

## Florida Legislative Session Recap 2025

#### District 88





# Legislative Session

- 60 days, March May.
- Extended to June 30
- 2000+ Bills Filled, 195 Passed
- 2000+ Appropriation projects





# Rep. Edmonds Committee Assignments

Health Professions & Programs Subcommittee - Ranking Member Education & Employment Committee Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee State Administration Budget Subcommittee Select Committee on Property Relief



# Legislation

- HB 17 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
- HB 43 Reusable Tenant Screening Reports
- HB 45 Resident Status for Tuition Purposes
- HB 119 Universal Free School Breakfast and Lunch Program
- HB 137 Homeowners' Association Ombudsman
- HB 191 Instructional Hours for the VPK Education Program
- HB 635 Candidate Filing Fees
- HB 104 Education



#### Representative Edmonds Appropriations

- Digital Twin for Public Safety \$467,000
- Lake Park Traffic Safety Upgrade \$400,000
- Mangonia Park Street Repavement- \$450,000
- Palm Beach State College Vocational Village \$500,000
- Palm Beach County Australian Avenue Drainage Improvements \$742,614
- Riviera Beach Law Enforcement Training Facility \$1,000,000
- Riviera Beach Utility Special District New Water Plant \$750,000
- South Florida AgriCenter & Emergency Shelter \$350,000



#### Budget and Taxes

Delayed Session	Lawmakers extended the session to <i>June 18</i> to complete the budget and related tax bills Without an approved budget by July 1, a partial shutdown is possible.
Top-Level Spending	The budget is around <b>\$50 billion</b> , with both chambers working through differences in major tax provisions.
Tax Cuts	Deal includes a \$900 M business lease tax repeal, \$350 M in sales tax relief, \$250 M debt reduction, and \$750 M annual rainy-day fund deposits until caps are met.
Education Funding	Senate wants a \$6 M boost for Schools of Hope charter initiative
Recovered Funds	Lawmakers propose reclaiming \$400 M allocated last year for a contested reservoir project and returning it to general revenues.
New Spending Controls	The plan includes tighter financial oversight, with increased reporting requirements for agencies.
Next Steps	A final budget is expected soon. It will include the tax package, then head to Gov. DeSantis by late June for approval and possible line-item vetoes.



# Housing & Insurance

Florida leaders are also investigating insurance companies' finances to make sure they're not crying poor unjustly. Insurance \$481,308,000M added to this program for the next fiscal year. My Safe Florida Home HB913 - Affordable housing through revisions to the Live Local Affordable Housing Act, address the condo crisis by updating structural repair requirements and reducing the cost burden on condo resident Home Town Heroes, Florida Association for Community Programs Action (FACA), State Housing Initiatives Partnership HB948 - If a landlord fails to disclose flood information Renters truthfully, the tenant may terminate the rental agreement within a certain timeframe and the landlord must refund the tenant all amounts paid in advance by the tenant.

# Property Tax

- Taxes help pay for:
  - Schools
  - Police
  - ► Firefighters
  - Parks
  - Roads
  - Community Initiatives
- The Elimination of Property Tax would require voter approval and aims to provide longterm tax relief to Florida residents.
  - ▶ 1. Vote to End Property Taxes on Homes
  - 2. Bigger Homestead Exemption Idea: Instead of \$50,000 off your home's taxes, you could get \$500,000 off. Seniors and longtime owners could get \$1 million off!
  - ► 3. Let Lawmakers Change Tax Discounts
  - ▶ 4. Freeze How Fast Your Taxes Go Up
  - ▶ 5. No Losing Your Home for Not Paying



#### Education

HB681 Sets new uniform standards for apprenticeships and preapprenticeships, ensuring schools and training providers partner correctly

HB1105 Authorizes a municipality to convert a traditional charter school into a 'job-engine' charter school and removes the teacher vote from the conversion process, leaving the vote solely to parents of enrolled students.

School boards are now be required to prohibit the use of digital devices Cell Phones by elementary and middle school students during the school day and high school students during instructional time

Exams Type 1 Diabetes, A new Spectrum Alert system for missing individuals on the autism spectrum, youth athletic coaches providing coaching services for an independent sanctioning authority to undergo Level 2 background screening, Cardiac Emergencies

SB296 You might have heard that back in 2023, a law was passed requiring middle schools to start no earlier than 8:00 AM and high schools no earlier than 8:30 AM by 2026.



### Business

HB 827

The bill requires the Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research (WSER) at the Department of Commerce to study the economic impact of automation, artificial intelligence (AI), and robotics on employment in Florida, focusing on job losses and gains due to AI and automation.

HB 999

The bill lets certain gold and silver coins be used as legal money in Florida starting July 1, 2026. It removes sales tax on them, allows (but doesn't require) governments to accept them, and says no one can be forced to use them. It also sets rules for safely handling and storing the coins, and requires state leaders to create and submit guidelines by November 1, 2025.

Permits

SB 1080 to revise timeframes for counties and municipalities to expeditiously process applications for development permits and development orders, and to require local governments to issue application fee refunds if the approval timeframes in the bill are not met.





Utility Workers SB1386 The bill aims to enhance protections for utility workers by increasing penalties for individuals who knowingly commit assault or battery against them while they are performing their duties on critical infrastructure

SB 818To alleviate the financial burden on communications service providers,<br/>particularly in rural areas, by providing a structured reimbursement<br/>mechanism for utility relocations necessitated by public infrastructure<br/>projects.

SB 202 Aims to promote equity by preventing municipalities from charging higher rates to neighboring communities that host their utility facilities

HB 1137 This legislation ensures that consumers retain the freedom to choose their preferred energy sources and appliances without local governmental restrictions.

SB 700 Provisions collectively aim to enhance Florida's energy infrastructure, promote the adoption of electric vehicles, ensure the safety of energyrelated products, and maintain fuel availability during emergencies.



### Health Care and More

SB1808

Requiring health care facility licensees to refund to the patient any overpayment within a specified timeframe; specifying that health care facility licensees who violate certain provisions are subject to administrative fines; requiring health care practitioners to refund to the patient any overpayment within a specified timeframe; revising the list of acts that constitute grounds for disciplinary actions for health care practitioners, etc.

The bill creates the State Park Preservation Act, which requires state parks to be managed for conservation-based recreational uses and in a manner that provides the greatest combination of benefits to the public and the land's natural resources. The bill prohibits the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) from constructing sporting facilities within state parks



SB 80

# Budget



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