge hears challenge to Florida property tax ballot measure title over claims it misleads voters

WLRN: Judge weighs challenge to ballot language in Florida property tax amendment

Daily News: More than 500,000 in Florida have lost food assistance

Herald: State Rep. Basabe hires Trump's childhood friend to fight \$450,000 verdict

FlaPol: Fabián Basabe lawyers up to ask for new trial, or smaller bill, after losing sexual harassment case

Sentinel: FWC accused of smear campaign by environmentalists

Times: State budget invests nearly \$196 million into citrus industry

Democrat: 'Stop the smears': Matlow fires back at Parks in heated mayor's race

WUSF: DeSoto approves data center moratorium, but controversial project can advance



August 11, 2026 | 2pm - 4pm EDT

The Public Records: Disaster Preparedness & Recovery webinar offers an overview of the *Essentials Records Guide* produced by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Topics discussed will include essential records program objectives and related records, terminology, information regarding disaster response and recovery, and disposition documentation requirements for public records.

Agenda:

- Introduction
- Terms and Definitions
- Essential Records Program
- Risk Planning and Assessment
- Disaster Mitigation, Response, and Recovery
- Disposition of Public Records
- Resources and Contacts

Webinar fee: \$75 per person

Register Today

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Available**

Florida Bar CLER's

2.5 hours (general credit)

CGCIO

2 Professional Development
Hours

FACE

2 Continuing Education Hours

(Note: Most organizations will award credits for our class if you send them the information the organization requires to meet their credentials for continuing education credits. Webinar must be completed in full to earn a certificate of completion.)

**Registration Deadline: Friday, August 7,
2026**

Registration is now open for the
Florida Rural Economic Development Summit 2026

Space to Live, Power to Grow
Tuesday, November 17 – Thursday 19, 2026
World Equestrian Center® | Ocala, FL

Note - A separate email has been sent to School And County officials to register for this meeting

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.ssdec.org and click on the red Briefing button

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