



2024 Legislative Session

Interim Committee Week 12-04-2023

This week Governor DeSantis released his \$114.4 billion budget recommendation titled "[Focus on Florida's Future](#)". The budget includes \$46.3 billion for Human Services, \$30.7 billion for Education, \$19.7 billion for Transportation and Economic Development, \$7.3 billion for Public Safety, \$6.9 billion for the Environment, and \$2.9 billion for General Government. The governor highlighted Florida's success in paying off 25% of its debt in the last 5 years. Florida is also ranked #1 in Education freedom and economy.

Additionally, the Senate President unveiled her big health care priority – the "[Live Healthy](#)" initiative which consists of several different policies across multiple pieces of legislation – all aimed at addressing health care workforce shortages, encouraging innovation, and reducing strain on the current system for health care and mental health alike.

The legislature continued committee weeks with bill hearings and discussion on the Governor's Budget. Committees in both chambers heard presentations from agencies and community partners about policy recommendations for the upcoming session. Next week bills and presentations are expected to continue through Thursday.

Intergovernmental Relations & Community Affairs

Legislation of Interest

Vacation Rentals: Senate Regulated Industries is set to take up [SB 280](#) on December 13th. The bill is similar to the Senate's landing spot from the 2023 Legislative Session with slight improvements to fees local governments can charge and more refinement in the enforcement area. However, the bill would still replace local, proactive ordinances with a one-size-fits-all regulatory scheme proscribed by the state. It would continue to prohibit any ordinances passed after 2011 that would impose different regulations on vacation rentals related to trash, noise, occupancy, parking, safety information, etc.

Building Permits: House Regulatory Affairs is set to hear HB 267 Residential Building Permits on December 13th. The committee filed a [Proposed Committee Substitute](#) – essentially, a delete-all amendment. Despite multiple rounds of negotiations and a sponsor commitment to working with local governments, the new language does not reflect many major improvements beyond allowing use of Building Code fee revenue to go towards funding technology upgrades for services related to building code enforcement. We have follow-up meetings scheduled this week, as do FLC and FAC, on where negotiations stand from here. ([PCS Staff analysis](#))

Labor & Employment: House Regulatory Affairs is set to hear another [PCS](#) on December 13th. This time filed for HB 433. The underlying bill preempts local heat ordinances in response to Miami-Dade's recent adoption of one. However, the PCS would expand the bill to preempt all "regulation of the terms and conditions of employment to the state." We have reason to believe the sole intent is to capture living wage ordinances and other mandates placed on contracted employers, however the broad language does not exempt local government employment as its currently written. ([PCS Staff analysis](#))



Communications Services Tax

The committee heard a presentation on Communication Service Taxes by House staff. Communication services can be subject to four different taxes: State CST, Local CST, sales tax, and gross receipts tax. These tax percentages can fluctuate based on county and/or type of service. Fiscal Year 2024-25 is estimated to generate \$1.8 billion in communication services taxes. Some committee members expressed interest in evaluating the State's gross receipts tax that funds PECO dollars as we move into the 2024 Legislative Session. While the Legislature froze in place all local CST rates for three years beginning in 2023, we anticipate a CST package this year.

[Committee Packet](#)

Public Safety

Social Media and Teen Mental Health

House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development heard presentations and held a panel discussion on social media's effects on minors. Studies have found links between social media and the teen mental health crisis. Spikes in mental health issues align with the rise of social media across the globe. Additionally, teens are becoming more addicted to these applications, with 12–15-year-olds in 2019 spending more than 3 hours a day on social media apps. Many recommendations include increased media literacy, more transparency in big tech, and enforcing current social media restrictions laws in the U.S.

[Committee Packet](#)

Tracking Devices and Applications

The House Criminal Justice Subcommittee unanimously advanced HB 401. The bill prohibits a person from knowingly:

- Placing, in addition to installing, a tracking device or tracking application on another person's property without that person's consent; or
- Using a tracking device or tracking application to determine the location or movement of another person or another person's property without that person's consent.

The bill increases the penalty for a violation from a second-degree misdemeanor to a third-degree felony, punishable by up to five years imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine.

Remaining Committees:

- [HB 401](#): Justice Appropriations; Judiciary
- [SB 758](#): Filed

Impeding, Threatening, or Harassing First Responders

The Senate Criminal Justice Committee voted 5-2 to advance SB 184. The House Criminal Justice Subcommittee voted 17-1 to advance HB 75 after adopting an amendment that clarifies peaceful photography or video of first responders does not constitute harassment. The bill provides that it is a first-degree misdemeanor for any person, after receiving a warning not to approach from a first responder



who is engaged in the lawful performance of a legal duty, to violate the warning and approach or remain within 20 feet (14 ft. in the Senate bill) of the first responder, with the intent to:

- Interrupt, disrupt, hinder, impede, or interfere with the first responder's ability to perform duty;
- Threaten the first responder with physical harm; or
- Harass the first responder

The House committee adopted an amendment that specifies that the peaceful audio or video recording, photographing, or observing of a first responder, by itself, does not constitute harassment. The Senate did not adopt a similar amendment.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 184](#): Community Affairs; Rules
- [HB 75](#): Justice Appropriations; Judiciary

Safe Exchange of Minor Children

The House Civil Justice Committee unanimously advanced HB 385. The bill authorizes safe custody exchange locations in every county. These will normally be in a sheriff's station or substation parking lot and be designated with a purple light. The locations will be well lit and monitored 24/7 with video surveillance. The sheriffs in each county will decide the exact locations. The courts will decide where, when, and how it is appropriate to use these locations. When someone is petitioning for protection from domestic violence, there is now a box on the form they can check which will request the court to mandate custody exchanges in this location. There is immunity from liability for Sheriffs and Counties.

Remaining Committees:

- [HB 385](#): Judiciary
- [SB 580](#): Judiciary; Rules

Healthcare

Live Healthy Initiative

Senate President Passidomo unveiled her [Live Healthy](#) initiative to address health care workforce shortages, increase access to appropriate care, encourage innovation, and reduce strain on the health care system.

Naloxone Awareness Day

The Senate Health Policy Committee unanimously advanced SB 66. The bill creates "Victoria's Law" and designates June 6 of each year as "Naloxone Awareness Day." The bill allows the Governor to issue an annual proclamation for the designation and encourages the Department of Health (DOH) to hold events to raise awareness of the dangers of opioid overdose and the availability and safe use of Naloxone.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 66](#): Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Rules
- [HB 89](#): Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee; Health & Human Services

Health and Human Services Budget



The Committee presented on the Governor's 2024-2025 Budget Recommendations for Health and Human Services. The entire Health and Human Services budget is \$46.3 billion. The budget recommendations for agencies are:

- Agency for Healthcare Administration: \$34.8 billion.
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities: \$2.4 billion.
- Department of Children and Families: \$4.6 billion.
- Department of Elder Affairs: \$464.2 million.
- Florida Department of Health: \$3.8 billion.
- Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs: \$199.3 million.

[Committee Packet](#)

Education

House Postsecondary Education & Workforce Subcommittee

The Subcommittee heard a Presentation by CareerSource Florida on its Responsibilities Under the REACH Act. In 2023 CareerSource Florida has adopted a Masters Credentials List and a Florida workforce system transformation plan. They have also updated the framework of quality with new applications for agriculture credentials and updated the charter to reflect legislative changes. The Board of directors will consider Apprenticeship Strategic Processes and establish state templates for contracts on December 12, 2023.

[Committee Packet](#)

House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee

The House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee heard a presentation on the Fiscal Operations of the Tallahassee Collegiate Academy. The collegiate academy has gotten 142 students enrolled for the 2023-24 academic year, representing students from 9th-11th grade. The Academy received \$2 million for Expanding Early Career and Technical Education College High School in 2022-2023. A breakdown of expenses by category (instruction, school administration, instruction support services, etc.) can be found in the committee packet.

The Subcommittee also heard a presentation on Add-on Weights for Certain Full-Time Equivalent Students Funded in the Florida Education Finance Program. Add on weights can be appointed for certain courses/programs and for small district needs. From FY 2011-12 to FY 2023-24 the funds per add-on weighted FTE increased by 49%. Since 2018, a total of \$1.6 billion in add-on weight funding was provided in the FEFP.

[Committee Packet](#)

Education Budget

The Committee presented the Governor's 2024-2025 Budget Recommendations for Education. The entire budget for Public Safety is \$30.7 billion The budget recommendations for education sectors are:

- Division of Blind Services: \$70.3 million
- Early Learning Services: \$1.6 billion
- Fixed Capital Outlay: \$1.7 billion



- Florida Colleges: \$1.75 billion
- Office of Student Financial Assistance: \$1 billion
- Private Colleges and Universities: \$169.9 million
- Public Schools Division: \$19.3 billion
- State Board of Education: \$347.4 million

Environment

House Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee

The Committee held a panel discussion on Florida's Energy Future. The panel heard presentations on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), Renewable Natural Gas (RNG), and Small Modular Reactors. LNG has spread into powering large vessels such as cruise ships like the Disney "Wish". Current LNG projects are in Jacksonville. Florida ranks #13 in the U.S. for RNG potential and current operations are located at the New River, Larson Dairy, and Alliance Dairy. Small Modular Reactors are increasing across the U.S. with 23 states passing legislation to use or study this fuel source by 2023.

[Committee Packet](#)

Resiliency

The House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee heard presentations on resiliency to Sea Level Rise. Over one-third of all properties in Florida have a greater than 26% chance of being severely affected by flooding over the next 30 years. Florida currently has 147 infrastructure projects for resiliency that total \$550 million. Priorities for Florida are better quality projects, giving support to highly impacted communities, and providing the DEP authority to set sea level rise projections every 5 years.

[Committee Packet](#)

DEP Stormwater Rules

The Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources heard a presentation by the Department of Environmental Protection on its Stormwater Rules. Currently, 87% of Florida counties (i.e., 58 out of 67) have nutrient impaired waterbodies. Approaches to stormwater management haven't been updated since the 80s in Florida. The Department has spent three years developing rule changes with stakeholders and published a Notice of Change that considered four Lower Cost Regulatory Alternatives (LCRAs). Proposed rule revisions will increase the project costs of stormwater treatment by approximately \$1.21 billion over the first five years, \$242 million per year.

The Florida League of Cities recently adopted a policy statement urging the Legislature to ratify the rules.

[Committee Packet](#)

Environment & Natural Resources Budget

The Committee also presented the Governor's 2024-2025 Budget Recommendations for the Environment. The entire environmental budget is \$6.9 billion. The budget recommendations for agencies are:

- Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: \$2.9 billion
- Department of Citrus: \$32.3 million



- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: \$590.2 million
- Department of Environmental Protection: \$3.4 billion

[Committee Packet](#)

House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee

The Subcommittee heard an Update by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on Invasive Plant Management. Currently, 85% of Florida uplands are under maintenance control. Out of 465 bodies of water, 92% of those with Hydrilla are in maintenance control and 100% have floating plants in maintenance control. Lakes who do not use management techniques spend significantly more on herbicide use than those who do. 262 lakes using management techniques will spend \$2.4 million on herbicides while 24 lakes not following these practices will spend \$16.3 million.

[Committee Packet](#)

Saltwater Intrusion Vulnerability Assessments

The Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee unanimously advanced SB 298. The bill modifies the Resilient Florida Grant Program, allowing DEP to grant coastal counties funds for assessing the impact of saltwater intrusion on water supplies and readiness for such threats. These assessments must include an analysis of the county's primary water utilities, current maps of freshwater wellfields and saltwater intrusion lines, future projections of saltwater intrusion, and the costs of relocating affected wellfields. Additionally, the bill mandates DEP to update its statewide flood and sea level rise data with this information, make these assessments public on its website, and provide up to \$250,000 in 50% cost-share funding for each grant, with an exemption for counties with populations under 50,000.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 298](#): Fiscal Policy

Comprehensive Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan

The Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee unanimously advanced SB 36. The bill directs the DEP to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan by July 1, 2025, and convene a technical assistance group within DEP to help develop the plan. The bill provides minimum criteria for the plan and directs DEP to provide a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives upon its completion.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 36](#): Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy
- [HB 455](#): Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency; Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations; Infrastructure Strategies

Mangrove Replanting and Restoration



The Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee unanimously advanced SB 32. The bill requires the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to adopt rules for mangrove replanting and restoration. The bill requires the rules to address significant erosion in areas of critical state concern, protect barrier and spoil islands, assist Everglades restoration and Biscayne Bay revitalization efforts, promote public awareness, and identify vulnerable properties along the coastline and encourage partnerships with local governmental entities to create mangrove protection and restoration zone programs. The rules must also protect and maintain access to the navigation of the marked channel and the right-of-way of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway. The adopted amendment requires that DEP rules must create permitting incentives and encourage the use of new strategies for living shorelines, encourage partnerships with local governmental entities to create coastal protect projects through the Resilient Florida Grant Program. It also requires DEP to conduct a statewide study on the value of mangroves to reduce coastal flood risks.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 32](#): Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Rules

Infrastructure & Commerce

Electric Vehicle Fees

The Senate Transportation Committee unanimously advanced SB 28. Its counterpart, HB 107, was Temporarily Postponed in the Transportation & Modals Subcommittee per House rules after the committee adopted a strike-all amendment changing the bill to a study.

The House bill was amended to remove the license fees and instead order a study of the long-term impacts of EV adoption on the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF). The final report must be given to the Legislature by September 1, 2025, for policy considerations in the 2026 Legislative Session. For 2024 and 2025, the new language requires the Revenue Estimating Conference to estimate the amount of sales tax on the sale of electricity is associated with EV charging at public charging stations. The language then requires the state to transfer 1/12th of that amount to the State Transportation Trust Fund each year until 2026. It does not direct distribution to local governments. Tesla testified in support of the amendment, arguing that EV drivers pay sales tax on electricity in addition to registration fees. They argued that, rather than subjecting EV owners to an arbitrary number, the number should be vetted as fair. They also pointed out that they have a study, which shows one figure, and the Road Builders have a study, which shows a different figuration. A neutral party, such as the state, should conduct its own study to provide the most accurate guidance.

One committee member expressed disappointment on the amendment, expressing concern for how much the state is losing to support its infrastructure and the unfair burden placed on owners of gas-powered vehicles. She also expressed concern that the amount going towards the STTF would only be based on public stations and not at-home charging. The sponsor countered that the study would be looking at at-home charging and that her intent is to ensure Florida remains a leader in transportation infrastructure. Another committee member asked that impacts to local gas tax be included in the study. The sponsor said she was open to including the change.

The Senate bill and underlying House bill would have imposed an annual license tax on electric vehicles for \$200 that would increase to \$250 on January 1st, 2029. Additionally, an annual license tax would be placed on hybrid vehicles for \$50 and will increase to \$100 on January 1st, 2029. The bill provides for



distribution of the proceeds of such fees to the State Transportation Trust Fund and to the county where such a vehicle is registered and requires the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to transfer funds allocated to a county to the Florida Department of Revenue for distribution, as specified.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 28](#): Appropriations
- [HB 107](#): Transportation & Modals; Ways & Means; Infrastructure Strategies

Commuter Rail

The House Transportation & Modals Subcommittee heard presentations by FDOT, Brightline, and SFRTA (Tri-Rail) about commuter rail in Florida. FDOT testified that it provides strategies, acts as a capital partner, collaborates with the public, and leverages funding opportunities for commuter rails across the state. There are four commuter rail projects underway in the state: Miami Intermodal Center Capacity Improvement Project, Broward Commuter Rail South, Northeast Corridor Rapid Transit, and the Tri-Rail Northern Layover and Light Maintenance Facility. Additionally, a Sunrail expansion in Volusia County is expected to open this summer.

The majority of the committee's time was taken up by asking questions on FDOT and its role as a capital funding partner. SFRTA/Tri-Rail presented on improvements that they are undertaking to ensure more commuters want to choose them – cleaning trash, debris, and graffiti from the rails, cleaning vehicles, and fixing broken windows. They also testified that despite having a record year in fare collections, they are operating at a \$20 million deficit each year and more funding will be needed – whether state or local sources. They presented multiple avenues they were taking to diversify revenue, such as wrapping trains with advertising-friendly wrapping and taking advantage of TOD (Transportation Oriented Development) opportunities. The Executive Director of Tri-Rail maintains that the service is a public utility and should be viewed as such. More than one member expressed support of commuter rail and wishes that commuter rail would be a possibility in their area.

[Committee Packet](#)

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Senate Committee on Transportation heard from the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles about their legislative priorities. They are focused on addressing federal compatibility issues by aligning regulations for commercial motor vehicle drivers who operate in interstate commerce to meet three-year implementation deadlines. These changes are in line with the FMCSA where many of these issues provide trucking industry relief. In general, these changes update newly enacted regulations or amendments within three years, remove duplicative language, and provide for law clarification. The department is approaching the deadline and will soon be out of federal compliance.

The Committee also heard from the Florida Department of Transportation on their priorities. The department is focused on creating a Career Path, authorizing electronic toll payments, allowing toll accounts to remain dormant for 10 years instead of 3 years, Repurposing New Start Transit Funds, Landscaping within Communities, and preventing the politicization of infrastructure needs.

[Committee Packet](#)



Transportation and Economic Development Budget

The Committee presented the Governor's 2024-2025 Budget Recommendations for Transportation and Economic Development. The entire Transportation and Economic Development budget is \$19.9 billion. The budget recommendations for agencies are:

- Division of Emergency Management: \$1.5 billion
- Department of Commerce: \$1.9 billion
- Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles: \$645 million
- Department of Military Affairs: \$154.2 million
- Department of State: \$119.8 million
- Department of Transportation: \$15.6 billion

[Committee Packet](#)

Boating Safety

Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee unanimously advanced SB 30. The bill requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue new or replacement ID cards or drivers licenses with a symbol showing that the applicant has been issued a boating safety ID card. It requires a person convicted of boating under the influence and one or more criminal boating safety violations to maintain an insurance policy for the vessel. It removes the age exemption under current law that a person born before January 1, 1988, needn't possess a boating safety ID card. The bill requires the boating safety education course or temporary certificate exam to include information on boating under the influence and human trafficking awareness. Finally, the bill adds mandatory boating safety education course requirements for persons convicted of certain boating safety violations.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 30](#): Transportation; Fiscal Policy

Competition for the Sale of Event Tickets

The Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism Temporarily Postponed SB 204 after not having the votes to pass. The bill prohibits live performance venues from entering non-compete contracts for the sale or distribution of ticketed events. It creates price transparency by prohibiting live performance venues from distributing, selling, or transferring tickets greater than the original price.

A strike-all amendment was also postponed. The amendment Removes 10-year taxpayer funding language, and better incorporates all-in pricing.

Remaining Committees:

- [SB 204](#): Commerce and Tourism; Judiciary; Rules
- [HB 177](#): Regulatory Reform & Economic Development; Civil Justice; Commerce

FLAGGED LEGISLATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS



[SB 734/ HB 735](#) Government Accountability - Requires local governments to use a lobbyist registration system; Allows for virtual quorum in certain circumstances; Prohibits cities and counties from renewing an employment contract for administrators and attorneys 8 months prior to a general election.

[SB 280](#) Vacation Rentals Preempts local ordinances; allows for local registration process with specific parameters and fees.

[SB 674/ HB 779](#) United States-produced Iron and Steel in Public Works Projects Requires U.S. produced iron and steel in public works projects.

(SUPPORT) **[HB 473](#) Cybersecurity Incident Liability** Protects businesses and local governments from liability in cybersecurity incidents if the entity follows and implements certain standards.

(SUPPORT) **[SB 340/ HB 275](#) - Intentional Damage to Critical Infrastructure** Makes it a 2nd degree felony to tamper with critical infrastructure, such as water treatment plants, transmission lines, etc. Makes perpetrator civilly liable to the owner or operators of the infrastructure.

(SUPPORT) **[HB 157](#) Governing Body Meetings** Allows municipalities to meet quorum virtually

[LFS2](#) Special Districts (PCB not yet numbered) [analysis](#) - Requires independent special districts to go for a reauthorization vote and imposes term-limits on board members. All appointed independent districts created before 2018 would be on the ballot in 2026 and every 10 years going forward. Exempts water management districts, community development districts, etc. As written, the bill captures at least the North Broward and South Broward Hospital Districts, the Children's Services Council of Broward County, etc.

[HB 35](#) Acceptance of Cash Payments by Businesses Requires certain businesses to accept cash payments for certain transactions; prohibits fees or conditions for such transactions

[SB 742/ HB 705](#) Public Works Projects Preempts Living Wage Ordinance

[HB 433](#) Workplace Heat Exposure Requirements Expansion to "Regulatory Certainty for Labor Regulations" (see report)

[SB 438/ HB 57](#) County Commissioner Term Limits May impact length of terms of multiple Broward County Commissioners

FINANCE & TAX

[HB 777](#) Municipal Water or Sewer Utility Rates, Fees, and Charges Requires municipalities that provide utilities outside of its boundaries to conduct a rate study by January 2027 and every 7 years thereafter. Eliminates surcharge charged outside of boundaries.

[HB 609](#) Local Business Taxes Repeals Local Business Taxes

[SB 472/ HB 569](#) Sovereign Immunity Raises sovereign immunity caps to \$400,000/individual (from \$200,000) and \$600,000/ collective (from \$300,000) and adjusts to CPI each year beginning in 2025. House bill also narrows time period to file suit, caps attorneys fees, and other measures to mitigate lawsuits.



[SB 578/ HB 503](#) **Limitation on Local Fees for Virtual Offices** We are still fact-finding to understand what exactly a virtual office is...

[HB 611](#) **Public Deposits** Adds credit unions to institutions eligible to be qualified public depositories

LAND USE & BUILDING REGULATIONS

[SB 812/ HB 665](#) **Expedited Approval of Residential Building Permits** Bill being pushed by Lennar and other large developers for master planned communities (also contained in HB 267)

[HB 267/ SB 684](#) **Residential Building Permits** (see in report) Imposes strict timelines for local governments to follow throughout the permit application process.

[HB 579](#) **Use of Private Providers for Plans Review and Inspection** Restricts local governments from performing inspections if certain private providers are retained and imposes timelines on responses.

[HB 791](#) **Development Permits and Orders** - Requires local governments to provide (post online, make available at location) the minimum information required to apply for a zoning/rezoning approval, subdivision approval, certificate, variance, or special exception. Must confirm receipt of application in 5 days and approve, approve with conditions, or deny within 120 days (non quasi-judiciary) or 180 days (quasi-judiciary). Note: Sponsor has been working with FLC.

[SB 496/ HB 535](#) **Low-voltage Alarm System Projects** Prohibits local governments from imposing additional regulations on low-voltage alarm systems; allows for certain fencing, etc.

[HB 557](#) **Movable Tiny Homes** Provides that park trailer may be used as permanent living quarters; Provides requirements for construction & inspection; requires documentation certifying compliance; requires Florida Building Commission to review & adopt certain code updates.

[HB 293](#) **Hurricane Protections for Homeowners' Associations** Requires HOAs to adopt hurricane protection specifications

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

[SB 664/ HB 527](#) **Land and Water Management** Preempts dredging and fill activities under chapters 373 and 403 to the state; requires buffer zones to be purchased by counties and municipalities instead of acquiring via eminent domain.

[HB 789](#) **Environmental Management** Requires that nonindustrial stormwater management systems be designed with side slopes that meet certain minimum design requirements

[SB 698](#) **Regulation of Single-use Plastic Products** Requires DEP to submit an updated retail bags report with conclusions and recommendations; authorizes coastal communities to establish pilot programs to regulate single-use plastic products

[SB 298](#) **Saltwater Intrusion Vulnerability Assessments** (see report) provides funding for saltwater intrusion vulnerability assessments for water supply to coastal counties

[SB 814](#) **Easements Affecting Real Property Owned by the Same Owner** Allows property owner to create a valid easement, servitude, or other interest so long as sole owner of affected property

EMPLOYEE SAFETY



(SUPPORT) [HB 811](#) **Pub. Rec./County and City Administrators and Managers** Exempts personal information of county and city administrators and deputies in response to increased threats

(SUPPORT) [SB 712/ HB 103](#) **Pub. Rec./County and City Attorneys** Exempts personal information of county and city attorneys and deputies in response to increased threats

(SUPPORT) [SB 506](#) **Code Enforcement Officers** Enhances classification for assault/battery against a code enforcement officer

CONTRACTS/ PROCUREMENT

[HB 781](#) **Unsolicited Proposals for Public-private Partnerships** Allows public entity to proceed with unsolicited proposal without the public bidding process if a public hearing is held, notice provided, etc.

[SB 290](#) **Public Records/Service Providers** Requires service providers not acting on behalf of public agency but in a contract to provide services to them follow public records laws (SB 292 exempts audits and claims resolutions from this requirement)

(SUPPORT) [SB 656/ HB 149](#) **Continuing Contracts** Increases max continuing contract amount from \$4 million to \$10 million plus annual CPI adjustment beginning in 2026.

[SB 796/ SB 628](#) **Combatting Human Trafficking** Requires contractors for public entities to certify they do not use coercion for labor or services

AD VALOREM

[SB 378](#) **Property Tax Assessment** Modifies timeline for value adjustment board appeal; modifies new non homestead tax assessments on previously homestead property; allows homestead to continue if owners rent out property or portion of property so long as owners or owner dependents occupy the residence.

[SB 220](#) **Ad Valorem Tax Exemption for Nonprofit Homes for the Aged**

[SB 770](#) **Improvements to Real Property** Commercial property PACE program

SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATORY PARITY

[SB 7000](#) **Deregulation of Public Schools/Instructional, Administrative, and Support Personnel**

[SB 7002](#) **Deregulation of Public Schools/School District Finance and Budgets, Facilities, and Administration and Oversight**

[SB 7004](#) **Deregulation of Public Schools/Assessment and Accountability, Instruction, and Education Choice**

PROPERTY INSURANCE

[HB 809](#) **Personal Lines Residential Property Insurance** Requires insurer to offer policy that provides coverage limit on dwelling equal to unpaid principal balance of all mortgage loans on risk; prohibits personal lines residential property insurer from requiring coverage limit that includes value of land upon which dwelling sits



[SB 802/ HB 655](#) Condominium Windstorm Pilot Program Requires OIR to establish pilot program to provide insurance coverage to residential condominium associations which covers the actual cash value of the roof of a participating condominium, rather than the replacement cost value. Majority must vote to participate in pilot program.

[HB 625](#) Property Insurance Coverage Removes provisions relating to ineligibility of commercial lines residential condominiums for wind-only coverage by Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; requires authorized inspectors to use specified inspection form for roof inspections; authorizes such inspectors to provide appendices to inspection forms for specified purpose; increases property loss assessment coverages under condominium unit owners' residential property policies.

[HB 731](#) Insurance Claims Requires OIR to consider recovery of funds in reviewing rates; Requires insurers to report recovery of funds; Provides insured's payment of deductible or copayment is not condition of an insurer's payment obligations.

[HB 371](#) Federal Catastrophe Pool Urges Congress to establish a catastrophe pool to spread risk.

TRANSPORTATION

[SB 266/ HB 287](#) Department of Transportation Caps amount state can fund certain public transit projects; codifies LAP Program.

[SB 28/ HB 107](#) Electric and Hybrid Vehicle License Fees (see report)

[SB 332/ HB 661](#) - Wrecker Operators Requires counties to set max storage fees for EVs; makes the requesting agency financially liable for storage over 30 days; changes authorizing agency from law enforcement to local government.

[SB 774/ HB 179](#) - Towing And Storage (Monitor) Overhauls statutes related to notices, liens, etc. We believe this bill will be the vehicle going forward, rather than SB 202 which contains explicit preemptions.

[SB 648 / HB 377](#) License or Permit to Operate a Vehicle for Hire Requires licensure reciprocity between counties/municipalities; exempts airports and non-emergency transport

[HB 805](#) Traffic Infraction Detectors Proposes amendment to State Constitution to prohibit traffic infraction detectors.

[SB 258](#) Interstate Safety Prohibits use of left lane unless passing or exiting on roads 65+ mph

[HB 449](#) Speeding by Motor Vehicles Increases penalties for specified motor vehicle operating offenses; provides that operation of motor vehicle in specified amount in excess of posted speed limiting creates conclusive presumption for purposes of vehicular homicide.

[SB 464/ HB 653](#) Motor Vehicle Insurance PIP Repeal

[SB 388/ HB 271](#) - Motor Vehicle Parking on Private Property

[HB 475](#) Sales Tax Holiday for Micromobility Vehicles and Related Personal Safety Equipment

[SB 688 / HB 479](#) Alternative Mobility Funding Systems



(SUPPORT) [SB 650/ HB 803](#) **Alternative Fuel Fleet Vehicle Rebates** Expands rebates to include fleet vehicles powered by alternative fuels, rather than only fueled by natural gas; requires vehicles to comply with specified emission standards, etc.

PUBLIC SAFETY

[HB 759](#) **Solicitation of Contributions Act** Prohibits panhandling; Prohibits person from approaching operator or other occupant of motor vehicle for purpose of panhandling; Provides additional violations that constitute felony; Requires individuals to identify on whose behalf & for what purpose contributions are being solicited.

[HB 621](#) **Possession of Real Property** Abolishes doctrine of adverse possession of real property; revises provisions concerning unlawful detention by transient occupant of residential property; prohibits knowingly & willfully presenting false document purporting to be valid lease agreement, deed, or other instrument conveying real property rights.

[SB 394/ HB 399](#) - **School Employees**

[SB 148/ HB 187](#) **Antisemitism**

[SB 580/ HB 385](#) **Safe Exchange of Minor Children**

[HB 807](#) **Drive-by Shootings** Provides criminal penalties for drive-by shootings.

[SB 260](#) **Refusal to Submit to a Breath, Urine, or Blood Test**

[HB 401](#) **Tracking Devices and Applications** Prohibits tracking devices without consent.

[HB 591](#) **Hot Car Death Prevention** Encourages local governments to promote awareness.

[SB 722](#) **Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Law Enforcement Officer** Mandatory minimums/ diversion.

[SB 764/ HB 607](#) **Retention of Sexual Offense Evidence** Requires agencies to store a min. of 8 years if not reported.

[SB 312](#) **Offenses Involving Children**

[HB 365](#) **Representation by Counsel in Hearings on Petitions for Risk Protection Orders**

[SB 206/ HB 489](#) **Right to Possess Firearms** Provides that person must have been adjudicated delinquent for an action committed as a juvenile to lose the right to possess a firearm.

[HB 485](#) **Return of Weapons and Arms Following an Arrest**

[SB 210/ HB 827](#) - **Mental Health Professionals**

[HB 633](#) **Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Awareness and Assistance Training Program**

[SB 792 / HB 205](#) **Community-based Mobile Crisis Intervention Services**

[SB 474/ HB 529](#) **Public Records/Suicide Victims**

