



The Delegation Digest 2017-2018 Legislative Session

Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation

Session Week 7
February 19-23, 2018

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Week Recap

Hundreds of students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas and from around the state, joined by thousands of others, arrived in Tallahassee to meet with legislators to discuss changes in laws to protect students and schools. Both the House and the Senate are bringing forth legislative packages to address school safety measures, firearm safety, mental health funding and programs, and additional measures. The proposed packages will be considered next week.



Wednesday's student rally on the Historic Capitol steps in Tallahassee.

Bills and Policy

SB 904 - Judicial Process by Sen. Bobby Powell makes changes relating to judicial processes governed by chapter 48, F.S. The bill clarifies a statute describing how long a notice of lis pendens precludes the attachment of liens or other interests on a property that is sold in a judicial sale. Several other sections revise statutes governing service of process. This bill clarifies that a notice of lis pendens precludes the attachment of liens or other interests on a foreclosed property until the instrument transferring title to the property is recorded. The bill passed favorably Tuesday with a committee substitute out of the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee and is now in the Senate Rules Committee.

SB 582 - Write-in Candidate Qualifying by Sen. Kevin Rader codifies the 2016 Florida Supreme Court decision in *Brinkmann v. Francois*, by repealing the statute that requires a write-in candidate to reside in the district that he or she seeks to represent at the time of qualifying. The bill passed favorably out of the Senate Community Affairs Committee on Tuesday and is now in the Senate Rules Committee.

The Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee heard SB 1364 - Public Records/Substance Abuse Service Providers by Sen. Kevin Rader

Tuesday. The bill amends s. 119.071, F.S., to exempt from public records laws certain personal identifying information of current and former directors, managers, supervisors, nurses, and clinical employees of a substance abuse service provider licensed under part II of ch. 397, F.S., as well as certain personal identifying and location information of their spouses and children. The bill provides in its statement of public necessity as justification for the exemption that the public records exemption is needed as the release of this information may place these employees and their families at risk of harm from hostile persons based on the actions of the employees. The bill passed favorably and is now in the Senate Rules Committee.

HB 8047 - Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month by Rep. Lori Berman was adopted by Publication in the House on Tuesday. The resolution designates March 2018 as "Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month" to increase the awareness and education about colorectal cancer.

On Wednesday, the Senate heard on second reading, SB 1130 - Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the Department of State by Sen. Bobby Powell. The bill re-creates, without modification, the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the Department of State, and repeals s. 20.106(5), F.S., which is the subsection of law relating to the termination of such trust fund. The bill was laid on table and substituted for HB 7033 - Trust Funds/Re-creation/Land Acquisition Trust Fund/DOS. The bill has been placed on third reading.

Rep. Emily Slosberg filed HB 8075 - School Backpack Awareness Month on Thursday. The resolution recognizes August 2018 as "School Backpack Awareness Month" in Florida.

Thursday, HB 1211 - Airboat Regulation by Rep. Joseph Abruzzo was heard in the House Government Accountability Committee. The bill creates "Ellie's Law" in honor of Elizabeth "Ellie" Goldenberg who died in 2017 from injuries she sustained after being thrown from an airboat on an Everglades airboat tour. The bill prohibits a person from operating an airboat to carry passengers for hire on waters of the state unless he or she has specified documents on board the airboat while carrying passengers for hire. A person who violates the airboat operating provisions commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by up to 60 days imprisonment or a \$500 fine. It was found favorable and is now in the House Commerce Committee. SB 1612 - Airboat Regulation by Sen. Kevin Rader is the Senate sponsored version.

Local Bills

Tuesday, the House heard HB 1093 - Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District by Rep. Matt Willhite on the floor. This bill dissolves the Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District as an independent special district and transfers it to the Town of Loxahatchee Groves as a dependent special district. The bill repeals all special acts of the Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District and all provisions will become ordinances of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves. The bill would take effect if approved by voters in a referendum. Wednesday, the bill was on third reading and passed by a vote of 109-3.

Member Highlights

Please join me in wishing Rep. David Silvers a happy birthday! His birthday is on February 26.

Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation

Delegation Chair
Rep. Bill Hager

Delegation Vice Chair
Rep. Matt Willhite

Senators

Joe Negron
District 25

Kevin Rader
District 29

Bobby Powell, Jr.
District 30

Vacant
District 31

Representatives

Joseph Abruzzo
District 81

MaryLynn Magar
District 82

Rick Roth
District 85

Matt Willhite
District 86

David Silvers
District 87

Al Jacquet
District 88

Bill Hager
District 89

Lori Berman
District 90

Emily Slosberg
District 91

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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 organization.