



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2023

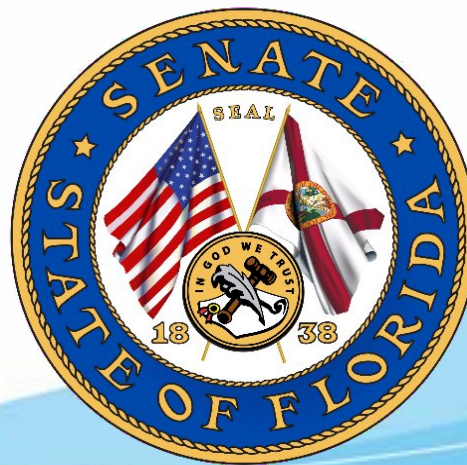
NICOLE DELFINO
ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

AND

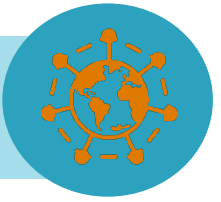
JENNIFER COWAN
CITY ATTORNEY

JULY 25, 2023

2023 Session	2022 Session
1828 bills filed	3685 bills filed
356 passed both Chambers	285 passed both Chambers
346 bills signed (to date)	267 bills signed
\$116.5 billion State budget	\$109.9 billion State budget
\$510.9 million vetoed by Governor	\$3.1 billion vetoed by Governor



Priority: Environment & Resiliency



- \$850 million for the Florida Wildlife Corridor
 - \$200 million to bring bicycle and hiking trails to the corridor
- \$100 million to The Rural Family Lands Protection Program (protects agricultural lands from development)
- \$546.6 million to Everglades restoration
- \$300 million to plan for sea level rise
- \$104.9 million to restore the Indian River Lagoon
- \$50 million for the protection of the Florida springs
- \$12.8 million to fight algae blooms

Priority: Environment & Resiliency

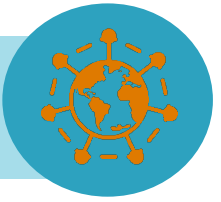
WINS

- SB 162: Wastewater treatment license reciprocity
- SB 724: DEP, UF, & Mote to create seagrass restoration plan. Creates Technology Advisory Council for sustainable restoration.
- SB 106: Expands Wildlife Corridor
- HB 1367: add “to drain” & “to discharge” to Florida Litter law, making it unlawful to dump from boats/vessels

WATCH

- \$250,000 to UF to study fertilizer regulations
 - Issue: preempting modification of July 1 fertilizer ban
- SB 540: allows prevailing party to recovery attorney fees & court costs relating to comp plan/development
 - Issue: potentially permit environmentally perilous projects

Priority: Transportation & Infrastructure



- \$14.8 billion to Florida Department of Transportation to fund essential projects (improve transportation, address congestion, enhance safety, ensure resiliency)
 - \$5.5 billion for highway construction to include 118 new lane miles
 - \$1.6 billion in resurfacing to include 2,632 lane miles
 - \$726.6 million for repairs of 65 bridges and replacement of 19 bridges
 - \$149.3 million in seaport investments
 - \$404.3 million in aviation investments
 - \$791.3 million in rail and transit investments
 - \$250.9 million for safety initiatives
 - \$156.3 million for community trail projects

Priority: Transportation & Infrastructure

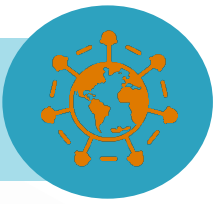
WINS

- HB 425: Expands “Move Over Law” to broken down vehicles (in addition to first responders)
 - Requires a report regarding consolidation of MPO’s in Hillsborough, Pasco & Pinellas

WATCH

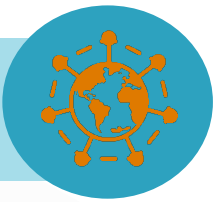
- SB 284: (Vetoed) Making it easier for government fleets to buy electric vehicles
- SB 1070: (Died) Additional license fee for EV users
 - Addressing issue of gas tax for non-fuel vehicles
- HB 1191: Study to permit use of fertilizer byproduct (radioactive elements) in road construction

Priority: Finance & Taxation



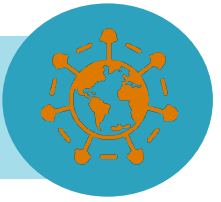
- HB 7063: \$2 billion in tax relief
 - Tax exempt: all baby and toddler products & oral hygiene products
 - Sales tax holidays (back to school, disaster preparedness, recreational, and tool)
 - Homestead exemptions/eligibility tax refund for disabled veterans and surviving spouses
 - Limits ability to levy special assessment on agricultural land
 - County referendum required to impose additional tourist development tax levies. Authorizes 10% use of tourist development tax revenues for public safety/law enforcement purposes to fiscally constrained counties.
 - General election referendum required for specified taxes (e.g., the Tourist Development Tax, Tourist Impact Tax, Children’s Services Tax, Discretionary Sales Surtaxes, Ninth-Cent Fuel Tax, and Local Option Fuel Tax).
 - “Freezes” local communications services tax rates at their current level until January 1, 2026.
 - Property tax refund available following a catastrophic event for an uninhabitable residence.

Priority: Finance & Taxation



- HB 1153/SB 1432: Communication Services Tax
 - Reducing state tax rate for CST by 1.44%
- SJR 126/HJR 159: Homestead Tax Exemption
 - For certain seniors, low-income, long-term residents
- SJR 122/HJR 469: Homestead Property Tax Assessments
 - Limits annual increases of homestead property tax assessments from 3% to 2%
- SB 288/HB 499: Florida Main Street Program & Historic Preservation Tax Credit
 - Creating Main Street Historic Tourism and Revitalization Act
 - Tax credit for rehab of historic structures
- SB 698/HB 731: Local Tax Referenda Requirements
 - General election referendums to extend or increase millage for: Tourist Development Tax, Municipal Millage Rates in Excess of Limits, Local Government Discretionary Sales Tax, Ninth-Cent Fuel Tax, Local Option Fuel Tax
- HB 7053, HB 309, SB 640: Tourist Development/Taxes
 - Redirecting percentage of revenue from Visit Florida, repealing Tourism Promotional Trust Fund
 - Allowing tourist development tax to reimburse for public safety services

Priority: Municipal Administration



Cybersecurity:

- \$60 million for security intelligence, modernization, training & resiliency.
- \$40 million to Local Government Cybersecurity Grant Program

Mental Health:

- \$160 million for mental health (increase of \$20M)
- \$5.5 million maintained for Mental Health Awareness & Assistance Training
- \$78 million state-operated mental health treatment facilities
- \$31 million expand receiving systems, crisis intervention, assessment, service connection

Arts & Culture:

- \$32.4 million for Cultural and Museum Grants
- \$525,000 to support the Florida Main Street Program

Workforce Training:

- \$635 million support workforce education programs
 - \$20M Teacher Apprenticeship Program
- \$35 million Open Door Grant Program
 - \$15M School District Workforce Education
 - \$20M Florida College System
- \$125 million to support nursing education initiatives

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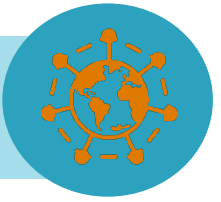
WINS

- SB 714: Short Term Rentals (Bill Failed)
 - Maintained Grandfathering
 - Capped fees
 - No ability to regulate duration/frequency
 - Provided a 15 day window to approve or respond to application
- SB 798: Solid Waste Management (Bill Failed)
 - Permitted private entity to service commercial, industrial, multifamily residential
- SB 682/HB 671: Residential Building Permits (Bill Failed)
 - Set reduced time frame to respond

WATCH

- SB 774: Financial Disclosure (signed)
 - Requires mayors and elected members to complete Form 6, effective January 1, 2024.
- SB 170: Local Ordinances (signed)
 - Unfunded mandate requiring business impact statement for applicable ordinances
- SB 258: Prohibited Applications (signed)
 - Requires government issued devices restrict certain applications (list not yet provided)

Priority: Affordable Housing



SB 102: Live Local Act

- \$811 million for affordable housing programs:
 - \$252 million for SHIP
 - \$259 million for SAIL
 - \$100 million for the Florida Hometown Hero Housing Program
 - \$100 million for a competitive loan program for new construction projects
 - Up to \$100 million for a new Live Local Tax Donation Program
- New distribution of the Documentary Stamp Tax: 8% or \$150 million to the State Housing Trust Fund. Excess of \$150 million will go into General Revenue
- Codifies the Hometown Heroes program: down payment assistance and zero interest loans to eligible frontline community workforce members.
- For a 10-year period, allow multifamily rental and mixed-use residential in any area zoned for commercial, industrial or mixed use if at least 40% of the units are affordable to income-eligible households for at least 30 years.
 - Mixed-use projects, at least 65% of the total square footage must be used for residential purposes.
- Creates tax exemptions for affordable housing, building materials sales tax refund & ad valorem tax exemptions

Looking Ahead:

- 2024 Session
 - Begins: January 9, 2024
 - Ends: March 8, 2024
- Florida League of Cities Annual Conference
 - August 10-12, 2024
- Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Days
 - January 29-31, 2024





QUESTIONS