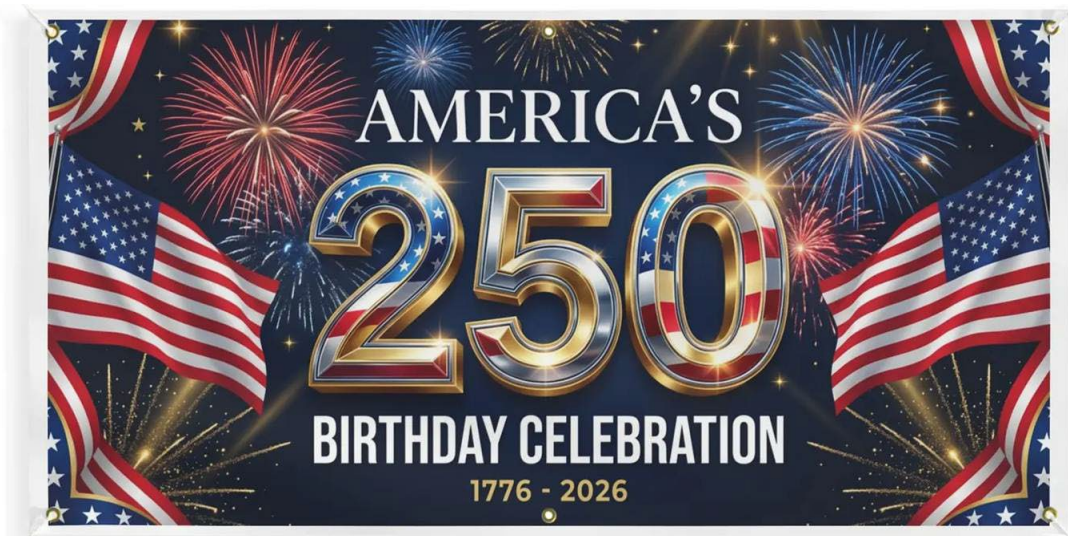




The Preamble to the Constitution

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

My father landed on Omaha Beach!

He and thousands of others fought to protect our freedom!

It is our job now to continue that effort!

God Bless America – land that we love!

Stand beside her and guide her!

Through the night with the light from above!

The Briefing for Tuesday, June 30, 2026

The Last Briefing was Monday, June 29, 2026

What's the weather outlook?

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

***State Board of Education Selects Dr. Paul Burns
Interim Commissioner of Education***



Dr. Burns will serve as the Interim Commissioner of Education for the state of Florida. With nearly 20 years of education experience, he previously served as Deputy Chancellor for Educator Quality and was heavily involved in shaping the state's academic standards.

*Well yesterday was quite a day!
In addition to signing the budget and announcing vetoes there were two very significant remarks –*

Number #1 Surprise – Governor will not back the Property Tax Proposal

Governor DeSantis will not be supporting the Amendment # 3 -Property Tax. He will not raise money to support the proposal and he won't campaign for it!

Here's the article from Politico:

[DeSantis won't formally campaign for property tax amendment](#)

The Legislature didn't give the governor everything he asked for on the issue, so he'll sit on his hands between now and November. "The reason is, what the Legislature did wasn't my proposal. We had a proposal and I felt an obligation if that were on the ballot, to lead the effort we would have done a political committee," he said. "We would have made sure that we were able to do that and explain and just educate people on it. And I wouldn't have liked doing it, but I would have felt an obligation." Now, not so much. There will be no political committee, like he used when he opposed legal pot and abortion rights in 2024.

***Number #2 – Not so much a surprise – but good news!
The Governor announced that he was vetoing the changes to the Sovereign Immunity.***

"When you raise the cap, you are going to generate more unmeritorious lawsuits. I have no question, no doubt that that would happen,"

Statement by Governor DeSantis

During his press conference where he signed the Budget, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced that he will veto the bill from the 2026 regular session would have increased the cap on damages from state or local government negligence.

Known as claims bills, the measures are tied to a legal concept called "sovereign immunity," which caps payouts at \$200,000 per person from state and local government agencies in lawsuits.

The bill proposed raising the cap that local governments can pay to \$350,000 per person, with an additional cap regarding multiple claims or judgments arising out of the same incident would go from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

Here are links to funding vetoes and county funding.

[Here's the Governor Veto Message and Veto List](#)

[Copy of the Veto list - easy to use with search function](#)

[Pre-Veto County by County funding in the Legislative Budget FY 26-27](#)

[Pre-Veto General Appropriations Act for 26-27](#)

Reports on Legislation and Budget relating to Education

Embedded below are PDF copies of Legislative Reports prepared for School Officials

The links can be opened by right clicking over the PDF symbol and selecting Object. Then open the document

- The following two PDF's are Summaries of Legislation impacting education were prepared by FADSS General Counsel Brian Moore.
- The first PDF is a table of contents for the 2nd PDF which is a comprehensive analysis of what each bill does, their effect and implementation requirements.

 Leg Summary 2026 TOC draft v7.pdf	 Leg Summary 2026 TOC draft v7.pdf
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The following PDF was prepared by Kim McDougal of the Arrow Group. This report provides a complete overview and comparison of Proviso Language and funding. It is comprehensive and complete. Dr. McDougal has given me permission to copy and send to school officials in the SSDCC.



Fiscal
Year26-27Final Educ.

The final Link is a District by District run of the FEFP

[District By District FEFP Calculation for 2026-27](#)

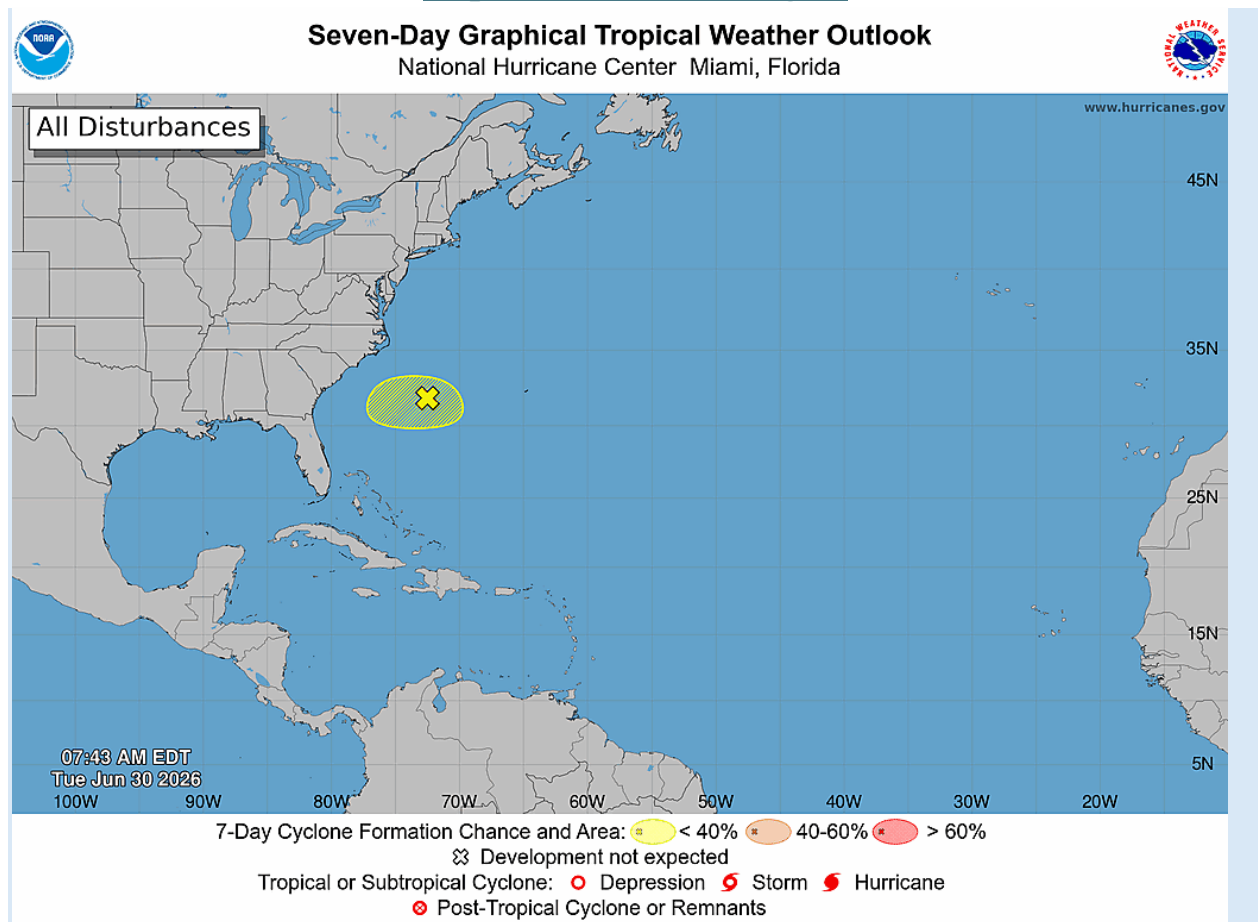
Park Admission Fees to be Waived – July 3-5

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection will be waiving admissions at most state parks for the upcoming Independence Day holiday. Free day-use only admissions will run from July 3 through July 5. The discount doesn't apply to overnight accommodations and rentals, or

to Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, Skyway Fishing Pier State Park and Weeki Wachee Springs State Park.

Tropical Outlook

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



On The Docket

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

- **NEW BUDGET AND LAWS** - Nearly 150 new laws take effect, including the approximately \$114.5 billion budget (HB 5001-E) and a wide-ranging tax package that in part removes taxes at a couple of tennis tournaments at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens along with guns, gun accessories, camping gear and fishing equipment at the end of the year (HB 7031-E).
- **PRESIDENTIAL CONTRACTS** - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Board of Governors of the State University System is holding a meeting where the agenda includes a contract extension for Florida Gulf Coast University President Aysegul Timur and the contract for Stuart Bell to be president at the University of Florida. University of South Florida, Morsani College of Medicine, 560 Channelside Dr., Tampa.

- GAMING CONTROL - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Gaming Control Commission is meeting. Joseph P. Cresse Hearing Room 148, Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.

THURSDAY, JULY 2

FRIDAY, JULY 3

- State government offices have been directed to be closed by Gov. Ron DeSantis from Thursday through Monday to mark the nation's 250th birthday.

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 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!

Headlines Around The State

Democrat: DeSantis signs 2026-27 state budget, vetoes \$1.6 billion

Democrat: DeSantis looks to burnish legacy with last budget signing

WLRN: DeSantis has signed Florida's budget. What did he veto?

My News 13: DeSantis touts year-over-year savings as he signs Florida budget

Sentinel: Florida gives millions in tax breaks to data centers under DeSantis-backed law

Times: Longtime Florida housing developer tests a shift toward data centers

Democrat: Reports: DeSantis eyes Lake Wales home after leaving office

Ledger: Is DeSantis moving to Polk County? Governor won't confirm or deny

*FlaPol: A \$2.75M allocation to rebrand Palm Beach airport after Donald Trump flies past
Gov. DeSantis veto pen*

*WUSF: Polk County father suing Fort Meade for approved AI data center has concerns about
living next door*

Post: Private schools boosted by Florida wealth, Wall Street South migration

Sun-Sentinel: Midweek spike pushes Florida gas prices up 16 cents

WUSF: The hurricane threat most Floridians don't consider

WLRN: DeSantis won't formally campaign for property tax amendment

Times: DeSantis cools to property tax plan, says he won't campaign for it

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis went after Democrats by a 2-1 ratio with veto pen, Fentrice Driskell says

Democrat: DeSantis accused of targeting Democrats with vetoes

Times: Florida's GOP candidates for governor hate taxes. These 2 didn't pay them.

My News 13: DeSantis budget adds \$200 million for Florida teacher pay, but critics say more is needed

WLRN: Cutting Florida property taxes could take a bite out of mosquito control

FlaPol: Could property tax relief cost Florida more? New group says yes.

Democrat: DeSantis says he'll veto measure on government negligence suits

News4JAX: Florida students can now count marching band toward PE graduation requirements

News4JAX: Florida students required to learn cursive writing starting next school year

FlaPol: After Gov. DeSantis signs budget, Florida TaxWatch warns 'the member project process is out of control'

Democrat: DeSantis cuts millions from budget that would have gone to Big Bend

News4JAX: Here's a closer look at the projects Gov. DeSantis vetoed across Northeast Florida

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.ssdcc.org and click on the red Briefing button

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