

THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION 2013 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Office

Rachael Ondrus Merlan,
Executive Director

Melissa McKinlay,
Legislative Delegation Aide
561.355.2406
fax: 561.242.7171

Inside the Legislative Report:

Executive Director Report	2
State Senators	3
State Representatives	4–5
Local Appropriations	6–7
Local Bills	8
Delegation Member Sponsored Legislation	8–17

MESSAGE FROM THE DELEGATION CHAIR, REP. MARK PAFFORD



**Rep. Mark Pafford,
Delegation Chair**

It is my pleasure to present the 2013 Palm Beach County Legislative wrap-up report.

Inside, you will find highlights of legislation and appropriations that members of the delegation worked diligently on during the 2013 Legislative Session. Also included in the report are the contact information and committee assignments for each of the thirteen members of our delegation.

This Session, ethics, elections, insurance, Medicaid and the budget all seemed to top the list of issues to follow.

The Legislature passed a \$74.5 billion budget, which included a \$1 billion increase for education. In addition, as a delegation, we only had one local bill, sponsored by Rep. Pat Rooney, that passed the Legislature.

It has been an honor to serve as Chair of the Delegation this past Session. It is a privilege to be one of the thirteen who serve Palm Beach County in the Legislature. I am very proud to serve with my colleagues on behalf of Palm Beach County's residents.

ETHICS, ELECTIONS, MEDICAID...OH MY!

Based on early voting challenges due to elections reform legislation that passed in 2011, numerous concerns were raised following the 2012 November General Election.

Various legislators filed bills to repair what they stated was a broken elections system. The final result was a bill that increases the number of days available for early voting, expands the types of locations for voting sites, allows for late voter registration for military personnel and their family members, and provides for a 75-word limit to ballot summaries.

And, after 37 years, meaningful ethics reform finally passed to return more integrity to government. The law increases transparency, gives additional powers to the state ethics commission, and provides safeguards

against those who could potentially utilize their public office for financial gain.

Lastly, an issue on the minds of countless Floridians is Medicaid expansion. During the 2013 Session, this topic was discussed at length due to the possibility of drawing down an estimated \$50 billion in federal funding over the next ten years and assist 3 million people and children living in poverty. Towards the end of Session, the expansion was defeated. A Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Public Hearing was held on July 15th to allow local constituents to share their thoughts and concerns on the issue. We expect this issue to come before the Legislature once again.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



As the Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation, I have had the pleasure of working closely with the thirteen members of the delegation and their staff both in Palm Beach County and Tallahassee.

We've composed this report to help you better understand the efforts and successes that each

member of the delegation has worked on over the past year.

Due to redistricting, thirteen legislators now represent portions of Palm Beach County. These legislators have been elected to represent something greater than themselves, a constituency that depends on their willingness to serve and give hundreds of hours of their time in what can only be called, "The Most Time-Consuming Part-Time Job, Ever."

These hours consisted of individual meetings with constituents and groups, numerous public hearings through-

out the County (including joint workshops with the local League of Cities, School Board and Board of County Commissioners), a Multi-County Legislative Delegation Meeting relating to Sea Level Rise, several weeks of committee hearings, and of course, the grueling 60-day Legislative Session in Tallahassee.

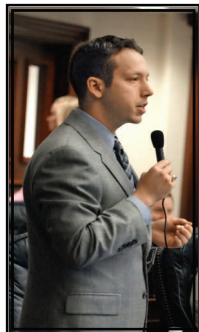
It has been an absolute privilege to work with every member of this delegation. And behind every successful legislator stands talented, skilled and efficient staff. They have humored me with my numerous emails, phone calls and random pop-ins to their offices. Thank you for always receiving me with a smile and willingness to assist.

Also, I need to thank Todd Bonlarron, PBC Legislative Affairs Director, and Melissa McKinlay, PBC Legislative Affairs/Delegation Aide. I couldn't have asked for better allies and guidance in this unpredictable, yet enthralling, legislative process.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to our Delegation Chair, Representative Mark Pafford, for his leadership, dedication, patience and humor. It has truly been a pleasure.

WELCOMING OUR NEWEST DELEGATION MEMBERS

Rep. Dave Kerner (District 87)



A former law enforcement officer and current attorney, Rep. Kerner represents portions of eastern/central Palm Beach County. This is his first elected office.

Rep. MaryLynn Magar (District 82)



Rep. Magar is Vice President of Heartcare Imaging, Inc. and represents a northern portion of Palm Beach County. This is her first elected office.

Rep. Bobby Powell, Jr. (District 88)



Rep. Powell is an urban and regional planner and represents portions of eastern/central Palm Beach County. This is his first elected office.

Rep. Kevin Rader (District 81)



Rep. Rader is an Agency Principal for CKP Insurance Underwriters and represents portions of southwestern Palm Beach County. He previously served in the Florida House from 2008-2010.

PALM BEACH COUNTY'S STATE SENATORS

Sen. Joseph Abruzzo

District # 25 (D)



Wellington City Hall
12300 West Forest Hill Blvd.
Suite 200
Wellington, FL 33414-5785
Phone: 561/ 791-4774
Fax: 888/ 284-6495

abruzzo.joseph.web@flsenate.gov

Staff: Kimberly Diaz; Shreya Kuntawala;
Philip Massa

Committee Assignments:

Joint Legislative Auditing Committee,
Alternating Chair; Commerce and Tourism,
Vice Chair; Environmental Preservation and
Conservation, **Vice Chair**; Appropriations
Subcommittee on Education; Appropriations
Subcommittee on Finance and Tax;
Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities;
Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and
Domestic Security



Sen. Jeff Clemens

District # 27 (D)



508-C Lake Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33460
Phone: 561/ 540-1140
Fax: 561/ 540-1143

clemens.jeff.web@flsenate.gov

Staff: Evelyn DuPlecy; Chauncey Graham;
Beth Hartnett-Murphy;

Committee Assignments:

Banking and Insurance, **Vice Chair**;
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and
Civil Justice; Appropriations Subcommittee on
Finance and Tax; Children, Families, and Elder
Affairs; Ethics and Elections; Gaming;
Transportation

Sen. Joe Negron

District # 32 (R)



3500 SW Corporate Pkwy.
Suite 204
Palm City, FL 34990
Phone: 772/ 219-1665
Fax: 772/ 219-1666

negron.joe.web@flsenate.gov

Staff: Holly Demers; Carrie Lira;
Audra Robitaille

Committee Assignments:

Appropriations, **Chair**; Banking and
Insurance; Rules; Select Committee on Indian
River Lagoon and Lake Okeechobee Basin, **Chair**;
Select Committee on Patient Protection and
Affordable Care Act, **Chair**; Joint Legislative
Budget Commission, **Alternating Chair**

Sen. Maria Lorts Sachs

District # 34 (D) - Minority Leader Pro Tempore



Delray Beach City Hall
100 NW 1st Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444
Phone: 561/ 279-1427
Fax: 561/ 279-1429

sachs.maria.web@flsenate.gov

Staff: Matthew Damsky; Joshua Freeman;
Christina Hajj

Committee Assignments:

Gaming, **Vice-Chair**; Agriculture;
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education;
Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax;
Education; Military and Veterans Affairs, Space,
and Domestic Security; Regulated Industries;
Select Committee on Indian River Lagoon and Lake
Okeechobee Basin

PALM BEACH COUNTY'S STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. Kevin Rader

District # 81 (D)



9045 La Fontana Blvd, Suite 117
Boca Raton, FL 33434-5641
Phone: 561/ 218-5010
Fax: 561/ 218-5012

kevin.rader@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Takeata King Pang; Alexis Andrés

Committees: Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee, **Dem. Ranking Member**; Health Quality Subcommittee; Healthy Families Subcommittee; Insurance & Banking Subcommittee; State Affairs Committee

Rep. MaryLynn Magar

District # 82 (R) - Deputy Majority Whip



11704 Southeast Dixie Highway
Hobe Sound, FL 33475-5457
Phone: 772/ 545-3481
Fax: 772/ 545-3483

marylynn.magar@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Matthew Choy; Ann Bolduc

Committees: Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee, **Vice Chair**; Health Innovation Subcommittee; Local & Federal Affairs Committee; Rulemaking Oversight & Repeal Subcommittee; Select Committee on Health Care Workforce Innovation; Select Committee on PPACA (Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act)

Rep. Pat Rooney, Jr. Delegation Vice-Chair

District # 85 (R)



3970 RCA Blvd., Suite 7001
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410-4231
Phone: 561/ 625-5176
Fax: 561/ 625-5178

pat.rooney@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Andrew Watt; Sheri Healy

Committees: Health Quality Subcommittee, **Vice Chair**; Regulatory Affairs Committee, **Vice Chair**; Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee; Ethics & Elections Subcommittee; Healthy Families Subcommittee

Rep. Mark Pafford Delegation Chair

District # 86 (D)



2240 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 102
West Palm Beach, FL 33409-3403
Phone: 561/ 682-0156
Fax: 561/ 682-0158

mark.pafford@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Audrey Piedra; Allyssa McDaniel

Committees: Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee, **Dem. Ranking Member**; Appropriations Committee; Health & Human Services Committee; Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee; Joint Legislative Budget Commission

Rep. Dave Kerner

District # 87 (D)



226 Cypress Lane, Suite 250
Palm Springs, FL 33461-1604
Phone: 561/ 641-3406
Fax: 561/ 357-4811

dave.kerner@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: David Shane; Elaine Higgins

Committees: Criminal Justice Subcommittee; Joint Administrative Procedures Committee; Judiciary Committee; Justice Appropriations Subcommittee; Rulemaking Oversight & Repeal Subcommittee

Rep. Bobby Powell, Jr.

District # 88 (D)



2715 Australian Avenue, Suite 105
West Palm Beach, FL 33407-4500
Phone: 561/ 650-6880
Fax: 561/ 650-6882

bobby.powell@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Tradrick McCoy; Beatrice Patrick

Committees: Healthy Families Subcommittee; Higher Education & Workforce Subcommittee; Local & Federal Affairs Committee; Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee

PALM BEACH COUNTY'S STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. Bill Hager

District # 89 (R)



301 Yamato Road, Suite 1240
Boca Raton, FL 33431-4931
Phone: 561/ 470-6607
Fax: 561/ 470-6609

bill.hager@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff:

Beth Lerner; Jeffrey Arnold

Committees:

Civil Justice Subcommittee, **Vice Chair**;
Insurance & Banking Subcommittee, **Vice Chair**; Choice &
Innovation Subcommittee; Finance & Tax Subcommittee;
Judiciary Committee



Rep. Lori Berman

District # 90 (D)



2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 161
Boynton Beach, FL 33426-8747
Phone: 561/ 374-7850

lori.berman@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff:

Abby Ross; Irena Sas

Committees:

Healthy Families Subcommittee, **Dem. Ranking Member**; Energy & Utilities Subcommittee; Finance &
Tax Subcommittee; Joint Committee on Public Counsel
Oversight; Rules & Calendar Committee



FLORIDA STATE CAPITOL

Rep. Irv Slosberg

District # 91 (D)



7499 West Atlantic Avenue, Suite 200
Delray Beach, FL 33446-1394
Phone: 561/ 496-5940
Fax: 561/ 496-5942

irv.slosberg@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff:

Krista Ziehler; Lawrence Victoria

Committees:

Criminal Justice Subcommittee, **Dem. Ranking Member**; Government Operations Subcommittee,
Dem. Ranking Member; Transportation & Highway Safety
Subcommittee, **Dem. Ranking Member**; Justice Appropriations
Subcommittee



Palm Beach County Appropriations

TRANSPORTATION

Aviation

Palm Beach International Airport Rehabilitate Taxiway C	\$1,630,532
Palm Beach Lantana Airport Extend Itenerant Apron	\$1,000,000

Bridges

SR-5/US-1 & SR-A1A Replace Pedestrian Overpass	\$2,913,973
SR-802/Lake Worth Road Bridge #930104 & #930318	\$1,785,959

Arterial Highway Construction

CR-A1A from Jupiter Beach Road to Saturn Street	\$1,255,999
Palm Beach County Primary Thermoplastic Striping	\$1,000,000
SR-708/Blue Heron B1 @ FEC Railroad Crossing RRX=272390P	\$4,735,800

Port of Palm Beach

Port of Palm Beach Port - Wide Slip Redevelopment	\$9,293,500
---	-------------

Construction Inspection & Consulting

SR-710/Beeline Highway from West of Indiantown Road to West of Pratt Whitney	\$3,505,400
SR-80 Palm Beach Road from R/R Tracks (MP 3.439) to CR-880 (MP 18.210)	\$1,196,393

County Transportation Programs

SR-9/I-95 @ Donald Ross Road Various Locations	\$3,407,370
--	-------------

Resurfacing/Engineering/Right-of-Way Land Acquisition

Turnpike, MP 83 - 86.5, North of Atlantic to South of Boynton — Resurfacing	\$4,113,618
SR-80/Hooker Highway SR-15/441 to RR Tracks —Resurfacing	\$3,345,000
SFECC Corridor Transit Alt, from West Palm Beach to Jupiter — Engineering	\$2,260,000
SR-710/Beeline Highway from West of Indiantown Road to West of Pratt Whitney — Engineering	\$4,900,000
SR-9/I-95 from Broward/Palm Beach County Line to Linton Boulevard — Engineering	\$1,050,000
SR-710/Beeline Hwy from West of Australian Ave to Old Dixie Hwy — Right-of-Way	\$7,281,694
SR-80 from West of Lion Co Safari Rd to Forest Hill/Crestwood Blvd — Right-of-Way	\$4,557,449
SR-80/Southern Blvd Bridges #930097 & #930098 — Right-of-Way	\$1,010,977
SR-809/Military Trail @ Community Drive — Right-of-Way	\$1,421,000
SR-9/I-95 from North of Glades Road to South of Congress Avenue — Right-of-Way	\$1,177,393
SR-A1A Flagler Memorial Bridge - Bridge #930157 — Right-of-Way	\$1,250,000

SIS/Intrastate Highways

I-95/SR-9 @ 10th Avenue North (Interim Interchange)	\$5,596,592
SR-710/Beeline Hwy from Palm Beach/Martin County Line to West of Indiantown Rd	\$10,681,271
SR-710/Beeline Hwy from West of Indiantown Rd to West of Pratt Whitney	\$31,588,613
SR-80/Southern Blvd from Royal Palm Beach Blvd to Dixie Hwy	\$1,341,590
SR-9/I-95 @ Hypoluxo Rd (Interim Interchange)	\$3,755,426
SR-9/I-95 @ SR-80/Southern Blvd and Belvedere Road Landscaping	\$1,589,160
SR-9/I-95 Woolbright Blvd (Interim Interchange)	\$7,939,526

Highway Maintenance Construction

I-95 Asset Management Palm Beach County	\$3,498,400
Palm Beach County ITS Maintenance	\$1,200,000
Palm Beach County Road Ranger Service Patrol	\$1,497,000
SR-25/US-27 Asset Management Contract US-27 & Belle Glade Area	\$1,549,778

Transit

Palm Beach County Block Grant Operating Assistance	\$4,296,042
Palm Tran Countywide Bus Purchase	\$3,000,000

Turnpike System Equipment & Development

Account Management System	\$20,000,000
---------------------------	--------------

Palm Beach County Appropriations

Palm Beach County School District

Palm Beach County Schools K-12	\$1,253,819,525
--------------------------------	-----------------

Workforce Development

Florida Goodwill Association - Workforce Projects	\$750,000
Public Schools Workforce Education Program Funds	\$18,633,199

Florida Atlantic University

FAU - Autism Centers	\$713,387
FAU - Education & General Activities	\$117,802,916
FAU - Lottery Funds	\$16,731,350
FAU - Student Financial Assistance	\$399,658
FAU - Risk Management Insurance	\$1,555,218
FAU Medical School - Grants & Aids	\$14,535,791

Palm Beach State College

PBSC - Lottery Funds	\$10,001,436
PBSC - Operating Funds	\$43,699,765
PBSC - Multipurpose Classroom/Admin Building site —West Central (VETOED)	\$6,500,000

Health and Human Services

Adults with Disabilities Funds - Vocational Rehabilitation	\$760,481
Bethesda Hospital (VETOED)	\$3,629,325
Nicotine Addiction Drug Treatment — Scripps Research Institute (VETOED)	\$100,000

Criminal Justice and Corrections

City of Pahokee (PILT - Sago Palm)	\$142,900
Prosecution of Workers Compensation Fraud	\$287,438
Violence Prevention Unit (VETOED)	\$550,000
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Mental Health Initiative — (VETOED)	\$450,000

Environmental Protection Projects

Beach Restoration	\$37,500,000
Everglades Restoration (DEP)	\$70,000,000
Florida Forever	\$70,000,000
Underground Petroleum Tank Cleanup	\$125,000,000
Torrey Island Master Plan Development (VETOED)	\$75,000

Parks & Recreation

Town of Hypoluxo - Hypoluxo Shores Park, Ph. II	\$50,000
Town of Juno Beach - Beach Access	\$50,000

Statewide Funding of Interest

Mosquito Control	\$2,660,000
Special Election Funding	\$500,000
Libraries	\$24,699,440
Library Cooperatives	\$1,500,000
Transportation Disadvantaged Program	\$50,887,853
Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Medicaid	\$61,351,633
Homeless Housing Assistance Grants	\$2,000,000

Local Funding of Interest

Public Broadcasting

WPBI-FM, West Palm Beach (Classical South Florida)	\$100,000
WXEL-TV, Palm Beach (Barry Telecommunications, Inc.)	\$307,447

Other

Everglades Youth Conservation Camp	\$629,870
City of Belle Glade Road Resurfacing	\$1,000,000
J.W. Corbett Levee System Improvements	\$4,000,000
Palm Beach County - Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative	\$1,300,000
Palm Beach County Water Treatment Project —Glades Area (VETOED)	\$1,000,000

LOCAL BILL & LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

LOCAL BILL

HB 855 - SOUTH INDIAN RIVER WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

REP. PAT ROONEY JR.

This legislation authorizes the Board of Supervisors of the South Indian River Water Control District to construct improvement upon real and personal property for recreational purposes on specified land within the District.

HB 855 was vetoed by the Governor on July 2, 2013.

OTHER DELEGATION MEMBER SPONSORED LEGISLATION

HB 3 - CHILD SAFETY DEVICES IN MOTOR VEHICLES

REP. IRV SLOSBERG

This bill creates stricter regulations and requirements for children using booster seats in vehicles. Currently, there is no law requiring booster seats in Florida, making us one of only two states without one. Children aged 3 years or younger are required to use a child safety seat, but children aged 4 and above are allowed to use seat belts. As it is presently not required, many parents do not use booster seats for their children. Many do not know the dangerous consequences of children being improperly restrained. Often times, booster seats save lives when a seat belt would have provided insufficient protection.

Both HB 3 and its Senate companion died in their respective Transportation Committees.

HB 15 / SB 240 - FUNERALS AND BURIALS

REP. PAT ROONEY, JR. / SEN. JEFF CLEMENS

This legislation makes it a first degree misdemeanor to knowingly engage in protest activities or knowingly cause protest activities to occur within 500 feet of the property line of any location where a funeral or burial is being conducted. This zone will occur 1 hour before, during and 1 hour after the funeral or burial.

*This bill passed as HB 15, which was signed by the Governor on April 10, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-19.
The effective date of this law is October 1, 2013.*

SB 50 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

SEN. JOE NEGRON

This bill ensures that the public has a right to speak and be heard at any meeting where government is making a decision. Three of the most important rights we have as Americans are the right to vote, the right to trial by jury and the right to speak. The right to speak at a public meeting is now guaranteed by statute.

The bill was signed by the Governor on June 28, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-227. The effective date of this law is October 1, 2013.



LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 92 - SEARCHES AND SEIZURES

SEN. JOE NEGRON

This legislation protects all of us from the government using drones to monitor the activities of law abiding Floridians. It prohibits law enforcement agencies from using drones to gather evidence or other information. There are, however, common sense exceptions when an emergency occurs or a search warrant is signed by a judge.

The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-033.

The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.

HB 97 - CONCEALED WEAPONS AND FIREARMS

REP. BOBBY POWELL, JR.

This bill would create an exception to preemption of the regulation of firearms to the Legislature to allow state agency or local government to prohibit possession of concealed firearms and ammunition at publicly sanctioned or sponsored events conducted in public buildings or at government-sponsored outdoor public venues.

Both HB 97 and its Senate companion died in their respective Criminal Justice Committees.

HJR 139 / SJR 198 - FAIR TEACHER PAY—MINIMUM SALARIES FOR NEW AND EXPERIENCED FULL-TIME TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

REP. KEVIN RADER / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This joint resolution would have given voters the opportunity to bridge the over \$10,000 gap between Florida teachers' pay and the national average. According to the resolution, by 2015, minimum salary for new full-time teachers in public schools must be at least national average; by 2015, average salary for experienced full-time teachers in public schools must be at least national average. The state, rather than the school districts, must fund required salary increases.

Both bills died in their respective Education Committees. The 2013-2014 budget, however, was signed by the Governor and included language that will provide Florida teachers with a pay raise.

HB 171 / SB 370 - DISPOSITION OF HUMAN REMAINS

REP. PAT ROONEY, JR. / SEN. MARIA SACHS

This legislation revises the procedures for the reporting, distribution, retention, and cremation of human remains for medical education and research, by a funeral director, a local government, the Anatomical Board of the State of Florida, or a non-transplant anatomical donation organization. Notably, the bill provides for the following:

- Revises procedures for registration of certificates of death and medical certification of causes of death;
- Modifies procedures for reporting and disposing of unclaimed human remains;
- Clarifies the transfer of eligible veterans, or spouses or dependents of veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, U.S. Reserve Forces, or National Guard, to cemeteries;
- Authorizes boards of county commissions to develop policies for the final disposition of unclaimed and indigent human remains;
- Requires written consent from an authorized person representing the decedent before the human remains may be dissected, disarticulated, or segmented; and
- Mandates that non-transplant anatomical donation organizations be AATB-accredited by October 1, 2014.

This bill passed as HB 171, which was signed by the Governor on June 7, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-138.

The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.

LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 343 - WRAP-UP INSURANCE POLICIES

REP. BILL HAGER

This legislation allows insurers to offer a policy which covers employees of the general contractor and subcontractors working at a construction work site with a \$100,000 or greater deductible if certain conditions are met such as: the policy premium exceeds \$500,000; the project's total cost is \$25 million or greater; and the insurer is obligated to pay the first dollar of a claim. The goal of this legislation is to allow insurers to provide customers the option to choose the proper deductible feature to reduce their premiums.

*This bill passed SB 810, which was signed by the Governor on June 14, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-175.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.*

HB 361 / SB 1042 - PUBLIC MEETINGS / CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSIONS

REP. DAVE KERNER / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill modifies Florida's Sunshine Law to exempt communications from certain members of county-level criminal justice commissions. It allows the state attorney, the chief judge, the sheriff, and the public defender the ability to communicate with each other on a daily basis about any law enforcement-related issue.

*This bill passed as HB 361, which was signed by the Governor on June 14, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-196.
The effective dates of this law is July 1, 2013.*

HJR 367 - BASIC RIGHTS

REP. KEVIN RADER

This joint resolution would have given Florida voters a second chance to remove the unsightly mark of discrimination against Asian Americans that exists in the Florida Constitution. Florida is the only state in the country that has yet to remove such language. If amended, the Florida Constitution would state that all natural persons are equal before the law and have the inalienable right to acquire, possess, and protect property.

This bill died in the House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

HB 439 - REGULATION OF SMOKING BY MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES

REP. BILL HAGER

This bill authorizes municipalities and counties to govern smoking at entrances to indoor workplaces and outdoor areas of such workplaces. It would also include property owned or controlled by a municipality or county including playgrounds and parks, sports and recreation areas, and walkways within those areas. Public sidewalks and easements adjacent to private businesses are exempt.

This bill died in the House Health Quality Subcommittee.



PEANUT ISLAND

LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 457 - COLLECTION OF WORTHLESS PAYMENT INSTRUMENTS

REP. MARYLYNN MAGAR

The bill provides the payee of a bad check with an alternative collection procedure and statutory fee. It allows the payee the alternative to collect the bad check plus the statutory fee and the bank fees incurred without sending a demand letter. A demand letter would still be required before filing suit. The bill also updates the statute to incorporate debit card transactions and electronic fund transfers.

The bill was signed by the Governor on June 5, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-113.

The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.

HB 461 - DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING STUDENTS

REP. PAT ROONEY JR.

This legislation requires the Department of Education (DOE) and the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, with input from education stakeholders, to develop a model communication plan that shall be used during the development of an individual education plan for a deaf or hard-of-hearing student. The bill requires DOE to adopt the model in rule and make it available online to all districts no later than December 31, 2013. The DOE shall provide technical assistance for using the model plan.

The bill was signed by the Governor on May 30, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-084.

The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.

SB 500 / HB 7005 - MASSAGE PRACTICE

SEN. JEFF CLEMENS / REP. DAVE KERNER

This bill will prohibit the operation of massage establishments between the hours of midnight and five AM with certain exemptions based on location of the facility or the type of supervision over those persons performing massages. This section also prohibits the use of a massage establishment as a principal domicile in areas that are not zoned for residential use by local ordinance. A first violation of these provisions is a misdemeanor of the first degree and a subsequent violation is a felony of the third degree.

The bill also expands the definition of "Board-approved massage school" to include a college or university that is eligible to participate in the Florida Resident Access Grant Program.

This legislation was created in an effort to prevent human trafficking, which is a growing epidemic all over Florida.

This bill passed as HB 7005, which was signed by the Governor on June 14, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-212.

The effective date of this law is October 1, 2013.

HB 543 - PROSECUTION OF JUVENILES

REP. BOBBY POWELL JR.

This legislation would set statewide standards when deciding whether juveniles can be tried as adults in criminal cases. Currently, state law provides nineteen discretionary crimes where the State Attorney can choose to file criminal charges in juvenile or adult court. This bill would further require that prosecutors follow established criteria when deciding to file those discretionary crimes and provide a written explanation to the court. When these cases have been filed in adult court, the adult court may hold a hearing to decide if a case should be remanded back to the juvenile court.

Both HB 543 and its Senate companion died in their respective Criminal Justice Committees.



LAKE WORTH INLET

LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 591 / SB 630 - REGULATION OF SUMMER CAMPS

This bill would give the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) the tools needed to ensure that background checks are being completed on personnel at summer day camps and summer 24 hour camps. Level 2 background checks have been required since 2010, but there currently is no database of summer camps for DCF to utilize in verifying that background checks are being completed.

HB 591 died in the House Healthy Families Subcommittee, and SB 630 unanimously passed the Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee before it died in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

REP. MARK PAFFORD / SEN. JEFF CLEMENS



SB 650 - ARTIFICIAL COLORING AND SALE OF CERTAIN ANIMALS AND FOWLS

SEN. MARIA SACHS

This bill prohibits a person, firm, or corporation from selling, bartering, or giving away animals such as rabbits, baby chickens, and ducklings that have been artificially colored or dyed. It also prohibits the sale, offer for sale, or giving away of these animals if the animal is under a specified age. The prohibition does not apply to animals that are to be used or raised for agricultural purposes or for poultry or livestock exhibitions. It also does not apply to agricultural entities that use artificial dyes on animals for protective health purposes. Persons who violate the provisions of this act would be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

Language in this bill passed in HB 851, which was signed by the Governor on June 28, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-245. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.



PALM BEACH ZOO

HB 717 - PREGNANCY DISCRIMINATION

REP. LORI BERMAN

This legislation seeks to include women who are pregnant as a protected class under Florida Statutes. Pregnant women would be protected from discrimination in employment, dining, entertainment and lodging.

HB 717 passed the House Civil Justice Subcommittee and State Affairs Committee, and its Senate companion passed the Senate Commerce & Tourism and Government Oversight & Accountability Committees. However, both bills died in their respective Judiciary Committees.

HB 731 - PUBLIC RECORDS/SPOUSES & CHILDREN OF LAW ENFORCEMENT & AGENCY PERSONNEL

REP. DAVE KERNER

This bill creates an exemption from public records requirements for names of spouses and children of specified active or former sworn or civilian law enforcement personnel, specified state attorneys and statewide prosecutors. Spouses and children of individuals who work in these professions should not have to be subjected to danger simply because a member of their family serves in those capacities.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 28, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-243. The effective date of this law is October 1, 2013.

LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 735 - NEEDLE AND SYRINGE EXCHANGE PILOT PROGRAM

REP. MARK PAFFORD

This bill would have created a needle and syringe exchange pilot program in Miami-Dade County under the Florida Department of Health (DOH). The purpose of this program was to prevent the transmission of HIV, AIDS, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases as well as increase public safety as used syringes pose a threat to law enforcement, sanitation workers, and children. The program would have been funded entirely through private grants and donations

This bill unanimously passed the House Health Quality Subcommittee but died in the House Judiciary Committee.

Its Senate companion passed through both of its Senate Committees but died prior to coming up for a vote on the floor of the Senate.

SB 738 - SOBER HOMES

SEN. JEFF CLEMENS

This bill would have required a "sober house transitional living home" to annually register with the Department of Children & Families (DCF), required background screening of certain personnel, provided for fees and penalties, prohibited certain advertising and authorized DCF to conduct inspections. The legislation would have also authorized DCF to deny, suspend or revoke the registration of a sober house transitional living home.

SB 738 unanimously passed the Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee but died in the Senate Community Affairs Committee. Its House companion died in the House Health Innovation Subcommittee.

However, proviso language was placed into the 2013-2014 budget that requires DCF to develop a plan to determine whether to establish a licensure/registration process relating to sober house transitional living homes. The plan will be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Florida Senate, and the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives by October 1, 2013.

SB 788 - CRIMINAL GANG PROTECTION

SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This legislation aims to enhance our prevention techniques for criminal gang recruitment. Key components include increasing felony criminal penalties for gang recruitment in our schools, increasing misdemeanor criminal penalties for trespassing on school property and authorizing county or municipal detention facilities to designate a person for tracking gang activity.

*This bill passed as HB 407, which was signed by the Governor on May 30, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-080.
The effective date of this law is October 1, 2013.*

HB 841 - POWERS OF ATTORNEY

REP. BOBBY POWELL JR.

This legislation adds a definition for "broker-dealer." The purpose of the addition is to clarify that broker-dealers should be treated similar to financial institutions in the application of the Powers of Attorney Act. This bill also allows for the broker-dealers to act as agents for the principal when executing trades or transfers of cash, securities, commodities, or other financial assets in the regular course of business. It further provides that notaries can be designated to sign or initial on behalf of the principal party if the principal party is physically unable to do so.

*This bill was signed by the Governor on May 30, 2013;
Chapter No. 2013-090. The effective date was upon becoming law.*



PALM BEACH COUNTY JAIL

LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 887 / SB 964 - TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

REP. DAVE KERNER / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This legislation allows a victim who conceives a child through rape to petition the court to terminate the parental rights of the rapist. It was created in an effort to tackle sexual abuse and stand up for the victims of rape and their children.

This bill passed as SB 964, which was signed by the Governor on June 7, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-132.

The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013, and applies to all unlawful acts of sexual battery occurring before, on, or after that date.

HB 913 - HOLOCAUST VICTIMS ASSISTANCE ACT

REP. KEVIN RADER

The bill permits the Department of Financial Services (DFS) to expand its assistance to Holocaust survivors. Additionally, it clarifies that the restitution program overseen by DFS includes the education of Holocaust survivors as to the existence of the restitution program, the availability of restitution monies, the appropriate procedural steps to be followed for the recovery of such proceeds, and their rights under this process. DFS expects that the bill, aided by its outreach efforts to alert survivors about its expanded services, will lead to increased assistance to more survivors.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 7, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-149. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.

HB 1005 / SB 1376 - MOTORIST SAFETY (YELLOW DOT)

REP. IRV SLOSBERG / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This legislation is a local option bill that would allow the county to create a "Yellow Dot" program. The idea came from the West Boca Community Council and the Alliance of Delray, two organizations in Rep. Slosberg's district. A Yellow Dot sticker would be placed on the rear-window left corner so that in the event of a car crash, first responders may recognize the sticker and know to locate medical documents in the glove compartment. These documents would provide the following:

- A picture to positively identify the participant;
- Information on whether the participant has a medical condition that might impede communications between participants and responders;
- Emergency contact information to inform about location, condition, or death of a participant;
- The nature of medical information reported by the participant; and
- The participant's current medications and preexisting medical conditions which would need to be considered when emergency medical treatment is administered to the participant for any injury or condition.

HB 1005 passed the House by a unanimous vote, but SB 1376 died in the Senate Community Affairs Committee.



PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ATLANTIC AVENUE IN DELRAY BEACH



LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 1041 - CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

REP. LORI BERMAN

This bill would have added Human Growth Hormone (HGH) and HCG (the pregnancy hormone) to Schedule III of the Florida Comprehensive Drug Act. These performance enhancing drugs are regulated in many other states and are being abused by young people in our state.

HB 1041 passed the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee and the Senate companion passed the Senate Health Policy and Criminal Justice Committees, but both bills died in their respective Justice Appropriations Committees.

HB 1157 / SB 1278 - HEALTH FLEX PLANS

REP. BOBBY POWELL, JR. / SEN. MARIA SACHS

This legislation removed the expiration date from the Health Flex Plan pilot program that was due to sunset on July 1, 2013. The bill also redefined the definition of “health care coverage” and “health flex plan coverage” to expand additional benefits to include others such as accident-only coverage and other specified-illness coverage. Expanding the types of benefits available through the Health Flex Plan program may provide low-income uninsured Floridians with access to more health care coverage than previously provided by the plans.

*This bill passed as HB 1157, which was signed by the Governor on May 30, 2013; Chapter 2013-094.
The effective date of this law is June 30, 2013.*

HB 1349 - PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARIES

REP. KEVIN RADER

This bill will move the date for the Florida Presidential Preference Primary back to a time that is not in violation of either party’s guidelines; thus ensuring that all Florida delegates will be counted.

Language from this bill was added to the Elections package in HB 7013, which was signed by the Governor on May 21, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-57. The effective date of this law is January 1, 2104.



MAX PLANCK FLORIDA INSTITUTE IN JUPITER

LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 1399 - FIREFIGHTER AND POLICE OFFICER PENSION PLANS

REP. PAT ROONEY, JR.

This bill substantially changes how insurance premium tax revenues must be used in the funding of firefighter and police officer pension plans under Chapters 175 and 185, F.S. It clarifies that a maximum of 300 hours of overtime may be included for purposes of calculating municipal police officer pension plan benefits. The bill also specifies that in order to receive insurance premium tax revenues, those revenues must include the following guidelines:

- The amount of premium tax revenues received in 1997 must be used to fund the benefits in existence on March 12, 1999;
- The increase in additional premium tax revenues between 1997 and 2012 must be used to fund any benefits above the base benefits;
- Premium tax revenues in excess of the amount received in 2012, and any accumulations of additional premium tax revenues that have not been applied to fund extra benefits must be used as follows:
 - If the plan is less than 80 percent funded, then:
 - * Fifty percent of the revenues must be used to pay actuarial deficiencies;
 - * Twenty-five percent of the revenues must be used to fund base benefits; and
 - * Twenty-five percent of the revenues must fund defined contribution benefits.
 - If the plan is funded at 80 percent or greater, then:
 - * Fifty percent of the revenues must be used to fund base benefits; and
 - * Fifty percent of the revenues must fund defined contribution benefits.



The bill died in the House Business & Professional Regulation Subcommittee, as its Senate companion was altered to a form that would not be accepted by the House.

SB 1750 - THE DEATH PENALTY

SEN. JOE NEGRON

Every American citizen is innocent until proven guilty and we must always keep the courthouse door open for a citizen to make a factual claim of innocence. However, Florida's Death Row has become a mockery of the criminal justice system where convicted murderers — who make no claim of innocence whatsoever — delay their punishment for decades while the victim's families are denied finality and justice. Many prisoners have been on Death Row for more than 20 years, several more than 30 years. This bill ensures that justice will be carried out in a reasonable time frame, while at the same time preserving due process.

*This bill passed as HB 7083, which was signed by the Governor on June 14, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-216.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.*



SUGAR MILL IN BELLE GLADE

HB 7007 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REP. MARYLYNN MAGAR

In order to encourage capital investment and new job opportunities in Florida's manufacturing sector, the sales tax exemption streamlines the industrial machinery and equipment sales or use tax exemption. Language from Rep. Magar's HB 391 was amended onto this economic development package which expands eligibility by removing a requirement that limits the tax exemption to new manufacturers or expanding manufacturers that increase productive output by at least five percent. It also allows a manufacturer to receive a tax exemption for equipment upgrades at an existing facility. The tax exemption is limited to machinery and equipment purchased and used in Florida to manufacture, process, compound, or produce tangible goods for sale. This provision of the legislation may reduce the tax burden of manufacturers expanding operations and upgrading machinery and equipment within Florida.

*This bill was signed by the Governor on May 17, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-039.
The effective date of this law is May 17, 2013.*

LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 7125 - DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY & MOTOR VEHICLES (DHSMV) **REP. IRV SLOSBERG / SEN. JEFF CLEMENS**
Representative Slosberg sponsored an amendment that was added to the DHSMV package. This amendment prohibits commercial truck and bus drivers from using their cell phones while behind the wheel. Unlike the new texting while driving law for the general public, this a primary offense and includes talking on the phone. Drivers could face up to \$2,750 in fines and employers could be penalized up to \$11,000 for violating the statute. This law codifies a federal statute passed in 2010 that creates the same regulations. However, there was no authority to actually enforce the regulations until Florida put its own law in the books.

Language from two of Sen. Clemens' bills was also rolled into the DHSMV bill:

- **Red Light Cameras:**

The bill provides guidance to DHSMV and local governments as to what constitutes a “careful and prudent manner” for the purpose of issuing a red light camera citation for a right-on-red violation. Under the bill, a notice of violation and uniform traffic citation may not be issued for a right-on-red violation if the driver of the vehicle came to a complete stop before turning right (provided a right-hand-turn is permissible) — even if the driver has stopped beyond the stop line or other point at which a stop is required.

- **Road Rage:**

The bill revises Florida law so that a driver may not drive at any speed which is more than 10 miles per hour slower than the posted speed limit in the furthestmost left-hand lane if the driver knows, or reasonably should know that he or she is being overtaken by a driver traveling at a higher rate of speed. This provision applies to any road, street, or highway having two or more lanes that allow traffic to flow in the same direction, but does not apply in the following circumstances:

- if the driver is passing another vehicle that is traveling in the same direction; or
- if the driver is preparing to make a left-turn at an intersection.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 12, 2013; Chapter No. 2013-160. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2013.

HB 7139 - MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

REP. LORI BERMAN

Though this bill was filed by another State Representative, Representative Berman was instrumental on the Healthy Families Subcommittee for seeing this bill idea from its inception while it was still a Proposed Committee Bill (PCB). The main goal of this legislation is to require the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) to establish a mental health first aid training program to guide the public in identifying and understanding the signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. It would also provide training for the public to use acquired skills to help these individuals.

This bill died on Second Reading after passing both the House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee and Health & Human Services Committee. There was no Senate companion bill.

HCR 8001—EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

REP. LORI BERMAN

Filed for the third consecutive year by Representative Berman, this resolution seeks to ensure women and men are afforded equal protection under the U.S. Constitution. By passing this legislation, Florida could become the 35th out of 38 states needed to ratify this amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

This resolution was “workshopped” in the House Local & Federal Affairs Subcommittee for the first time in five years.

The Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation

301 North Olive Avenue, Suite 1101.11
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

www.PalmBeachDelegation.com

THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION OFFICE

The Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Office is a non-partisan office that serves all thirteen members of the Florida Senate and House of Representatives representing Palm Beach County in Tallahassee.

The delegation office is responsible for: scheduling and coordinating all delegation meetings in Palm Beach County and Tallahassee; developing the delegation's legislative program including local bills, appropriation requests, and county and municipal legislative priorities;



providing legislative assistance and research to the delegation during the legislative session; and serving as a liaison between the delegation and local governments and community organizations.

At the end of each legislative session, this comprehensive report is published by the delegation for all county, municipal and federal offices, as well as other parties interested in all local bills and appropriations affecting Palm Beach County, and general bills passed by Palm Beach County Delegation members.

For more information, or to be put on our mailing list, please call the delegation office at 561/355-2406.