



The Briefing for July 27, 2026

The Last Briefing was Thursday, July 23, 2026

What's the weather outlook?

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

Bits and Pieces!

Last Week of July – the month went by quickly!

Campaigns are in full-gear with August 18 primary

2026-27 School Year approaching in two weeks!

Most districts open schools beginning week of August 10 through August 13, 2026.

Annual Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday

Now Through August 20, 2026

Property Tax Proposal Getting Attention

Firefighters and Police go on record opposing Amendment 3

Counties engaged in budget process -most looking at impact of potential property tax cuts!

FWC to Review Oyster Harvesting in Apalachicola Bay

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will get an overview of oyster harvesting in Apalachicola Bay and plans to continue restoration efforts for the bay and the Big Bend region when they meet on August 5 in Panama City Beach. The agency is finalizing the \$3.26 million restoration project in the bay for the current fiscal year and developing recommendations to update regulations for Big Bend oyster harvests. The staff will hold public workshops for the Big Bend on potential regulation changes, with recommendations going before the commission in early 2027.

New Law Requires Student Disciplinary Records be Sent to Colleges

High school students headed to college will have their disciplinary records transferred to the institution they attend, a policy prompted by the Legislature's higher education safety package. The

provision was part of [HB 757](#). The Florida Board of Education adopted a provision requiring the records transfer into administrative policy.

Under the language approved, when a student enrolls in a postsecondary institution, his or her school district must transfer disciplinary records for the student to the college. Those records include “verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns, including all documentation and related information for reports of concerning behavior, concerning communication, or threats that are documented.” The report should include any “psychological evaluations, including therapeutic treatment plans and therapy progress notes created or maintained by district or charter school staff.” State law already [required](#) threat assessments to be transferred with a student from K-12 school to K-12 school.

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

On The Docket

MONDAY, JULY 27

- USF PRESIDENT EVALUATION - Monday, 4 p.m. - The University of South Florida Board of Trustees is holding a virtual meeting on the evaluation of President Moez Limayem, who took office in February, and to set goals for the 2026-2027 school year. Location: According to the USF website a livestream link will be available the day of the meeting.

TUESDAY, JULY 28

- MEDICAID EXPENDITURES - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The Social Services Estimating Conference is looking at Medicaid expenditures and long-term expenditures. Location: Senate Office Building, Room 301, The Capitol.
- CENTRAL FLORIDA PLANNING - Tuesday, 10 a.m. - The Central Florida Regional Planning Council is meeting to review annual budget items. Location: Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 555 E. Church Street, Bartow.
- HOUSING FINANCE - Tuesday, 1 p.m. - The Florida Housing Finance Corporation conduct a TEFRA hearing concerning the potential future issuance of up to \$8.21 million in tax-exempt bonds or notes for the proposed New River Place, an 80-unit multifamily residential rental development located at Thomas Street, SE of the intersection of Short Street and Thomas Street in Bradford County and \$122 million for the Reserve at Pomelo f/k/a TUP Heights --- Affordable New Construction, a 528-unit multifamily residential rental development at 14905 South Orange Avenue in Orlando. Location: Florida Housing Finance Corporation, 227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5000, Tallahassee.
- MOVING I-4 FORWARD - Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation is holding a meeting on plans for Interstate 4 from west of U.S. 27 to west

of Champions Gate Boulevard in Polk County, Project 3 of the Moving I-4 Forward Program. Location: Lake Eva Event Center, 799 Johns Avenue, Haines City.

- I-10 INTERCHANGE - Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation is holding a meeting on the I-10 at State Road 99 interchange project in Escambia County Location: Northstone Baptist Church, 2550 W. Nine Mile Road, Pensacola.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

- TOBACCO TAX - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference is looking at the tobacco tax and surcharge. Location: Senate Office Building, Room 301, The Capitol.
- TOBACCO SETTLEMENT - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference is reviewing the tobacco settlement. Location: Senate Office Building, Room 301, The Capitol.
- FLORIDA CITY GAS - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Public Service Commission is holding a hearing on Florida City Gas's request to adjust natural gas rates provided to 125,000 customers in Miami-Dade, Broward, Brevard, Palm Beach, Hendry, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties. Location: Brevard County Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera.
- CRIMINAL JUSTICE ESTIMATING - Wednesday, 2 p.m. - The Criminal Justice Estimating Conference is meeting. Location: Senate Office Building, Room 301, The Capitol.

THURSDAY, JULY 30

- INDEPENDENT EDUCATION - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Commission for Independent Education will hold a meeting on degree granting institutions. Location: Mission Inn Resort and Club, 10400 County Road 48, Howey-In-The- Hills.
- MANATEE RESEARCH FUNDING - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is holding a teleconference meeting on one-year funding for Manatee Research Projects with Mote Marine Laboratory and to allow retroactive start dates for projects funded in the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Appropriation Act. lines 2033A and 2045A. Location: Phone: 1(850)270-2928. Code: 133 104 581#
- UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION - Thursday, 1:30 p.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference is reviewing the forecast for the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund Forecast Location: Senate Office Building, Room 301, The Capitol.
- TRANSPORTATION REVENUE - Thursday, 2 p.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference is reviewing transportation revenues. Location: Senate Office Building, Room 301, The Capitol.

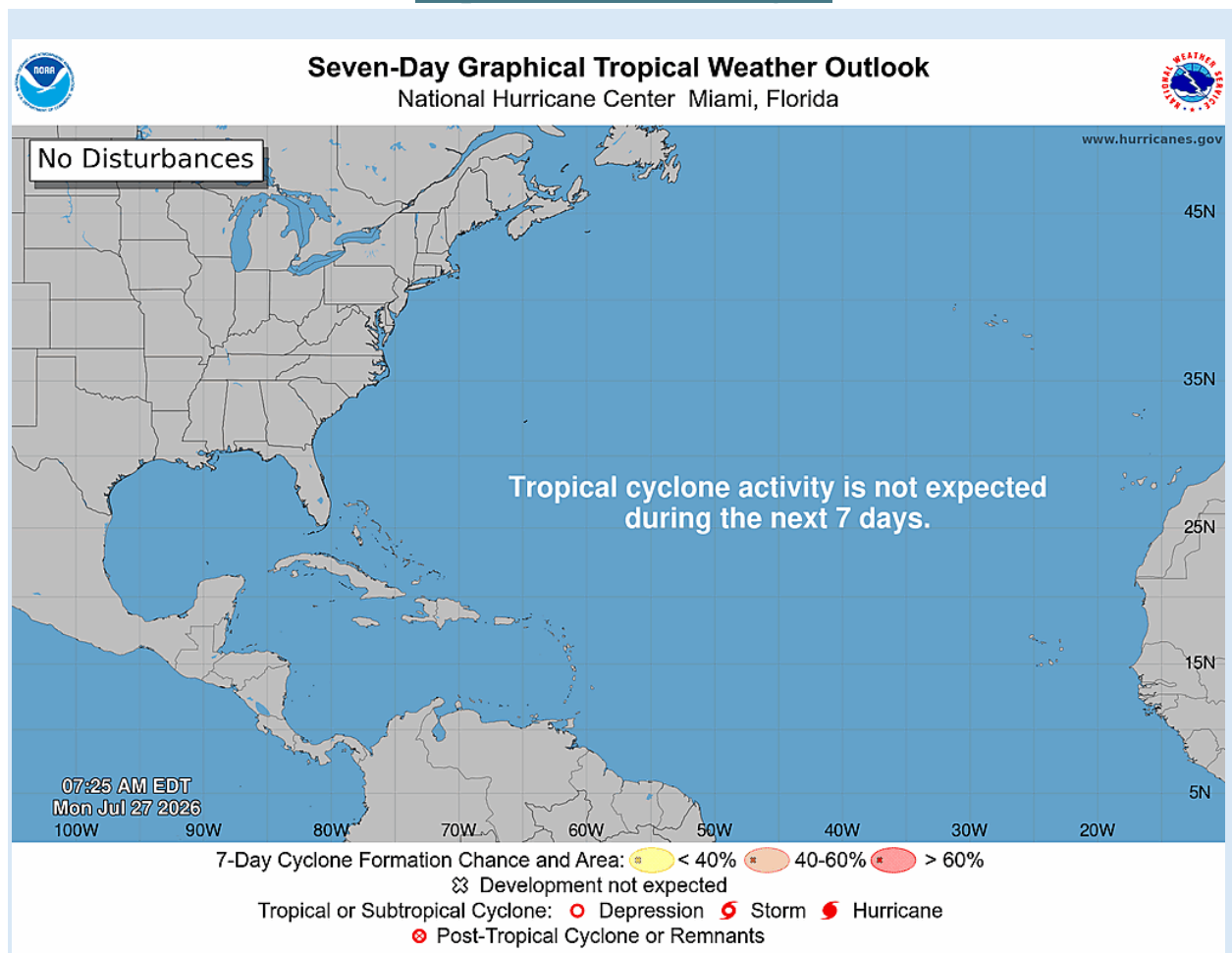
FRIDAY, JULY 31

- 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/>



[View Full Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook](#) | [Marine Products](#)

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 FRED A
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

The Capitolist: Florida Launches Resiliency Endorsement for Educators

Herald: FWC defends probing activists' personal records. Here's what to know

Sentinel: Demings wins national award for support of the arts

WUSF: How Florida's coral researchers are adapting to extreme heat amid another El Niño warming event

Today: Mum on a Florida governor endorsement, has DeSantis created GOP bad blood?

FlaPol: David Jolly says he will 'hire young people' if elected Governor

WUSF: Three seats on the Hernando County School Board are up for election this year

WUSF: Hillsborough County School Board candidates tackle district challenges

WUSF: Three open seats could change the direction of the Sarasota County School Board

WUSF: Armadillos likely behind Florida's increasing leprosy cases, but doctors say don't worry

Democrat: AI data centers emerge as a key issue in Florida governor race

Post: Sheriff taxing district could mean thousands more in taxes for some

FlaPol: Byron Donalds backs AI Bill of Rights, a priority of Ron DeSantis

FlaPol: 'Know what's on the tray': Byron Donalds rolls out school nutrition, water testing plan

Democrat: Political attack bombshell rocks Tallahassee city commission races

Gainesville Sun: District 21 candidate Dor pushes rural health care

DBNJ: Republican Jay Collins campaigns in Palm Coast, Flagler Beach

FlaPol: 'He should resign': After jury verdict, 3 officials rescind endorsements of Fabián Basabe

FlaPol: 3 more labor unions endorse 'strong advocate' José Javier Rodríguez in Attorney General race

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.ssdcc.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