

WHIP'S ROUND UP

Bills Passed in 2008 Legislative Session

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Agriculture

- **CS/CS/SB 1702 Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (General Government Appropriations, Agriculture, & Sen. Alexander)**
Reenacts statutory authorization for the divisions of DACS and its advisory committees related to agriculture and makes statutory changes recommended in the agency sunset review report. Florida law required a review of whether to retain, modify, or abolish the department by July 1, 2008. Adjusts various fees to reduce the department's reliance on General Revenue.
- **CS/CS/SB 1946 Agricultural and Farming Equipment/Highways (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Agriculture & Sen. Baker)**
Amends various width and height restrictions for farm equipment, allowing for greater flexibility in the transportation of various agricultural products by farming vehicles on state roads.
- **CS/SB 2222 Florida Citrus Commission/Department of Citrus (Agriculture & Agriculture)**
Allows a person to obtain a special permit to plant *Casuarina cunninghamiana* as a windbreak for a commercial citrus grove provided the plants are produced in an authorized registered nursery and certified by the department as being vegetatively propagated from male plants. Provides additional rules and procedures for the use of these plants as windbreaks.

Budget FY 2007-08

- **SB 2502 Implementing the 2007-2008 Special Appropriations (Fiscal Policy & Calendar Committee)**
Makes the *temporary* (i.e., one-year) changes to Florida Statutes that are necessary to implement the revised FY 2007-08 budget, which the Legislature passed early in the 2008 Regular Session.
- **HB 7009 Special Appropriations (PBC & Rep. Sansom)**
Comprises the revisions and reductions of the FY 2007-08 budget passed by the Legislature early in the 2008 Regular Session.

Budget FY 2008-09

- **HB 5001 Appropriations (PBC & Rep. Sansom)**
Provides the appropriations and proviso language that create the state budget for FY 2008-09, which totals about \$66.2 billion.
- **HB 5003 Implementing the 2008-2009 Appropriations Act (PBC & Rep. Sansom)**
Makes the *temporary* (i.e., one-year) changes to Florida Statutes that are necessary to implement the FY 2008-09 budget, including a provision that allows the Budget Stabilization Fund and Lawton Chiles Endowment Fund to be tapped if the state experiences significant revenue shortfalls.

Conforming Bills

Note: Conforming bills make statutory changes to implement the budget that remain law after the current fiscal year, absent subsequent amendment by the Legislature.

- **CS/CS/SB 1286 Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (General Government Appropriations, Environmental Preservation & Conservation & Sen. Saunders)**
Conforming bill that expands the vessel registration number requirement to apply to non-motor powered vessels more than 16 feet in length, excluding canoes, kayaks, racing shells, or rowing sculls, regardless of length. Allows vessel registration, license, and permit fees to be adjusted for inflation every five years beginning in 2013.

- CS/CS/SB 1294 Department of Environmental Protection (General Government Appropriations, Environmental Protection & Conservation & Sen. Saunders)**
 Conforming bill that reenacts and amends a specified provision under the Florida Government Accountability Act relating to the establishment of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Requires a dry cleaning facility to display a current and valid DEP certificate of registration. Conforms the definition of the term "regulated air pollutant" to changes made in the federal Clean Air Act.
- CS/SB 1864 Medical Research (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Sen. Peaden)**
 Conforming bill that eliminates the annual appropriation of \$15 million to the Johnnie B. Byrd, Sr., Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute.
- CS/SB 1882 Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Sen. Fasano)**
 Conforming bill that redirects \$301.8 million in documentary stamp proceeds from DOT and DCA to General Revenue. Makes annual funding for the University Concurrency Trust Fund subject to annual legislative appropriation.
- HB 5043 Surplus Lines Tax (JEC & Rep. Reagan)**
 Conforming bill that reallocates distributions of surplus lines tax collections to the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund and General Revenue to allocate more to GR.
- HB 5045 Workers' Compensation Medical Services & Supplies (JEC & Rep. Reagan)**
 Conforming bill that transfers workers' compensation medical services and supplies responsibilities from AHCA to DFS.
- HB 5047 Department of Business & Professional Regulation (JEC & Rep. Reagan)**
 Conforming bill that revises procedures authorizing DBPR to privatize administrative, examination, licensing, investigative, and prosecutorial services. Requires the Board of Architecture & Interior Design to include information of complaints in its annual budget request. Deletes duplicative regulatory duties between the division of Hotels and Restaurants and the State Fire Marshall.
- HB 5049 Mortgage Broker's Licenses (JEC & Rep. Reagan)**
 Conforming bill that requires, rather than allows, an electronic version of the mortgage broker test to be made available and lowers the cost of the test from \$100 to \$75. Lowers the application fee from \$200 to \$195.
- HB 5051 Duties of the Division of Hotels and Restaurants relating to the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code (JEC & Rep. Reagan)**
 Conforming bill that eliminates requirement for Division of Hotels and Restaurants to assist Florida Building Commission in updating construction standards of Florida Building Code & State Fire Marshal in updating Florida Fire Prevention Code. Eliminates the requirement for the division to enforce the Florida Building Code & Florida Fire Prevention Code when conducting its inspections.
- CS/HB 5057 Insurance Capital Build-Up Incentive Program (PBC, JEC & Rep. Reagan)**
 Transfers \$250 million from Citizens Property Insurance Corporation (Citizens) to the Insurance Capital Buildup Incentive Program to offer additional matching loans to private insurers that write new coverage in Florida. Expanding private coverage limits the potential for assessments that may result from catastrophic losses in Citizens.

- **HB 5059 State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund (GEAC & Rep. Grant)**
 Conforming bill that revises the use of fines deposited into the DMS State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund to provide for technical assistance for state and local law enforcement in their statewide system of regional law enforcement communications. Allows DMS to retain funds for the same purpose.
- **HB 5061 Revenue Administration (GEAC & Rep. Grant)**
 Conforming bill that allows DOR to incur expenses for salaries and benefits of DOR employees responsible for developing and conducting schools that train in the assessment and valuation of property. Requires DOR to provide land maps and photos to counties with a population of 25,000 or less and requires property appraisers in counties over 25,000 to reimburse DOR for such expense.
- **HB 5063 Retirement (GEAC & Rep. Grant)**
 Conforming bill that updates the standard Florida Retirement System (FRS) defined benefit rates, on which government employers base their monthly contributions to the Division of Retirement. Authorizes service credit during a certain period for FRS defined benefit plan participants who formerly participated in the Community College Optional Retirement Program or the State University System Optional Retirement Program.
- **HB 5065 Corporate Income Tax (GEAC & Rep. Grant)**
 The Legislature annually passes a corporate tax piggyback law to align state definitions of adjusted corporate tax gross income with those of the IRS. This Conforming bill rejects several of the depreciations and itemizations related to adjusted federal income contained within the recent federal stimulus package due to the potentially significant negative state fiscal impact.
- **HB 5067 State Infrastructure (EEIC, Rep. Cannon, Rep. Glorioso & Rep. Aubuchon)**
 Conforming bill that redirects various fees from the State Transportation Trust fund to the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. Increases the late fee for civil traffic penalties. Reenacts DHSMV. Allows DHSMV to institute driver's license changes to comply with the Federal REAL ID Act. Repeals motorcycle safety education campaigns and safety course reimbursements. Eliminates the Florida "At Risk Driver Council."
- **HB 5071 Professional Sports Development Trust Fund (EEIC, Rep. Cannon & Rep. Hukill)**
 Conforming bill that revises statute to allow funds from the sale of the Florida Professional Sports Team License Plates to be given to the Florida Sports Foundation (a non-profit established by the state) for operational expenses and Sunshine State Game funding. Requires OTTED to process all Black Business Loan Program applications submitted by July 1 on or before September 30 and requires equal funding distribution to participants.
- **HB 5073 Department of State (EEIC, Rep. Cannon & Rep. Proctor)**
 Conforming bill that repeals the Division of Historical Resources' authority to establish regional historic preservation offices and likewise repeals the Division's authority to contract with the University of West Florida for the establishment of a regional office. Repeals statute authorizing the establishment of the Discovery of Florida Quincentennial Commemoration Commission.
- **HB 5083 Education (PBC & Rep. Sansom)**
 Conforming bill that revises the Excellent Teaching Program to eliminate certain bonuses, prohibits school districts from applying the 5% administrative fee to charter school Merit Award Program funds, codifies dual enrollment language, extends flexibility to certain categorical allocations for classroom instruction, and extends flexibility to use up to \$65/per student of Two Mill Capital Outlay funds for property and casualty insurance premiums and certain motor vehicles.

- **HB 5085 Health Care (PBC & Rep. Sansom)**
Conforming bill that institutes a two-year rate freeze to help prevent service cuts, prohibiting AHCA from increasing payouts to various state providers. Sets June 30, 2009 as the date of the expiration of the Medically Needy program (excluding coverage for pregnant women and children). Eliminates the Sunshine for Seniors Program. Modifies the pharmacy reimbursement methodology to decrease reimbursements.
- **HB 5087 Agency for Persons with Disabilities (PBC & Rep. Sansom)**
Conforming bill that prevents APD from expanding Tier 4 (Family and Supported Living Waiver) services in FY 2008-09 and limits eligibility for Tier 2 services. Decreases the geographic differential percentage rate for Medicaid waiver services in the counties of Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Monroe. Implements cost control measures within APD to prevent any dramatic service cost increases.

Business Regulation

- **CS/HB 225 Telephone Caller Identification (SSC & Rep. Kiar)**
Criminalizes caller I.D. "spoofing"(entering or use false information entered into a caller I.D. device to deceive the recipient of a call of the actual identity of the caller) as a first degree misdemeanor. Enhances the penalty of any crime by one degree if the offender used false information entered into a caller I.D. device during the commission of the offense.
- **CS/CS/HB 343 Financial Services (PBC, JEC & Rep. Carroll)**
Amends laws relating to debt cancellation, creditor insurance, and starting and changing ownership of financial institutions. Specifies that debtors are not required to purchase debt cancellation asset protection services. Allows financial institutions to offer creditors debt cancellation products. Specifies that debt cancellation products are not insurance.
- **CS/HB 419 Business Entities (JEC & Rep. Simmons)**
Makes several technical changes relating to mergers and conversions of business entities. Eliminates duplicative filing requirements for business entities that change from one business organization to another.
- **CS/SB 794 Underground Utilities/Excavation and Demolitions (Communications & Public Utilities and Sen. Bennett)**
Requires excavators and member operators to pay their own costs associated with identifying underground utility operations.
- **HB 797 Public Accountancy (Rep. Holder)**
Allows accounting students to take CPA examination prior to obtaining undergraduate degree. Continues to require receipt of a degree prior to licensure.
- **CS/CS/SB 854 Unemployment Compensation/Day Laborer (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Commerce & Sen. Fasano)**
Includes labor pools within the definition of "temporary help firm" and includes day laborers within the definition of "temporary employee." Places responsibility on labor pools for informing temporary employees of their duty to report back to work the next day upon completion of an assignment. Notice must either be given on paychecks, by written notice in the pay envelope, or through other written means.
- **SB 874 Title Loans/Regulation/Consumers (Sen. Fasano)**
Specifies that regulations of title loans apply to title loans made to consumers only. The bill defines "consumers" of title loans as individuals borrowing for personal, family, or household purposes.

- **CS/HB 951 Beverage Law (JEC & Rep. Schultz)**
 Specifies that restrictions relating to distributing alcohol apply to importing alcohol from outside the state. Specifies that “primary American sources of supply” cannot be licensed as vendors, and vendors cannot be licensed as “primary American sources of supply.”
- **CS/SB 966 Automated Teller Machine Transactions (Commerce & Sen. Alexander)**
 Specifies that an operator or owner of an ATM may charge an access fee or surcharge if the fee is disclosed prior to the transaction. Machines owners may charge specific users fees.
- **CS/CS/CS/SB 996 Cosmetology (General Government Appropriations, Higher Education, Regulated Industries & Sen. Wise)**
 Amends standards for working as a cosmetologist and as a hair, esthetician, or nail technician. Includes graduate equivalency diplomas and ability-to-benefit tests in criteria to qualify for licensing.
- **CS/SB 1026 Unemployment Compensation Benefits (Governmental Operations & Fasano)**
 Allows AWI to develop an electronic funds transfer system to dispense unemployment compensation payments.
- **CS/HB 1037 Escrow Agents (JEC & Rep. Poppell)**
 Prohibits unauthorized persons from transacting business using the term "escrow" in name or title. Creates a first degree misdemeanor for transacting business as an escrow agent when not specifically authorized by law. Creates a civil cause of action for violation.
- **CS/CS/HB 1167 Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity Standard and Firefighter Protection Act (PBC, JEC & Rep. Legg)**
 Requires all cigarettes to satisfy a fire safety regulation and certification process in order to be sold in Florida but allows existing inventories to be sold off. Subjects manufactures and wholesalers to a \$100/pack penalty for noncompliance, up to \$100,000/month. Retailers are subject to the \$100/pack penalty for knowingly selling cigarettes that do not comply with the act, up to \$25,000/month.
- **CS/CS/SB 1310 Sellers of Travel (Criminal Justice & Military Affairs & Domestic Security & Sen. Baker)**
 Creates distinctions between travel agent certifications and registration fees depending on services relating to terrorist states. Requires travel agents who offer travel or related services and engage in other business with terrorist states to pay \$2,500. Requires agents who provide travel or tourist related services but engage in no other business with terrorist states to pay \$1,000. Requires agents who offer no services to any terrorist state pay the already existing \$300 registration fee. Creates performance bond requirement ranging from \$25,000-\$300,000 based on degree of services provided and business transacted to or with a terrorist state.
- **CS/CS/SB 1360 Pharmacy Technicians (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Health Regulation & Sen. Peaden)**
 Prohibits unlicensed pharmacy technicians and instead requires all pharmacy technicians to be state registered with the Florida Board of Pharmacy. Establishes certification requirements, including taking various training and education courses.

- CS/CS/CS/SB 2016 Public Lodging and Food Service Establishments (General Government Appropriations & Community Affairs & Regulated Industries & Sen. Aronberg)**
Removes provisions that require public lodging facilities to provide restrooms for guests and each gender. Repeals regulations relating to posting room rates, advertising, and criminal and civil penalties for violations of regulations relating to room rates and advertising. Deletes requirement that food service managers pass a food protection practices test within 30 days of employment. Removes requirement that the Division of Hotels and Restaurants assist in enforcement of the fire safety code. Fire safety codes enforcement remain the responsibility of the State Fire Marshal and local fire safety authorities. Eliminates the Division's oversight of restroom facilities. Continues to allow local authorities and the Florida Building Code to ensure adequate sanitary facilities.
- CS/SB 2052 Water and Wastewater Utilities (Communications & Public Utilities & Sen. Baker)**
Lowers utility costs for affected bill payers by expanding the availability of staff assisted rate cases. Increases the threshold levels from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for water and wastewater utilities to qualify for staff-assisted rate cases from the PSC. Indexes the threshold levels for inflation adjusted every five years, and requires the PSC to deliver a report to the Legislature every five years on the status of staff-assisted rate cases.
- CS/SB 2582 Motor Vehicle Dealers (Regulated Industries & Sen. Haridopolos)**
Prohibits licensed motor vehicle manufacturers from requiring franchise motor vehicle dealers to relocate, expand, or renovate dealer facilities, subject to justifiable reasons. Prohibits manufacturers from withholding or refusing a bonus, incentive, or benefit available to other state or national franchise dealers. Requires manufacturers to compensate dealers for various parts and the performance of certain jobs.
- HB 7109 Small Business Regulatory Relief (GEAC & Rep. Attkisson)**
Creates a Small Business Regulatory Review Advisory Council and the Office of Small Business Advocate to facilitate communication between small businesses and state agencies and to quickly and adequately address unnecessarily burdensome regulatory measures.

Children and Families

- CS/HB 3 Children's Zones (HCC & Rep. Bendross-Mindingall)**
Promotes a community-based service network in disadvantaged areas by creating the Magic City Children's Zone pilot project in Miami's Liberty City. Provides a process by which other children's zones may be created in throughout the state.
- CS/HB 625 Independent Living Transition Services (HCC & Rep. Glorioso)**
Requires DCFS to include family foster homes and residential child-caring agencies in the formulation of self-sufficiency plans for the children whom they oversee that are aging out of foster care.
- CS/HB 663 Termination of Parental Rights (HCC & Rep. Cannon)**
Revises adoption laws in order to provide greater disclosure both to adoptive parents and unmarried biological fathers and makes it easier for adoption to occur when informed unmarried biological fathers fail to show initiative in preserving their parental rights. Makes it easier to adopt in cases where incarcerated parents are or would be absent from their child's life for a significant period of time.

- **CS/HB 1193 Maternal & Child Health Programs (HCC & Rep. Rivera)**
Requires DOH to implement an electronic benefit transfer system for the Women's, Infant, and Children (WIC) program by July 1, 2010. Prohibits DOH from discontinuing a WIC-eligible generic product unless the product has failed to meet WIC's nutritional standards. Limits DOH expenditures for WIC to federally provided funds while allowing DOH to explicitly request further funding from the Executive Office of the Governor where necessary.
- **CS/CS/HB 1395 Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys (PBC, SSC, & Rep. Llorente)**
Removes the 2012 sunset date for The Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys and requires the Council to develop a strategic program and funding initiative to establish local Councils. Creates a direct-support organization within the Dept. of Legal Affairs, monitored by and working in conjunction with the Council, to develop strategic programs and funding initiatives to implement specified programs in certain counties and statewide. Appropriates \$50,000 of nonrecurring GR to implement the provisions of this act.
- **CS/CS/SB 2532 Child Custody and Support (General Government Appropriations & Children, Families & Elder Affairs & Sen. Lynn)**
Makes various changes to custody, visitation, and the dissolution of marriage, including modifications and deletions of various statutory definitions.
- **HB 7007 Safe Haven Protection for Surrendered Newborn Infants (HCC & Rep. R. Garcia)**
Raises the time period during which parents may surrender their infants at designated facilities from 3 days to 7 days after birth. Allows birth certificate completion without naming the mother when she expresses intent to permanently leave her child. Stipulates that a parent surrendering its child need not be contacted or give express consent for the termination of parental rights.
- **HB 7073 Child Support Enforcement (HCC & Rep. Galvano)**
Amends provisions relating to enforcing child support obligations, requiring that past due payments first be used to pay off the principal amount and then be used toward the interest accrued from the past due amount. Requires the State Disbursement Unit to render various payments electronically. Requires correctional facilities to help incarcerated putative fathers submit to administrative orders for genetic testing.
- **HB 7077 Child Protection (HCC & Rep. Galvano)**
Revises provisions relating to child protection and welfare, including procedures for handling cases involving missing children and children involved in sex abuse. Changes the eligibility criteria for the Florida Child Welfare Student Loan Forgiveness Program. Extends time period for departmental reorganization of DCFS by one year. Stipulates new circumstances justifying the termination of parental rights.

Civil Law

- **CS/SB 276 Food Donation by Public Food Service Establishment (Judiciary & Sen. Rich)**
Provides both criminal and civil immunity for restaurants that prepare and donate food to charitable organizations.
- **CS/HB 435 Trust Administration (SSC & Rep. Hukill)**
Provides protections to exempt trustees from liability for the actions of other trustees. Creates fiduciary relationships between trustees and personal representatives and revises time limitations for breach of trust actions against trustees.

- **CS/SB 1474 Dissolution of Marriage (Judiciary & Sen. Joyner)**
Allows a court to enter an interim order while a dissolution of marriage proceeding is pending that allows a partial distribution of marital assets and liabilities, upon a showing good cause.
- **CS/SB 1790 State Judicial System (Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations & Sen. Crist)**
Prescribes the types of civil proceedings in which part-time assistant criminal conflict and civil regional counsel may not otherwise engage. Increases the application fee for determining indigent status for the purpose of receiving criminal representation by state-funded counsel. Increases charges for services rendered by the clerk of the circuit court in recording documents and instruments and performing other duties.
- **CS/SB 2438 Spaceflight/Informed Consent (Judiciary & Sen. Posey)**
Encourages the development of tourist space exploration by limiting liability of tourist space travel business through informed consent. Expands the definition of spaceflight activities to include all excursions into space, allow spaceflight companies to be held liable for negligent acts, and specify that defendants need not plead an affirmative defense to absolve themselves of liability for a claim based exclusively on the inherent risks associated with space travel.

Claims Bills

- **CS/SB 34 Relief/Laura Laporte/DOACS (Judiciary & Sen. Lawson)**
- **SB 38 Relief/J. Miller/Memorial Reg. Hosp./Broward Co. (Sen. Deutch)**
- **SB 40 Relief/Gough/Miami-Dade Co. School Board (Sen. Wilson)**
- **SB 50 Relief/Salazar/City of Lake Worth (Sen. Baker)**
- **SB 54 Relief/Daniel Decembre/Orange County School Board (Sen. Joyner)**
- **SB 56 Relief/Schneidine Theogene/Miami-Dade County (Sen. Aronberg)**
- **SB 60 Relief/Adrian Fuentes/South Broward Hospital Dist. (Sen. Ring)**
- **CS/SB 68 Relief/Tyler Giblin/Munroe Regional Health System (Health Regulation & Sen. Dean)**
- **CS/CS/HB 443 Relief/Marissa Amora/DCFS (PBC, HCC & Rep. Coley)**
- **HB 7037 Relief of Alan Jerome Crotzer (PBC & Rep. Sansom)**

Condominiums and Home Owners' Associations

- **CS/CS/HB 601 Department of Business & Professional Regulation (PBC, JEC & Rep. Hudson)**
Amends multiple provisions relating to DBPR, including requiring adequate hazard insurance for condominiums and requiring real estate associates to work under a broker and be licensed for two years before becoming a broker. Allows applicants for the electrical/alarm certification to take the certification exam prior to board review of the applicant's experience and training qualifications.
- **CS/CS/HB 679 Residential Properties (PBC, SSC, Rep. Gardiner & Rep. Ambler)**
Provides for additional pool safety measures relating to drains and compliance with national standards. Also makes the following reforms to homeowners associations laws: specifies that meetings between board members and a homeowners association's attorney to discuss proposed or pending litigation are not public meetings; allows for homeowners association to charge fees for copies limits reserve accounts and assessments to the extent provided for in the governing documents allows that fines greater than \$1,000 may become a lien against a parcel; provides regulations on secret absentee ballots; and provides that if the association is still under the developer's control, the developer may have the right to amend restrictive covenants without association approval.

- **CS/HB 995 Community Associations (SSC & Rep. Robaina)**
Amends law relating to condominium law governance. Prohibits SLAPP suits. Limits the jurisdiction of DBPR to oversight of financial reporting requirements, elections, and unit owner access to records; and specifies criteria for board membership. Requires licensure of community association management firms and periodic financial audits and structural assessments. Specifies emergency powers of a board.
- **CS/HB 1105 Community Associations (SSC & Rep. Rivera)**
Requires notice to the board and all unit owners of a condominium or homeowners association before petitioning a court to appoint a receiver. Requires 30 days notice before an association can file a lien against a unit owner.
- **CS/SB 1378 Display of Flags/Homeowners' Associations (Community Affairs & Sen. Fasano)**
Allows a U.S. flag and one POW-MIA or U.S. Armed Forces flag to be displayed regardless of homeowner association rules. Allows for installation of a flag pole for a U.S. flag and smaller POW-MIA or U.S. Armed Forces flag. The amendment specifies that the provisions apply to all homeowner associations, including non-mandatory homeowner associations and community development districts. Prohibits SLAPP suits and permits owners of permanent homes on leased parcels to serve on the board of directors.
- **SB 1986 Homeowners' Associations/Lien Claims (Sen. Ring)**
Specifies that a homeowners' association lien is subordinate to a first mortgage that was recorded prior to the filing of a notice of lien. Creates a procedure to contest homeowners' associations' liens. Specifies that the holder of a first mortgage who forecloses on the mortgage is liable for up to six months assessments or 1% of the mortgage amount, whichever is less, in past due assessments.

Environmental Conservation, Natural Resources, and State Lands

- **CS/SB 192 State Parks (Environmental Preservation & Conservation & Sen. Baker)**
Requires that rule violations within a state park constitute noncriminal infractions punishable as second-degree misdemeanors. Allows the use of golf carts and utility vehicles in state parks by employees and visitors as authorized by the Division of Recreation and Parks within DEP.
- **SB 432 Artificial Reefs/Placement of Vessels (Sen. Bennett)**
Authorizes FFWCC to develop a statewide matching grant program to purchase decommissioned U.S. Navy and U.S. Maritime Administration vessels to place in state waters as artificial reefs.
- **CS/HB 527 Environmental Site Redevelopment (ENRC & Rep. Williams)**
Provides for additional tax credits of up to \$500,000 for new health care facilities built on rehabilitated "brownfields" (abandoned or underdeveloped properties with environmental contamination that have been designated for clean-up and development through government incentive programs). Revises eligibility requirements of the Innocent Victim Petroleum Storage System Restoration Program.
- **CS/CS/SB 542 Land Acquisition & Management (General Government Appropriations & Environmental Preservation & Conservation & Sen. Saunders)**
Extends and expands the Florida Forever land acquisition program from \$3 billion to \$5.3 billion, creates modern land management and information systems, and establishes land conservation priorities.
- **CS/HB 547 Water Pollution Control (ENRC & Rep. Kreegel)**
Provides a market-based water quality trading system to control water pollution.

- CS/SB 758 Inland Navigation Districts (Environmental Preservation & Conservation & Sen. Bennett)**
 Revises provisions relating to inter-coastal waterways. Makes FFWCC responsible for posting and maintaining regulatory markers for manatee protection speed zones. Current law provides that each inland navigation district is responsible for posting and maintaining regulatory markers. Allows maintenance dredging at specific sea ports or by inland navigation districts without obtaining a permit. Specifies dredging procedures.
- HB 961 Cleanup of Sites Contaminated by Petroleum (Rep. Machek)**
 Raises the Petroleum Cleanup Preapproval Program cap from \$300,000 to \$400,000. Raises the Florida Petroleum Liability and Restoration Insurance Program caps from \$1 million to \$1.2 million, \$300,000 to \$400,000, and \$150,000 to \$300,000.
- CS/CS/SB 1094 Gambling Vessels/Clean Oceans Act (Regulated Industries & Environmental Preservation & Conservation & Sen. Haridopolos & Sen. Constantine)**
 Requires owners or operators of gambling vessels to register their vessels with DEP for purposes of regulating waste releases. Requires each water front-land facility that is registered as a gambling vessels at berth to establish procedures for the release of waste from gambling vessels. Allows DEP to charge fees associated with the cost of regulating such activity and impose penalties for non-compliance.
- CS/SB 1318 Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems (Community Affairs & Sen. Gaetz)**
 Adds a local government representative knowledgeable about domestic wastewater treatment to DOH's research review and advisory committee. Adds a local government representative familiar with domestic wastewater treatment and recommended by both the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities to DOH's Technical Review and Advisory Panel.
- CS/CS/SB 1302 Wastewater Disposal/Ocean Outfalls (General Government Appropriations & Environmental Preservation & Conservation & Sen. Saunders)**
 Requires the South Florida Water Management District to develop projects that promote the elimination of ocean outfalls in its regional water supply plan. Gives priority to projects that implement reuse as a means of eliminating ocean outfalls. Prohibits expansion of current systems that discharge to ocean outfalls.
- CS/HB 1427 Beach Management (ENRC & Rep. Mayfield)**
 Requires that beach quality sand dislocated during inlet construction and maintenance efforts be moved to adjacent beaches. Tasks DEP with enforcement and serving as a liaison between various entities involved in disputes involving the natural flow of sand. Establishes new regulations for inlet management. Requires ports to adhere to their master plans and DEP permits as they relate to moving quality sand in construction areas to nearby eroding beaches.
- CS/SB 1552 Everglades Restoration Bonds (Finance & Tax & Sen. Saunders)**
 Extends the period to issue Everglades Restoration Bonds from 2009-2010 to 2019-2020. Doubles the maximum annual issuance amount from \$100 million to \$200 million. The bonds cannot exceed 20 annual maturities and must mature by 2040.
- CS/HB 7059 Protection of Wild and Aquatic Life (PBC, ENRC, Rep. Mayfield & Rep. Kendrick)**
 Provides for state-owned lands with approved land management plans to be monitored for land management activities by a monitoring team. Provides penalties for the scarring of sea grass and confiscation and disposition of illegally taken wildlife and fish. Provides that photographs of illegally taken wildlife and fish are admissible in evidence in lieu of the actual animal or fish.

- **HB 7091 Fish & Wildlife Conservation (ENRC, Rep. Mayfield & Rep. Kendrick)**
Consolidates chapters regulating animal wildlife, aquatic life, and marine life into one chapter.

Courts

- **CS/SB 464 Transfer Fee Covenants/Real Property (Judiciary & Sen. Aronberg)**
Provides that transfer fee covenants do not run with the land and are unenforceable on subsequent owners of the property with specified exemptions. Voids any liens claiming to secure payment of a transfer fee covenant. Allows fees for transfer of club membership fees related to the property.
- **CS/HB 773 Judicial Sales (SSC & Rep. Dorworth)**
Allows the clerk of courts to charge a \$60 fee for conducting electronic foreclosure and electronic tax deed sales of property.

Criminal Justice

- **CS/HB 29 DNA Testing (SSC & Rep. Snyder)**
Expands mandatory DNA collection to those convicted of misdemeanor stalking, voyeurism, and specified acts related to obscenity, computer pornography, and lewd behavior.
- **CS/CS/HB 43 Criminal Activity (PBC, SSC & Rep. Snyder)**
Cracks down on gangs by targeting their ability to organize, enhancing penalties for crimes committed to promote the interests of the gang, and increases registration requirements for felons convicted of gang-related offenses. Curbs a gang's ability to use the internet to intimidate or harass innocent people by criminalizing the use of electronic communications for gang-related purposes. Criminalizes possession of a bulletproof vest by a felon.
- **HB 61 Offenses Against Officers (Rep. Scionti)**
Provides that a person is not justified in using force to resist a law enforcement officer engaged in the good faith execution of a legal duty.
- **HB 85 Lewd or Lascivious Molestation (Rep. Kravitz)**
Increases the minimum penalty for a second violation of lewd and lascivious molestation of a child less than 12 years old from 25 years up to a maximum of life imprisonment to a minimum of life imprisonment.
- **CS/SB 92 Persons Injured by Crime/Medical Treatment (Judiciary & Sen. Villalobos)**
Criminalizes depriving an injured crime victim of medical treatment with the intent to avoid, delay, hinder, or obstruct any investigation of the criminal activity.
- **CS/CS/HB 105 Secondary Metal Recyclers (PBC, SSC, & Rep. Troutman)**
Provides additional regulations to verify ownership relating to secondary metal recycling. Imposes recordkeeping requirements and identification verification. Increases penalties for failure to comply with the regulations.
- **CS/HB 173 Controlled Substances (SSC & Rep. N. Thompson)**
Enhances law enforcement's ability to prosecute manufacturers of illegal drugs and owners of homes where drugs are made. Criminalizes the manufacture of illegal drugs in presence of minors as a first-degree felony. Provides immunity from civil suit for destruction of evidence after holding seized evidence for 24 months. Creates presumption that 25 or more cannabis plants is sufficient evidence that the cannabis is intended for sale or distribution.

- **HB 313 Dating Violence (Rep. Kelly)**
 Provides specific procedures for law enforcement to follow in cases of dating violence. Allows for arrest upon probable cause of misdemeanors committed outside the officer's presence. Applies domestic violence victim assistance procedures to cases involving dating violence. Criminalizes violations of pre-trial release as a misdemeanor.
- **CS/HB 321 Murder of Law Enforcement Officers (SSC & Rep. Snyder)**
 Requires the court to impose a minimum mandatory life sentence when a defendant is guilty of murder or attempted murder of a police officer and is not sentenced to the death penalty.
- **SB 366 Elderly Persons & Disabled Adults/Abuse & Neglect (Sen. Margolis)**
 Increases the penalty for aggravated abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult from a second degree felony to a first degree felony. Requires law enforcement officers to complete specific training relating to elder abuse and neglect.
- **HB 489 Sexual Violence (Rep. Jenne)**
 Requires employers to permit their employees to take 3 days of leave from work in any 12-month period if the employee, a family member, or a household member is the victim of sexual violence. Sexual violence includes rape, lewd and lascivious acts in the presence of a child younger than 16, and luring or enticing a child under 12 for an unlawful purpose.
- **CS/SB 502 Missing Persons/Investigation (Children, Families & Elder Affairs & Sen. Constantine)**
 Requires law enforcement agencies to adopt written policies that specify the procedures to be used to investigate reports of missing children and adults. The policies must "ensure that [such cases] are investigated promptly using appropriate resources." Requires law enforcement agencies to notify the Florida Crime Information Center and the National Crime Information Center within 2 hours of receiving a missing child report.
- **CS/HB 537 Offense of Voyeurism (SSC & Rep. Dorworth)**
 Creates a third degree felony for filming of children for amusement or profit when the offender is 24 or older and the victim is 16 or younger; when the offender is 18 or older and is the custodian of the victim who is under 16; or when the offender is 18 or older, employed by a school, and the victim is a student. The penalty is enhanced to a second degree felony for subsequent offenders.
- **CS/HB 559 Material Harmful to Minors (SSC & Rep. Schenck)**
 Creates a third degree felony for distributing or possessing obscene materials that depict a minor engaged in any act or conduct that is harmful to minors. Specifies that use of a minor in harmful materials that are distributed to a minor are guilty of a third degree felony. Specifies that ignorance, misrepresentation by the minor, and consent may not be raised as a defense.
- **CS/SB 622 Orders of No Contact with Victims of Crimes (Criminal Justice & Sen. Dockery)**
 Requires judges to impose orders of no contact between victims and those convicted of specified violent offenses including arson, sexual battery, robbery, murder, and armed burglary.
- **CS/CS/CS/SB 756 Wrongful Incarceration Compensation (Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations & Criminal Justice & Judiciary & Sen. Joyner)**
 Provides a streamlined alternative to the legislative claims bill process for compensation of those wrongfully incarcerated. Allows a court to determine wrongful incarceration, award up to \$50,000 for each year incarcerated, and provide a tuition waiver. Limits availability of the alternative compensation process to applicants without any other prior felony convictions.

- **CS/HB 799 Theft of Copper or Other Nonferrous Metals (SSC & Rep. Adams)**
Specifies that theft of nonferrous metals from gas, electricity, and communications service providers that cause damage to the provider's facilities and interrupts service is a first-degree felony.
- **CS/SB 1008 Failure to Redeliver Hired Vehicles (Criminal Justice & Sen. Storms)**
Specifies that law enforcement agencies cannot require specific evidence or information as a condition to filing a police report for failing to redeliver a rental vehicle. Requires law enforcement to enter the vehicle's information into a stolen vehicle database and enter the police report into the state and national crime databases.
- **CS/HB 1363 Controlled Substances (SSC & Rep. Brandenburg)**
Classifies salvia divinorum, an herb that has begun to be used as a recreational drug, and its active component the hallucinogen salvinorin A as schedule I drug (substances with high potential for abuse and no current accepted medical use) and makes their possession, sale, manufacture, or delivery a third degree felony. Provides classification exception for FDA approved drug products that contain salvia divinorum or salvinorin A.
- **CS/HB 1417 Counterfeit Goods (SSC & Rep. Gardiner)**
Creates an inference of intent to distribute if the offender is in possession of 25 or more counterfeit goods. Provides tiered penalty system for offenses relating to counterfeit goods ranging from 1st degree misdemeanor to first degree felony.
- **CS/CS/CS/SB 1442 Exploited Children (Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations, Judiciary, Criminal Justice & Sen. Dockery)**
Provides for civil cause of action for exploitation of children used in pornography who suffer personal or psychological injury. Ensures the privacy of the victims of child pornography by allowing pseudonyms rather than their names in court records. Requires law enforcement to submit child pornography images to National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Child Victim Identification Program.
- **CS/SB 1792 Criminal History Information (Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations & Sen. Crist)**
Clarifies the purposes for which the fees collected from the private sector or noncriminal justice agencies to acquire criminal history information may be applied. Increases the amount of the fee charged per record for criminal history information.
- **CS/SB 1988 Drivers' Licenses/Suspended, Revoked, or Canceled (Criminal Justice & Sen. Dockery)**
Provides that a person commits a second-degree misdemeanor upon a first conviction and a first-degree misdemeanor upon a second or subsequent conviction of the same offense if the person's driver's license or driving privilege is canceled, suspended, or revoked for offenses, including, but not limited to, failure to pay child support, failure to comply with a civil penalty, and designation as a habitual traffic offender.
- **CS/CS/SB 2000 Correctional Policies (Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations, Criminal Justice & Sen. Dockery)**
Creates the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council within the Legislature and a Justice Reinvestment Subcommittee within the council. Requires the council to evaluate sentencing policy, sentencing practices, correctional policies, justice reinvestment initiatives, and laws affecting or applicable to sentencing or punishment. Requires that recommendations be consistent with specified goals.

- **CS/CS/SB 2676 Citizens' Right-to-Know Act/Pretrial Release (Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations & Judiciary & Sen. Crist)**
Creates reporting requirements for pretrial release programs and also amends bail posting procedures. Requires pretrial release programs to maintain a register with the clerk of the court that provides detailed information about released defendants. Provides that any monetary component of pretrial release may be met by a surety bond. Prohibits differing amounts from being set for cash bonds, surety bonds, or other forms of pretrial release.
- **SB 2820 Juvenile Offenders/Residential Facilities (Sen. Crist)**
Expresses the legislative intent that residential facilities have no more than 165 beds. Provides an exception for campus-style settings that have more than one level of restrictiveness and other conditions. Redefines "restrictiveness level" to require that residential facilities for juvenile offenders in low-risk, moderate-risk, and high-risk offender programs have no more than 165 residential beds each.
- **HB 7137 Department of Corrections (SSC & Rep. Adams)**
Revises provisions regarding placement of offenders convicted of forcible felonies on community control supervision, treatment of juveniles in rehabilitation programs, and mental health treatment.

Cultural Programs and Libraries

- **CS/SB 82 Public Library Grants/State Aid (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Sen. Fasano)**
Updates and restructures the state funding formula for public libraries to more equitably distribute funds by revising eligibility criteria for multicounty and equalization grants.
- **CS/HB 987 Cultural & Historical Programs (EEIC & Rep. Culp)**
Allows Division of Cultural Affairs to support the establishment of citizen support organizations and broadens the division's mission to include the promotion of historical and museum programs. Allows the division to enter into contracts, promote and encourage the appreciation of Florida history and preservation, promote and operate historic museums, and acquire and preserve historic objects.

Driving Infractions

- **CS/HB 137 Operating a Motor Vehicle (EEIC & Rep. Lopez-Cantera)**
Creates new moving violations and corresponding penalties. Creates new penalties for driving 50+ mph over the speed limit, including: 1) a fine of \$1,000 for a first offense; 2) a fine of \$2,500 and a one-year revocation of the individual's driver's license for a second offense; and 3) a fine of \$5,000 and 10-year revocation of the individual's driver's license for a third offense.
- **SB 154 Pedestrian Safety/Driver Requirements (Sen. Fasano)**
Requires that drivers stop (rather than yield) before entering a crosswalk when a pedestrian is in the crosswalk or steps into the crosswalk and is on the half of the crosswalk where the car is situated or is approaching so closely from the opposite side so as to be in danger.
- **CS/HB 1509 Community Service for Infractions of Noncriminal Traffic Offenses (EEIC & Rep. Braynon)**
Allows persons convicted of noncriminal traffic infractions who are experiencing financial hardship to complete community service hours in lieu of paying a fine.

Economic Development

- **CS/CS/SB 428 Workforce Innovation (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Commerce & Sen. Bennett)**
Allows regional workforce boards to be designated as one-stop operators for up to three years per approved request, contingent upon the joint approval of the chief elected official and the Governor. Requires Workforce Florida, Inc. to establish procedures and criteria for such designations, including a mandatory reduction in the cost of providing permitted services.
- **CS/HB 2310 Economic Stimulus (Governmental Operations, Sen. Ring & Sen. Diaz de la Portilla)**
Allows 1.5% or less of the net assets of the State Board of Administration's (SBA) system trust fund to be invested in technology and growth investments of Florida or Florida-based businesses. Creates the Reusable Space Vehicle Industry Prize Program offering a one-time \$40 million award to the individual/company making significant advancements in the reusable space vehicle industry during a specific time period.

Education, Elementary and Secondary

- **CS/CS/SB 242 Schools/Single Gender Classes (Judiciary & Education Pre-K – 12 & Sen. Wise)**
Authorizes school districts to establish voluntary, single-gender schools, classes, or educational programs if substantively equal coeducational schools, classes, or educational programs are also offered. Provides for biennial evaluation.
- **CS/HB 251 Reserve Officers' Training Corps Programs (SLC & Rep. Jordan)**
Prohibits school districts, community colleges, and universities from banning Junior and Senior ROTC units and directs districts to allow students to enroll in an ROTC unit at another school under certain conditions and to grant military recruiters access to students equal to that of postsecondary education institutions.
- **CS/CS/SB 526 Interscholastic Extracurricular Activities (Education Pre-K – 12 Appropriations, Education Pre-K – 12 & Sen. Wise)**
Establishes a pilot program in which private school students may participate in interscholastic sports at public schools when those sports are not offered at their private schools.
- **CS/CS/SB 610 Physical Education/Grades 6-8 (Education Pre-K – 12 Appropriations, Education Pre-K – 12 & Sen. Constantine)**
Requires that the 150 minutes of PE required for elementary school students must be executed in at least 30-minute blocks. Requires one class period per day of PE for middle school students. Establishes requirement waiver and opt-out provisions.
- **CS/HB 623 School Food Service Programs (SLC & Rep. Kendrick)**
Requires school districts to expand the School Breakfast Program, currently required in elementary schools, to all middle and high schools and encourages universal free school breakfast for schools in which 80% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced price meals.
- **SB 642 School/Multiple Birth Siblings/Classroom Placement (Sen. Siplin)**
Allows parents of multiple-birth siblings assigned to the same school and grade level to request same or separate classroom placement. Requires schools to accommodate the requests unless the request requires an additional class be added to the school.

- CS/CS/CS/HB 653 Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program (PBC, SLC & Rep. Traviesa)**
Revises the current Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program by providing eligibility to siblings of eligible students, increasing the maximum tax credit by \$30 million, increasing the maximum scholarship amount, and revising expenditure requirements. Tasks OPPAGA with studying the fiscal impact of further expanding the program.
- HB 669 School Safety (Rep. N. Thompson, Rep. Bogdanoff & Rep. Aubuchon)**
Prohibits the bullying or harassment of any public K-12 student or employee, directs DOE to adopt a model policy prohibiting bullying and harassment, and directs each school district to adopt a bullying and harassment policy in substantial conformity with DOE's model policy.
- CS/SB 856 Disability History and Awareness (Children, Families & Elder Affairs & Fasano)**
Encourages school districts to provide disability history and awareness instruction during the designated "Disability History and Awareness Weeks."
- HB 879 Early Learning (Rep. Kelly)**
Requires level 2 background screenings for all substitute Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) teachers. Requires private VPK providers to have written accreditation standards that meet or exceed Florida's licensing requirements and requires private providers to submit to an on-site visit prior to accreditation (in addition to current statutory requirements).
- CS/SB 1070 Intergovernmental Cooperation (Education Pre-K - 12 & Sen. King)**
Authorizes public agencies to use interlocal agreements to provide for the use or maintenance of facilities or equipment; provides compensation on a cost reimbursement basis or on the basis of educational benefits. Authorizes school districts to use interlocal agreements to provide for transportation of students, rent buildings, and provide maintenance of school plants.
- CS/CS/SB 1276 Educational Facilities (Education Facilities Appropriations, Education Pre-K – 12 & Sen. Bennett)**
Raises the maximum cost per day-labor contract from \$200,000 to \$280,000 for construction, renovation, remodeling, and maintenance of educational facilities. Provides for annual adjustment based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- CS/HB 1313 Students with Disabilities (SLC & Rep. Precourt)**
Replaces several terms regarding special education used throughout the Florida K-20 Education Code with new terms to describe various disabilities.
- CS/SB 1414 Supplemental Educational Services (Education Pre-K – 12 & Sen. Diaz de la Portilla)**
Requires DOE to assign a grade to all state-approved supplemental education services (SES) providers based on student learning gains and proficiency levels, as measured by statewide assessments and norm referenced tests.
- CS/CS/CS/SB 1712 Ethics in Education Act (Education Pre-K – 12 Appropriations, Governmental Operations, Education Pre-K – 12, Education Pre-K – 12)**
Requires school districts to adopt stringent and effective policies for screening potential instructional employees and terminating employees for misconduct, establishes crimes that would bar an individual from obtaining a teaching certificate or instructional employment involving direct contact with students, and makes other changes related to educator misconduct policies.

- **CS/CS/SB 1906 Alternative High School Courses & Programs (Education Pre-K – 12 Appropriations, Education Pre-K – 12 & Sen. Gaetz)**
Creates a pilot program to provide opportunities for high school students enrolled in rigorous career and professional academies to earn alternative credit in math and science courses through their career coursework rather than through a separate course.
- **CS/SB 1908 Designation of High School Grades (Education Pre-K – 12 & Sen. Gaetz)**
Provides additional criteria for designating high school grades in addition to existing FCAT-related factors. Requires the Board of Education to review and replace the current Sunshine State Standards with enhanced rigorous and relevant curricular standards that establish the core content knowledge level and skills for all K-12 public school students and to specify distinct grade level expectations for such content.
- **HB 7067 Virtual Education (SLC & Rep. Pickens)**
Requires each school district to offer all students the option of participation in a virtual instruction program by school year 2009-10 to provide academic instruction using online and distance learning technology.

Education, Postsecondary

- **SB 186 University of South Florida Polytechnic (Sen. Alexander)**
Designates the Lakeland campus of the University of South Florida as the “University of South Florida Polytechnic.”
- **CS/HB 251 Reserve Officers’ Training Corps Programs (SLC & Rep. Jordan)**
Prohibits school districts, community colleges, and universities from banning Junior and Senior ROTC units and directs districts to allow students to enroll in an ROTC unit at another school under certain conditions and to grant military recruiters access to students equal to that of postsecondary education institutions.
- **CS/HB 337 Management of Historic Pensacola Properties (SLC & Rep. Ford)**
Allows the University of West Florida to directly contract with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for the management of certain state-owned historic properties in Pensacola.
- **HB 603 Textbook Affordability (Rep. Flores)**
Prohibits employees of state universities and community colleges from receiving anything of value in exchange for requiring specific textbooks. Requires state universities and community colleges to post required textbooks on their websites at least 30 days before the first day of class. Requires the Board of Governors and State Board of Education to adopt policies to minimize the cost of textbooks.
- **CS/CS/SB 696 Community Colleges (Higher Education Appropriations & Higher Education & Sen. Oelrich)**
Authorizes community college boards of trustees to enter into short-term financing arrangements for five years or less and permits the boards to incur long-term debts for a term up to seven years through long-term financing arrangements. Changes the names of Daytona Beach and Indian River Community Colleges to Daytona Beach College and Indian River College.
- **CS/CS/HB 745 Postsecondary Education (PBC, SLC & Rep. Precourt)**
Places a 15% cap on adjustments to out-of-state fees or tuition for professional programs. Revises eligibility criteria for state universities authorized to establish a tuition differential (supplemental fee charged by research universities) that does not exceed 30% of tuition.

- **CS/CS/SB 1716 Postsecondary Education (Higher Education Appropriations & Higher Education & Sen. Oelrich)**
Establishes the Florida College System, the Florida College Task Force, and the Florida State College Pilot Project to facilitate open access for students and the provision of associate and baccalaureate degrees that best meet statewide employment needs. Changes the names of several community colleges.
- **CS/SB 1774 Postsecondary Education (Higher Education Appropriations & Sen. Lynn)**
Revises provisions regarding workforce education postsecondary tuition and fees. Allows community colleges to adopt an out-of-state fee.
- **CS/SB 2366 Medical Faculty Certificates (Higher Education & Sen. Diaz de la Portilla)**
A medical faculty certificate may currently be issued to certain individuals without the requirement that they take an exam, subject to meeting various criteria. One of these criteria includes acceptance to a full-time faculty position in a program of medicine at various state institutions. The bill adds Florida International University and the University of Central Florida to this list of acceptable schools.
- **CS/HB 7105 Postsecondary Distance Learning (PBC, SLC & Rep. Pickens)**
Establishes the Florida Distance Learning Task Force and the Florida Higher Education Distance Learning Catalog to facilitate postsecondary distance learning.

Elections

- **CS/CS/SB 866 Elections (Judiciary, Ethics & Elections & Sen. Constantine)**
Revises laws regarding voter preregistration of minors, voter registration applications, qualified voter identification, changes to party affiliation, qualifying criteria for those running for public office, and the recall of municipal or charter county officers, among other provisions.

Energy

- **HB 7135 Energy (ENRC, Rep. Mayfield & Rep. Kreegel)**
Encourages energy conservation in state buildings, state purchasing decisions, comprehensive state planning, and in the private sector. Expands electric companies' ability to transmit additional energy and encourages the use and development of renewable energy sources. Expedites the process for building nuclear power facilities and integrated gasification combined cycle power plants. Encourages efficient energy production and lowering harmful emissions by regulating emissions through a cap and trade program.

Financial and Housing Fraud

- **CS/HB 643 Foreclosure Fraud (JEC & Rep. Ford)**
Protects consumers from foreclosure rescue fraud by requiring transparent contract language, providing a grace period for canceling a rescue contract, prohibiting a rescue service from charging homeowners for services that have not been performed, prohibiting unconscionable repurchase terms, and subjecting violators to prosecution for unfair and deceptive trade practices.
- **CS/HB 743 Mortgage Fraud (JEC & Rep. Lopez-Cantera)**
Requires law enforcement officers to notify property appraisers of instances of illegal inflation of property values and directs appraisers to reassess such properties. Increases the penalty for committing mortgage fraud on a loan over \$100,000 from a third degree felony punishable by 5 years in prison to a second degree felony punishable by 15 years in prison.

- **CS/CS/CS/SB 2158 Money Services Businesses (General Government Appropriations, Finance & Tax, Banking & Insurance, and Banking & Insurance)**

Targets illegal money laundering and protects consumers from unlicensed money services providers and predatory practices. Creates criminal penalties for non-compliance with records retention requirements, allows for a daily maximum check-cashing limit, and limits fees charged by deferred presentment providers. Requires a thumbprint for checks cashed in excess of \$1000. Reduces the application and renewal fees for specified money services businesses and caps total application fees at \$20,000 when such fees are assessed as a result of a change in the controlling interest of a money services business.

First Responders & Law Enforcement – Police, Fire, and 911

- **CS/HB 151 Radio Equipment Using Law Enforcement Frequencies (SSC & Rep. Reed)**

Allows police and emergency rescue personnel to install or transport radio equipment that uses police radio frequencies in their personal vehicles while traveling to and from work. Also allows government agency employees that hold a Federal Communications Commission station license or that have a valid agreement or contract allowing access to another agency's radio station to use the state and law enforcement agencies' radio frequencies.

- **SB 458 Amateur Matches/Fraternal Order of Police (Sen. Wise)**

Allows amateur matches conducted or sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police if held in conjunction with a charitable event to be exempted from compliance with provisions relating to pugilistic exhibitions.

- **CS/HB 727 Firesafety (JEC & Rep. H. Gibson)**

Requires the owner of any commercial or industrial structure or any multiunit residential structure of three units or more that uses light-frame truss-type construction to mark their building with a symbol approved by the State Fire Marshall in a manner sufficient to warn fire personnel.

- **CS/SB 1694 911 Emergency Dispatchers (Governmental Operations & Sen. Aronberg)**

Requires DOH to establish certification and recertification standards for 911 emergency dispatchers, including various training and education requirements. Requires a \$75 initial certification fee and a \$100 biennial renewal fee.

- **HB 7113 Department of Law Enforcement (SSC & Rep. Adams)**

Allows fingerprints submitted for background checks to be replace existing fingerprints in the Criminal Justice Information System. Provides for administrative expunction. Creates the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information System Council to provide an efficient and effective means of data collection among the various public safety agencies. Permits FDLE to establish a citizen support organization to provide assistance, funding, and promotional support for activities authorized for Florida's Missing Children's Days.

Healthcare

Increased Healthcare Access

- **HB 461 Health Flex Plans (Rep. Patronis)**
Increases eligibility for health flex plans from 200% to 300% of the federal poverty level, denies health flex plan eligibility to Palm Beach and Miami-Dade County residents with federally approved Medicaid demonstration waivers, and extends the state health flex program to 2013.
- **SB 1092 Alzheimer's Disease/Medicaid Waiver Program (Health Policy)**
Extends AHCA authority to continue the Medicaid home and community-based waiver program from 2008 to 2010. The program serves persons with Alzheimer's disease in an effort to test intervention methods that may delay or avoid institutional placement.
- **SB 1456 Inmates/Medical Assistance Eligibility/Medicaid (Sen. Wilson)**
Suspends Medicaid coverage for incarcerated persons in a correctional system, county detention facility, or municipal detention facility and allows such individuals to remain eligible for state medical assistance immediately upon release if they had formerly received state medical assistance.
- **CS/CS/SB 2534 Health Insurance (Health & Human Services Appropriations, Banking & Insurance & Sen. Peadar)**
Expands the availability of affordable healthcare by creating Florida Health Choices Program (i.e., the "Marketplace") and the Cover Florida Health Care Access Program. Creates the Florida Health Choices Program to provide health care options to small businesses and fiscally constrained government entities by: 1) establishing a Marketplace with various product options that operate free of normal government regulations, allowing lower costs and greater flexibility and 2) creating a corporation to oversee the administration of benefits within the marketplace. Creates the Cover Florida Health Care Access Program to provide catastrophic and non-catastrophic coverage options at a lower than normal cost to uninsured individuals between the ages of 19 and 64. Requires OIR and AHCA to oversee the program and negotiate a Cover Florida plan proposal with a private entity. Expands eligibility in KidCare and Health Flex plans.

Healthcare Regulation Reform

- **HB 35 Social Worker Identification (Rep. Richardson)**
Prohibits improper use of the term "social worker" and limits those to whom it can apply.
- **CS/HB 535 Health Insurance (PBC & Rep. Cretul)**
Updates the definition of bone marrow transplant for purposes of insurance coverage to include nonablative therapy and transplants intended to prolong life to reflect current practice. Requires HMOs and health insurers to provide identification cards. Requires information on the cards to include the provider's name, the type of plan, and contact information for authorization and admission certificates.
- **CS/HB 607 Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics (HCC & Rep. Cretul)**
Revises provisions relating to orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics, including: modifications to the Board of Orthotics and Prosthetics; licensure, registration, and examination requirements; and the use of profession titles. Requires public notice of state licensure and registration. Requires a criminal background check for various applicants. Limits duties of unlicensed support personnel.

- **CS/SB 646 HIV & AIDS Educational Requirements (Health Regulation & Sen. Margolis)**
Revises educational training standards by requiring one-time (rather than biennial) HIV and AIDS training for various health care facility employees. Provides that an employee who has completed the educational course need not retake the course in the event that the employee becomes employed at a different facility. Requires nurse registry applicants to give proof of continuous HIV and AIDS training.
- **CS/CS/SB 686 Nursing Facilities (Judiciary, Health Regulation & Sen. Bennett)**
Authorizes nursing facilities with standard licenses to develop plans to provide training for certified nursing assistants. Prohibits AHCA from allowing facilities to have licensed nurses performing the dual role of nurse and certified nursing assistant as it pertains to minimum staff levels. Deletes requirements that nursing home facilities notify AHCA within one business day after receipt of the risk manager's report.
- **CS/SB 736 Clinical Nurse Specialists/Certification (Health Regulation & Sen. Saunders)**
Provides a means by which nurse applicants trained in specialty areas for which there is no official certification may become clinical nurse specialists.
- **CS/HB 803 Licensure of Psychologists (HCC & Rep. Brisé)**
Requires the Board of Psychology to close application files of any applicant for licensure who does not pass the psychology licensure exam or fails to submit evidence of completing postdoctoral supervised experience within 24 months. Allows the Board of Psychology to grant extensions to applicants.
- **HB 989 Physician Assistants (Rep. Bogdanoff)**
The Council of Physician Assistants is currently required to establish a list of medicinal drugs that a fully licensed physician assistant is prohibited from prescribing. The bill allows physician assistants the ability to prescribe antipsychotics and all parenteral preparations except insulin and epinephrine, as it removes these from the aforementioned list.
- **CS/CS/SB 1012 Health Insurance Claims Payments (General Government Appropriations & Banking & Insurance & Sen. Gaetz)**
Shortens the look-back period for various claim submissions (relating to overpayment recovery by health insurers or health maintenance organizations and underpayment collection by providers) from 30 months to 12 months. Prohibits "silent PPOs," in which insurers and HMOs sell or grant access to health care services of participating providers without the providers' knowledge.
- **CS/SB 2326 Certificates of Need/General Hospitals (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Sen. Peadar)**
Reduces the requirements for general hospitals subject to certificate of need (CON) review and creates new standards for their CON applications. Allows entities (other than competing applicants) that are opposed to CON approval for a general hospital to submit a written opposition statement and limits participation in administrative hearings to such entities and competing CON applicants.
- **CS/SB 2610 Pub. Rec./Organ & Tissue Donor Registry (Governmental Operations & Sen. Oelrich)**
Creates a public records exemption for information about individuals choosing to donate their organs. (Linked to SB 2630)

- CS/CS/SB 2630 Organ & Tissue Donation (Health & Human Services Appropriations, Governmental Operations & Sen. Oelrich)**
 Provides for new means of designating one's body for anatomical donations. Modifies the donation form to include donation of eyes and tissues. Repeals the state's current anatomical gift education program and the organ and tissue donor education panel and requires AHCA and DHSMV to work together in contracting for the operation of an organ and tissue donor registry and education program.
- CS/CS/SB 2760 Dentistry (Health & Human Services Appropriations, Health Regulation & Sen. Peaden)**
 Adds new criteria for applicants wishing to take the state examination to practice dentistry. Creates a health access dental license for those assisting underserved populations. Establishes guidelines for application, renewal, revocation, and repeal of such licenses. Prohibits unlicensed persons from constructing various dental products and heightens standards for dental laboratory product documentation.
- HB 7049 Drugs, Devices & Cosmetics (HCC & Rep. Bean)**
 Clarifies and consolidates the section of statute relating to pedigree papers. Allows prescription drug wholesale distributors to use direct-purchase pedigrees (as opposed to full pedigrees), reducing the regulatory burden in cases where intracompany transfers occur, as current statute only allows for one intracompany transfer before requiring a full pedigree.
- HB 7075 Developmental Disabilities (HCC & Rep. Galvano)**
 Revises provisions relating to those with a developmental disability, including: expanding the definition of retardation to align it with the definition of developmental disability; enhancing APD's ability to enforce provisions of licensure of treatment providers; standardizing and revising background screening requirements; and requiring two experts in court ordered evaluations of an individual with autism or retardation.
- CS/HB 7083 Health Care Fraud & Abuse (PBC, HCC & Rep. R. Garcia)**
 Addresses Medicaid provider fraud, particularly as it relates to durable medical equipment (DME) providers. Revises change of ownership provisions so that AHCA is more aware of the circumstances of the change of ownership and is able to hold a new owner responsible for omissions of the former owner. Allows AHCA to limit the DME provider network to providers who meet strict criteria.

Health Safety

- CS/CS/SB 564 Automated External Defibrillators (Judiciary & Health Regulation & Sen. Constantine)**
 Encourages (rather than requires) persons who use automated external defibrillators to complete appropriate training. Exempts defibrillator owners from training requirements when the device is equipped with audible, visual, or written usage instructions. Revises conditions under which immunity is granted to defibrillator owners.
- CS/CS/SB 1488 Health Care Consumer's Right to Information Act (Banking & Insurance & Health Regulation & Sen. Dean)**
 Amends the Florida Patient's Bill of Rights to require health care providers or health care facilities to disclose reasonable estimates of nonemergency service charges to uninsured persons. Requires non-public licensed facilities to provide uninsured persons with written good faith estimates and information about any applicable charity care discount policies.

- CS/CS/SB 1648 HIV Testing/Informed Consent (Health Policy, Health Regulation & Sen. Saunders)**
 Allows HIV testing on a patient’s blood without patient consent when significant exposure has occurred and the timing of the test is critical in order to treat affected medical personnel. Requires proper documentation by appropriate medical personnel in accordance with written protocols to justify the performance of such HIV testing.
- CS/CS/SB 2598 Impaired Medical Practitioners/Treatment Programs (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Health Regulation & Sen. Atwater)**
 Allows state consultants to contract for services requested by schools training allopathic, osteopathic, and pharmaceutical medical students. Grants limited immunity to schools that properly refer allopathic and osteopathic medical students to the state’s consultant. Grants limited sovereign immunity to those acting on behalf of a consultant in emergency intervention cases.

Assistance for the Mentally and Physically Disabled

- CS/CS/SB 370 Personal Care Attendant Program (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Children, Families & Elder Affairs & Sen. Wise)**
 Tasks the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living (FACIL) to coordinate with the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation in administering the state’s personal attendant services program. Adds new criteria for participant eligibility, including persons who are legal residents that are chronically disabled and require assistance for the accomplishment of two daily living activities.
- CS/HB 739 Guardian Advocates for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (HCC & Rep. Ambler)**
 Requires the court to appoint an attorney within three days of receipt of a guardian advocate petition. Requires the court to investigate whether the developmentally disabled person has executed an advance directive or a durable power of attorney and examine how that will impact the appointment of a guardian advocate. Provides a process for the restoration of rights by the developmentally disabled person.
- CS/SB 988 Transitional Services/Young Adults/Disabilities (Health Policy & Sen. Wise)**
 Creates the Health Care Transition Services Task Force for Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities to help young adults with disabilities transition from the pediatric to the adult health care system.
- CS/CS/HB 1175 Transportation Services for the Transportation Disadvantaged (PBC, HCC & Rep. Robaina)**
 Modifies responsibilities of the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) to include incurring expenses for marketing and advertisements. Requires state agencies to identify in their legislative budget requests the amount that will be allocated for transportation disadvantaged services. Authorizes agencies to procure transportation services apart from the CTD subject to demonstrated cost savings.
- HB 1429 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (Healthcare Council & Gardiner)**
 Provides authority and direction to the Department of Children and Families to implement Behavioral Health Managing Entities.
- SB 2516 East Central Florida Memory Disorder Clinic (Sen. Haridopolos)**
 Renames the statutorily established East Central Florida Memory Disorder Clinic as the Memory Disorder Clinic, Inc.

- **CS/CS/CS/SB 2654 Children with Disabilities (Health & Human Services Appropriations, Health Policy, Banking & Insurance & Sen. Geller)**
Allows AHCA to seek federal approval to offer home and community-based services for children with autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, or other developmental disabilities who are five years old and under. Directs OIR to establish a work group including health insurers and HMOs tasked with establishing a binding compact regarding coverage offered to persons with developmental disabilities. Requires health insurers and HMOs that do not sign onto the compact to cover screening and treatment of autism spectrum disorder to children diagnosed with such disorder by the time they reach 8 years old.
- **HB 7041 Florida Self-Directed Care Program (HCC & Rep. Bean)**
Allows AHCA and DCF to expand the program statewide, as it currently exists as a pilot program in two DCF districts. The program provides client-directed and choice-based mental health treatment and support services to adults with serious mental illnesses, as well as children with serious mental disturbances.

Housing and Growth Management

- **CS/HB 697 Building Standards (EEIC & Rep. Aubuchon)**
Revises various provisions relating to energy efficiency standards, the Florida Building Code, the Florida Building Commission, the installation of carbon monoxide detectors, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, the Weatherization Assistance Program, wind-borne debris protection requirements, and construction regulations, among other provisions.
- **HB 1489 Residential Tenancies (Rep. Patterson)**
Allows a landlord to charge an early termination fee and recover liquidated damages if a tenant ends his tenancy before the rental agreement expires. The provision only applies to rental agreements for periods of less than one year. Early termination fee and liquidated damages cannot exceed two months' rent.
- **CS/SB 1706 Developments of Regional Impact (Higher Education & Sen. Margolis)**
Exempts from Developments of Regional Impact Review any development in a county with a population of more than 1.25 million which is proposed for at least two uses (one of which is for research and development of medical technology/biotechnology) that is within a designated urban infill area or a high-density area, within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from one or more transit stops, and is registered with the U.S. Green Building Council.

Insurance

- **CS/SB 648 Insurable Interest/Insurance Contracts (Judiciary & Sen. Posey)**
Specifies that trusts and trustees have an insurable interest in the life of the trust grantor under life insurance policies owned by the trust when the proceeds from the policies are primarily for the benefit of the trust beneficiaries. Designates what entities have an insurable interest in another individual. Specifies that businesses have an insurable interest in the life, body, and health of any of the owners, directors, officers, partners, and managers, key employees, or other key persons of the business after written consent. Requires written consent of the insured before obtaining an insurance contract upon the insured with limited exceptions. Permits an insured or an insured's representative to recover any benefits paid to an individual without an insurable interest.
- **CS/HB 937 Title Insurance (JEC & Rep. Ambler)**
Creates the Florida 2008 Title Insurance Study Advisory Council to examine the state's title insurance delivery system and make a final report to the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House by December 31, 2009.

- CS/CS/SB 2012 Insurance (Health Policy, Banking & Insurance & Sen. Deutch)**
 Creates guidelines for public housing authorities wishing to form a self-insurance fund. Revises various provisions to increase accountability for property insurance public adjusters and creates a process of licensure as a public adjuster apprentice. Authorizes OIR to waive the request that a multiple employer welfare arrangement maintain its principle place of business in Florida, subject to certain conditions.
- CS/CS/SB 2082 Insurance (General Government Appropriations, Banking & Insurance & Sen. Bennett)**
 Targets fraudulent and predatory practices involving sales of annuities to seniors. Penalizes offenses involving “twisting” and “churning” as a first degree misdemeanor (or a third degree felony if the offense involves willfully submitting fraudulent signatures). Increases the period of time allowed for an unconditional refund to 14 days. Requires an agent to perform an analysis of suitability of the offered product for a senior. Requires three hours of continuing education on suitability in annuity transactions.
- CS/SB 2462 Group Self-Insurance Funds (Banking & Insurance & Sen. Gaetz)**
 Allows group self-insurance funds that are licensed before June 1, 2008 to pay out dividends without advance OIR approval. Provides that the amount of such a dividend may not jeopardize the financial condition of the self-insurer. Provides that those group self-insurance funds licensed after June 1, 2008 must, for seven years, first seek OIR approval before paying out dividends.
- CS/CS/SB 2860 Insurance (General Government Appropriations, Banking & Insurance, Sen. Atwater & Sen. Geller)**
 Comprises the property insurance reform package for the 2008 Session. Extends the Citizens rate freeze to January 1, 2010. Doubles fines for unfair insurance trade practices or violations of the insurance code. Repeals the use of arbitration for rate filing appeals. Extends the “use & file” freeze one year. Increases the required notice of nonrenewal of a personal or commercial residential policy from 100 days to 180 days if the policy has been written for 5 years or more. Requires transparency in the OIR ratemaking process by requiring OIR to provide ratemaking information on the internet and requiring OIR’s actuary to certify the truthfulness of the rate recommendation. Requires residential homebuyers to be informed of the windstorm mitigation rating of the home upon by January 1, 2011. Provides that it is an unfair trade practice and creates a cause of action if an insurance company receives notice of a residential property claim, determines the benefits due on the claim, and agrees to coverage of the claim and does not pay the undisputed amounts of the claim within 90 days, with limited exceptions including an act of God, impossibility of performance, or the conduct of the insured, such as fraud or failure to cooperate.
- HB 7103 Mitigation Enhancement (JEC & Rep. Reagan)**
 Expands the My Safe Florida Home program through partnership with the private sector to offer no-interest loans to homeowners. Tightens requirements for hurricane mitigation inspectors.

License Plates, Tags, and Registration

- **CS/HB 69 License Plates (EEIC & Rep. Patterson)**
Promotes flexibility by allowing the printing of the state motto or the state nickname on the bottom of state license plates in lieu of the county name. Allows counties in which county commissions elect to have the county name removed from the bottom of their county license plates to issue plates with either the state motto or the state nickname.
- **CS/HB 167 Temporary Motor Vehicle License Tags (EEIC & Rep. Cretul)**
Promotes safety and security on our roads by requiring that temporary license tags be printed on durable material and promotes better visibility by requiring tags to be affixed to the rear of the car in the spot normally designated for license plates. Requires DHSMV to implement an electronic print-on-demand temporary license tag system for use by authorized issuers of temporary tags.
- **CS/SB 630 Vehicle Registration/Family First Contribution (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Sen. Fasano)**
Places a voluntary \$1 contribution option to Family First on motor vehicle registration and renewal forms, driver's license and duplicate license application forms, and driver's license renewal or renewal extension forms.
- **CS/SB 732 Bethune-Cookman University License Plates (Transportation & Sen. Hill)**
Changes Bethune-Cookman College state-issued licensed plates to read "Bethune-Cookman University" due to the institution's recent name change.
- **CS/SB 734 License Plates (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Sen. Fasano)**
Establishes four additional state issued license plates, including the Lighthouse Association license plate, the Florida Tennis license plate, the In God We Trust license plate, and the Horse Country license plate.

Military and Veterans Affairs

- **CS/SB 274 POW-MIA Flag/State Parks (Military Affairs & Domestic Security & Sen. Dean)**
Requires DEP to purchase and display the POW-MIA flag at state parks displaying the United States flag year round.
- **CS/HB 687 Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (GEAC & Rep. Proctor)**
Provides for certification of small business enterprises operated by service-disabled veterans and assists such certified businesses by giving them vendor "tie-breaker" preference in various state procurement contracts.
- **CS/HB 843 Family Readiness Program (GEAC & Rep. Patronis)**
Revises eligibility for participation in the Family Readiness Program to provide need-based financial assistance in crisis situations to service members (currently limited to their families) employed in the FL National Guard and U.S. Reserve Forces.
- **CS/HB 861 Direct-Support Organizations (HCC & Rep. Reagan)**
Allows DVA to authorize the establishment of a direct-support organization (DSO), established as a non-profit organized and operated to obtain funds, grants, and make expenditures for DVA that are in line with its goals. Allocates 20% of the revenue from the "Florida Salutes Veterans" license plate to the DSO for the first two years of its existence. Abolishes the Florida Commission on Veterans Affairs.

- **CS/HB 863 Pub. Rec./Direct-Support Organization/DVA (HCC & Rep. Reagan)**
Creates a public records exemption relating to the DVA direct-support organization created by HB 861.
- **CS/HB 1027 Funding for State Veterans' Homes (EEIC & Rep. Kreegel)**
Transfers up to \$100,000 currently given to DOT annually to the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund to construct, operate, and maintain veterans nursing homes. Places a voluntary \$1 contribution option to the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund on motor vehicle registration application and renewal forms.
- **CS/HB 1203 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (SLC & Rep. Proctor)**
Authorizes and directs the governor to execute the Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity for Military Children to address the educational transition issues faced by children of military personnel.

Public Records

- **CS/CS/SB 766 Pub. Rec./Judicial and Administrative Officials (Governmental Operations & Judiciary & Sen. Rich)**
Expands public records exemptions by prohibiting disclosure of home addresses, telephone numbers, and employment places of special magistrates, general magistrates, compensation claims judges, various administrative law judges, and child support enforcement hearing officers (as well as their spouses and children). Exempts the names and locations of schools and day care centers attended by their children.
- **CS/SB 1042 OGSR/Putative Father Registry/Department of Health (Judiciary & Children, Families, & Elder Affairs)**
Reenacts the public records exemption relating to the Florida Putative Father Registry, which allows men to document their paternity claim on a child.
- **SB 1046 OGSR/Foster Parents/DCFS (Children, Families & Elder Affairs)**
Reenacts and revises the public records exemption relating to personal identification information of foster parents and foster parent applicants.
- **CS/HB 1141 Pub. Rec./Sexual Violence Victim (JEC & Rep. Jenne)**
Creates a public records exemption for agency records of employees that take leave time as a result of sexual violence (see linked HB 489).
- **CS/SB 1618 OGSR/Victims of Child Abuse or Sex Crimes (Criminal Justice & Criminal Justice)**
Reenacts and broadens the scope of the public records exemptions relating to criminal investigations or evidence involving sex crimes that may include a pictures, videos, or images of any part of a person's body.
- **CS/SB 1630 OGSR/Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (Agriculture & Agriculture)**
Reenacts the public records exemption relating to food-borne illness data shared by state and federal authorities.
- **CS/SB 2224 OGSR/Paratransit Services (Governmental Operations & Community Affairs)**
Reenacts the public records exemption relating to the personal health information of persons who utilize paratransit services as authorized by the Americans with Disabilities Act or the transportation disadvantaged program.

- **HB 7033 Pub. Rec./Complaint of Discrimination (GEAC & Rep. Gardiner)**
Expands current public records exemption for discrimination complaints relating to hiring to cover all state agencies rather than just those complaints submitted to executive agencies and local governments.
- **HB 7053 OGSR/Florida Kidcare Program (GEAC & Rep. Gardiner)**
Reenacts the public records exemption relating to children and parents of children participating in the Florida Kidcare program and its subsidiary programs.

State and Local Government

- **CS/HB 165 Agency Inspectors General (GEAC & Rep. Bean)**
Provides that contracted entities or people substantially affected by a state investigation or audit be advised in writing of the option to submit a written response to any adverse finding and that the agency inspector general may submit a rebuttal, with certain exceptions. In cases when the agency inspector general's report is published, the response and rebuttal must also be published.
- **CS/HB 219 Gertrude Maxwell Save a Pet Act (ENRC & Rep. Domino)**
Authorizes the creation of a direct-support organization within DACS to prevent animal cruelty, control the pet population, and support other pet-related projects as needed.
- **CS/HB 531 Florida Retirement System (GEAC & Rep. Weatherford)**
Expands membership in the Special Risk Class of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) to include various forensic employees who meet established standards and allows for the purchase of additional retirement credit for those members who meet higher forensic employment standards.
- **CS/CS/SB 704 Open Government Act/Administrative Procedures (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Judiciary & Sen. Bennett)**
Makes revisions to the Administrative Procedures Act, including the establishment of standards for agencies to adopt policy statements as rules and encourages affected individuals to dispute unadopted rules. Requires that the Florida Administrative Code be published electronically. Prohibits agency reliance on an unadopted rule while a challenge is pending.
- **CS/HB 853 Cemetery Lands (JEC & Rep. Troutman)**
Provides that property dedicated for cemetery purposes may not be taken by eminent domain if the area of property to be taken is one contiguous acre or greater in size, unless the taking entity determines in a public hearing that there are no reasonable alternatives. Provides exceptions to the provisions of the bill for road system, transportation corridor, and rights-of-way purposes.
- **CS/CS/HB 887 Career Service System (PBC, GEAC & Rep. Coley)**
Extends the time period for state employees to be informed of various changes or resolve certain employment disputes. Requires that a career service employee who is serving a probationary period in a new position and is subsequently demoted must be returned to his former position or a similar one if possible (however, this does not create a right to "bump" an employee from an occupied position).
- **CS/CS/HB 967 Workplace Safety (PBC, GEAC, Rep. A. Gibson & Rep. Cusack)**
Creates the Florida Task Force on Workplace Safety within the USF Safety Florida Consultation Program to recommend innovative ways for the state to ensure that all state and local government entities comply with OSHA Standards. Appropriates \$100,000 in nonrecurring funds from the Worker's Compensation Administration Trust Fund within DCF to allow the University of South Florida to conduct the study.

- **CS/SB 1502 Leased Property for Public Purposes (General Government Appropriations & Sen. Margolis)**
Allows counties to enter into 30+ year leases if the lease is entered into with the state or another government entity.
- **SB 1676 Official Florida Statutes (Sen. King)**
Adopts the Florida Statutes 2008 as the official law of the state (reviser's bill).
- **CS/SB 1678 Florida Statutes (Rules & Sen. King)**
Deletes expired, obsolete, or repealed provisions in statute. Replaces incorrect cross-references and citations, corrects grammatical errors, and removes redundancies (reviser's bill).
- **SB 1680 Florida Statutes (Sen. King)**
Repeals inoperative provisions (reviser's bill)
- **SB 1682 Florida Statutes (Sen. King)**
Amends statute to redesignate the Secretary of Health as the State Surgeon General.
- **CS/SB 1888 State Employment/Collective Bargaining (General Government Appropriations & Sen. Carlton)**
Resolves various state employee collective bargaining issues at impasse for FY 2008-09, declaring maintenance of the status quo under the language of the current collective bargaining agreement.
- **CS/SB 1892 State Data Center System (General Government Appropriations & Sen. Carlton)**
Makes changes to the state's data center operations based on a recent data center consolidation study. Revises the role of the Agency for Enterprise Information, including adjustments to its work plan. Creates primary data centers and establishes the Northwood Shared Resource Center and the Southwood Shared Resource Center. Requires transfer of state agency data center resources to a primary data center.
- **CS/SB 2422 Local Government Finance (Governmental Operations & Sen. Alexander)**
Makes changes to the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) based on recent recommendations from the independent investigative report, including: making trustees more accountable to pool participants, providing full investment disclosure to participants, outlining LGIP investment policy and operations, requiring monthly management reports, and establishing heightened protocol for management and employees. Establishes the "B" pool as a legal entity and provides that it will be a self-liquidating pool, allowing revenue to be returned to pool participants as assets mature. Provides rules and regulations for the administration of Fund B Surplus Funds Trust Fund within the LGIP.
- **HB 7019 Real Property Transfer Returns (GEAC & Rep. Attkisson)**
Eliminates the DR-219 form, as it provides duplicative, unnecessary, and unpredictable data. The DOR form currently records information on real estate transactions such as the sale date and price, documentary stamp tax information, property type, whether tangible personal property was included in the sale, and whether the sale resulted from foreclosure.

State Symbols and Designations

- **SB 78 Child Welfare Professionals Recognition Day (Sen. Wilson)**
Declares the second Monday in May as Child Welfare Professionals Recognition Day to show honor and appreciation for personnel working in the child welfare system and to encourage local governments, DCF, and other agencies to host events to educate the public about the system.
- **SB 230 State Symbols/Fla. Cracker Horse/Loggerhead Turtle (Sen. Baker)**
Designates the Florida Cracker Horse as the official state horse and the Loggerhead Turtle as the official state salt water reptile.
- **SB 1558 Official State Anthem and Official State Song (Sen. Hill)**
Designates “Florida, Where the Sawgrass Meets the Sky” as the official state anthem. Revises the lyrics to the state song “Old Folks at Home” in order to rewrite offensive lyrics.

Taxes and Tax Exemptions

- **CS/HB 909 Ad Valorem Taxation (GEAC & Rep. Nehr)**
Specifies that when determining the highest and best use of a property, the property appraiser must take into account the legally permissible use of the property, as well as any zoning changes, concurrency requirements, or permits which would be necessary before the property could be used for that highest and best use. Requires DOR to develop a manual of standard procedures for Value Adjustment Board (VAB) proceedings, prohibits county attorneys from serving as counsel to a VAB, requires two citizen members of a VAB, and requires magistrates to state findings of fact, conclusions of law, and reasons for its decision.
- **CS/HB 1059 Exemptions from the Tax on Sales, Use, and Other Transactions (HCC & Rep. Llorente)**
Allows nonprofit cooperative hospital laundries to offer limited laundry supplies and services to nonmembers in accordance with a written emergency plan without jeopardizing the cooperative’s sales tax exemption status. Requires cooperative members whose IRS status has changed to terminate participation in the cooperative within 90 days.
- **CS/HB 1373 Qualified Defense Contractor Tax Refund Program (EEIC & Rep. Altman)**
Expands the program to include space flight businesses and space flight contracts. Revises the tax refund distribution formula, decreasing the base refund while increasing payouts in rural counties or enterprise zones or if jobs are 150% or 200% above the area’s average wage. Limits eligibility for new space flight business contracts to those made after July 1, 2008.
- **CS/SB 1588 Property Taxation (Finance and Tax & Sen. Haridopolos)**
Expands the types of information included in property tax rolls. Corrects ambiguities in the implementing language for Amendment 1, including the application of portability for multiple owners. Requires local governments to increase the taxable value of their tax rolls by an amount equal to the taxable value lost as a result of Amendment 1 to ensure tax savings reach property owners.

Transportation

- **CS/CS/SB 682 Interstate 95/Alternative Routes Study (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations, Transportation & Sen. Bullard)**
Revises provisions relating to: relocation and removal of county utility facilities; comprehensive plan requirements; development of regional impact exemptions; transportation concurrency backlog authorities; HOV lane use; DUI laws; ignition interlock devices; disqualification criteria for operation of a commercial motor vehicle; the State Arbitration Board; and public pay telephones, among other provisions.
- **CS/CS/SB 1076 Motor Vehicles & Mobile Homes/Destruction (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations & Criminal Justice & Sen. King)**
Revises standards relating to motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, or mobile homes given to a salvage motor vehicle dealer or a secondary metals recycler for use as scrap metal, including requiring more extensive documentation such as valid certificates of title, salvage certificates of title, or certificates of destruction. Requires dealers and recyclers to notify DHSMV within 24 hours after receiving such vehicles.
- **CS/SB 1604 Designations (Transportation & Sen. Baker)**
Makes numerous state designations to state facilities such as highways, roads, and buildings, and directs DOT to erect various identifying markers.
- **CS/CS/CS/SB 1992 Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles (Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations, Criminal Justice, Transportation & Sen. Baker)**
Revises various provisions relating to HOV lane use, ignition interlock devices, driver improvement courses, truck license plates, specialty license plates, motor vehicle temporary tags, motor vehicle dealer license applications, issuance and renewal of state identification cards, driver's licenses, and the creation of the Automobile Lenders Industry Task Force, among other provisions.
- **CS/CS/SB 2264 Motor Vehicle Warranty Associations (Commerce & Banking & Insurance & Sen. Lawson)**
Requires motor vehicle manufacturers that sell warranties to comply with licensure requirements for sellers of service agreements. Allows manufactures to use abbreviated form for statistical reporting of sales of service agreements required for sellers of service agreements. Designates as an unfair claim settlement practice, subject to civil penalties, that denial of a claim solely on the basis that the association was not able to confirm the warranty holder purchased the service warranty because the association did not obtain the name and address.
- **SB 2296 Commercial Motor Vehicles (Sen. Posey)**
Exempts various motorsports vehicles involved in transporting personal property to and from a closed-course motorsport facility from laws relating to traffic control, motor vehicle registration, titles, and driver's licensing requirements as long as the activities are not undertaken for profit or corporate sponsorship. Specifies that motorsports vehicles shall not be classified as commercial motor vehicles under law.

Weapons and Firearms

- **CS/HB 503 Preservation & Protection of the Right to Keep & Bear Arms in Motor Vehicles Act of 2008 (ENRC & Rep. Evers)**
Allows employees with concealed weapon permits to keep guns locked inside or locked to their cars in parking lots at work and allows all invitees to places of business to keep lawfully possessed guns locked inside or locked to their cars. Applies to all public and private employer entities, with exceptions including school property, correctional facilities, nuclear facilities, national defense and aerospace facilities, vehicles owned or leased by the employer, or property upon which firearm possession is prohibited under state or federal law or contract. Provides an employer immunity from civil liability for its actions or inactions taken in compliance with the bill.
- **CS/HB 948 Concealed Weapons Licenses (Commerce & Sen. Diaz de la Portilla)**
Specifies that only U.S. citizen and legal permanent residents are allowed to obtain a concealed weapons license.
- **CS/SB 1616 Weapons & Firearms Licenses/Interagency Data Sharing (Judiciary & Criminal Justice)**
Authorizes FDLE to provide information from court records to DACS for purposes of determining whether a concealed weapons/ firearm license should be issued, revoked, or suspended. Adds involuntary outpatient treatment to the definition of "committed to a mental institution" to disqualify applicant for weapons licenses and purchases.

Local Bills

- HB 487 Pasco County (Rep. Nehr)
- HB 507 Bradford County (Rep. Bean)
- CS/HB 787 Relief/Brian Daiagi/SFWMD (ENRC & Rep. Flores)
- CS/HB 791 DeSoto County Hospital District (GEAC & Rep. Kregel)
- HB 889 Hillsborough County (Rep. Ambler)
- HB 933 Indian Trail Improvement District, Palm Beach County (Rep. Domino)
- CS/HB 935 Marion County Hospital District (GEAC & Rep. Cretul)
- CS/HB 973 South Indian River Water Control District, Palm Beach County (GEAC & Rep. Domino)
- HB 999 Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District, Lee County (Rep. Williams)
- HB 1031 Lee County (Rep. Williams)
- HB 1033 Police Pension Fund of the City of West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County (Rep. Domino)
- HB 1063 Broward County (Rep. Seiler)
- HB 1065 Broward County (Rep. Seiler)
- HB 1067 Broward County (Rep. Seiler)
- HB 1069 Broward County (Rep. Seiler)
- CS/HB 1071 Cities of Lauderhill Plantation, and Fort Lauderdale, Broward County (GEAC & Rep. Seiler)
- HB 1073 Hillsboro Inlet District, Broward County (Rep. Seiler)

- HB 1077 West Villages Improvement District, Sarasota County (Rep. Reagan)
- CS/HB 1085 Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Civil Service System (GEAC & Rep. Anderson)
- CS/HB 1087 City of Belleair Beach, Pinellas County (GEAC & Rep. Frishe)
- HB 1089 City of Clearwater, Pinellas County (Rep. Hooper)
- HB 1145 Canaveral Port District, Brevard County (Rep. Poppell)
- HB 1211 Shawano Water Control District, Palm Beach County (Rep. Taylor)
- CS/HB 1225 Hillsborough County (GEAC & Rep. Glorioso)
- CS/HB 1231 Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District, Monroe County (GEAC & Rep. Saunders)
- HB 1263 Brevard County (Rep. Needelman)
- CS/HB 1365 Tindall Hammock Irrigation and Soil Conservation District, Broward County (GEAC & Rep. Seiler)
- HB 1445 City of Tallahassee, Leon County (Rep. Ausley)
- CS/HB 1515 City of Orlando Firefighter Pension Fund, Orange County (GEAC & Rep. Gardiner)
- CS/HB 1543 Jackson County Sheriff's Office (GEAC & Rep. Coley)
- HB 1545 City of Lakeland, Polk County (Rep. McKeel)
- CS/HB 1547 Wakulla County Sheriff's Office (GEAC & Rep. Coley)

Memorials and Resolutions

- SM 1454 Federal 2010 Census in Creole (Sen. Wilson)
Urges the U.S. Congress to provide 2010 census forms in the Creole language to Haitians and to allow a respondent to demarcate on such forms whether he is a Haitian national or of Haitian descent.
- SM 1742 Educator Ethics (Sen. Carlton)
Urges Congress to establish ethical standards for teachers and a national database for reporting educator misconduct.
- SM 2662 Alzheimer's Disease Research/Federal Funding (Sen. Peaden)
Urges Congress to increase funding for Alzheimer's disease research by \$360 million during the FY 2008-09.
- SCR 2930 Involuntary Servitude of Africans (Senate of the State of Florida)
Expresses profound regret for Florida's role in sanctioning and perpetuating involuntary servitude upon generations of African slaves and calls for healing and reconciliation among all residents of the state.
- HCR 8003 Joint Session for Purpose of Receiving Governor's Message (Rep. Rivera)

Trust Funds

- CS/SB 1788 Indigent Civil Defense TF/JAC (Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations & Sen. Crist)
- SB 2100 Shared County/State Juvenile Detention TF/DJJ (Sen. Crist)
- CS/SB 2102 Trust Funds/Agency for Health Care Administration (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2104 Administrative Trust Fund/APD (Sen. Peaden)

- SB 2106 Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund/APD (Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2108 Federal Grants Trust Fund/APD (Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2110 Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund/APD (Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2112 Social Services Block Grant Trust Fund/APD (Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2114 Welfare Transition Trust Fund/DCFS (Sen. Peaden)
- CS/SB 2116 Trust Funds/DCFS (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2118 Welfare Transition Trust Fund/Department of Health (Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2120 Trust Funds/Department of Veterans' Affairs (Sen. Peaden)
- CS/SB 2122 Trust Funds/Department of Health (Health & Human Services Appropriations & Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2124 Trust Funds/Department of Elderly Affairs (Sen. Peaden)
- SB 2128 Administrative Trust Fund/FWC (Sen. Alexander)
- SB 2130 Federal Grants Trust Fund/FWC (Sen. Alexander)
- SB 2132 Grants and Donations Trust Fund/FWC (Sen. Alexander)
- HB 7097 Trust Funds/Creation/Fund B Surplus Funds Trust Fund/SBA (PBC, GEAC & Rep. Domino)

Taxation and Budget Reform Commission Summaries

- **Constitutional Proposal 20**
Provides that "an individual or entity may not be barred from participating in any public program because of religion." Deletes Florida's "Blaine Amendment," which prohibits directly or indirectly using public funds to aid any church, sect, religious denomination, or sectarian institution.
- **Constitutional Proposal 35**
Allows counties served by an open-access public institution that is focused on providing lower level undergraduate instruction and awarding associate degrees (i.e., community colleges) to levy a local option sales tax to supplement funding for the institution. Requires initial approval by the voters of each county served by the institution and provides that the tax will sunset after five years. Allows voters to reauthorize the tax after it sunsets.
- **Combined Constitutional Proposals 26 & 40**
Provides that the duty of the state to provide adequate education for all Florida children is to be "*fulfilled, at a minimum and not exclusively, through adequate provision by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education and for the establishment, maintenance, and operation of the institutions of higher learning and other public education programs that the needs of the people may require.*" (italicized words are the new language in the proposed amendment). Specifies that nothing in this provision creates an entitlement to a publicly-financed private program. Requires school districts, beginning in FY 2009-10, to spend at least 65% of school funding on classroom instruction rather than administration.
- **Constitutional Proposal 4**
Allows the Legislature to statutorily limit the ability of property appraisers to increase assessed values of properties that employ wind-resistant or renewable energy improvements. Repeals the existing renewable energy source device exemption, which is no longer in effect.

- **Combined Constitutional Proposals 15 & 16**

Requires the Legislature to provide a property tax exemption for property encumbered by perpetual conservation easements or other perpetual conservation protections, defined by general law. Requires the Legislature to provide for classification and assessment of land used for conservation purposes, and not perpetually encumbered, solely on the basis of character or use. Applies to properties beginning in 2010.

- **Constitutional Proposal 2**

Eliminates the Required Local Effort portion of property taxes beginning in FY 2010-11 and requires the Legislature to replace that lost revenue through one or more of the following: 1) repeal of sales tax exemptions; 2) a 1% increase of the sales tax; 3) spending reductions; or 4) other revenue sources identified by the Legislature. Requires the FEFP appropriation in FY 2010-11 to be at least equal to the appropriation in FY 2008-09, adjusted for growth. Requires each bill that creates a sales tax exemption to be of the single subject of the proposed exemption and include a legislative finding of the public purpose for the exemption.

- **Combined Constitutional Proposals 6, 8 & 34**

Provides that property tax assessments must be based on the current use, rather than the highest and best use, for land used predominantly for commercial fishing purposes; land that is accessible to the public and used for vessel launches into waters that are navigable; marinas and drystacks that are open to the public; and water-dependent marine manufacturing facilities, commercial fishing facilities, and marine vessel construction and repair facilities and their support activities, subject to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions specified by general law.

If you have any questions, please contact the Whip's Office.