

PALM BEACH COUNTY 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FINAL REPORT



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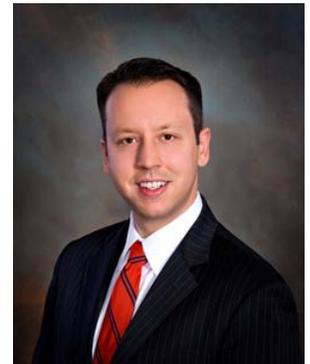
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Board of County Commissioners Top Four Priorities Summary

On October 3, 2017, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners approved their top four priority areas for the 2018 Legislative Session:

Affordable Housing / Homelessness

Two bills supported by Palm Beach County and others that would have helped protect affordable housing trust fund dollars from being diverted to other areas of the budget died in their respective subcommittees of reference despite the overwhelming support at multiple press conferences by over 30 housing stakeholders and legislators. SB 874 by Senator Passidomo (R-Naples) received bipartisan support and passed unanimously out of the first committee of reference. HB 191 by Representative Shaw (D-Tampa) did not receive a hearing.

Because school safety became the area of focus this past session, the attention towards funding mental health, hardening of schools and the infrastructure needs at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shifted the legislature's budgeting. The Senate originally appropriated \$322.1 million from the Affordable Housing trust funds for statewide affordable housing needs.

This is the 11th consecutive year that the William E. Sadowski Trust Funds have been swept to fill gaps in the budget. This year, over \$180 million was diverted from the trust funds.

The following statewide and local amounts were appropriated to Affordable Housing:

- Affordable Housing Programs \$109.6 million
 - State Housing Programs \$69.2 million
 - At least \$41.5 million for the SAIL Program
 - \$15 million for workforce housing to serve low-income persons
 - SHIP \$44.45 million
 - Palm Beach County \$1,430,741
 - Boca Raton \$122,468
 - Boynton Beach \$98,961
 - Delray Beach \$87,747
 - West Palm Beach \$147,377
 - \$4.1 million for Homeless Challenge Grants
 - \$5.4 million for Housing and Community Development Projects

Opioid / Substance Abuse

Florida has now become the 25th state since 2016 that has passed legislation imposing limits on opioid prescriptions. After Governor Scott declared the opioid epidemic a public health emergency, the legislature unanimously passed HB 21 by Representative Boyd (R-Bradenton).

The Legislature appropriated \$53.5 million dollars toward solutions and other support to combat the opioid epidemic, which includes \$5 million for opioid antagonists (i.e.; Narcan, etc.) for emergency responders. In addition, \$300,000 was appropriated to the Florida Association of Recovery Residences (FARR) to begin to enable the organization to efficiently advertise, oversee, and process the certification of Recovery Residences to support the efforts of the Sober Homes Task Force.

Funding was not made available for the Palm Beach County Addiction Receiving Facility despite the support for the project throughout the majority of the session. The Addiction Receiving Facility funding died during budget conference.

Additionally, HB 1069, Recovery Residences, by Representative Hager (R-Boca Raton) would have placed regulations and prohibitions on Recovery Residences. One such prohibition would have prohibited a recovery residence, its owners, directors, operators, employees, or volunteers from receiving a financial benefit, directly or indirectly, from referrals. This bill had bipartisan support, but died in returning messages the last day of session.

Hurricane Issues

Prior to session, Speaker Corcoran (R-Land O'Lakes) created the Select Committee on Hurricane Response and Preparedness to consider areas such as housing, beaches, agriculture, energy, evacuation, and education.

Bills that were introduced relating to hurricane response and emergency management did not pass, and funding that had been identified for these issues were reappropriated as the Legislature's priorities turned to gun control, school safety, and mental health counseling.

Transportation and Infrastructure

The broad transportation package changing various commercial vehicle regulations and creating tougher penalties died in messages on the last day of session.

Some of the measures championed by Palm Beach County included the opposition and failure of HB 963 – Towing and Immobilizing Fees and Charges which would have prohibited counties or municipalities from enacting certain ordinances or rules.

The budget for the Department of Transportation and Economic Development did increase over last year's budget by 12.4%. Notable highlights include a \$6 million dollar increase to \$15 million in SCOP funding for rural areas of opportunity, as well as the continuation funding of \$85 million for the Job Growth Grant Fund.

Statewide Budget Issues

2018 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

HB 5001 by Appropriations Committee and Representative Carlos Trujillo (R-Doral)

The Legislature agreed upon an \$88.7 billion budget with roughly \$168 million in tax relief measures and \$3.3 billion in reserves. Compared to the FY 2017-18 Budget, this represents a \$6.3 billion (7.6%) increase.

HB 5001 provides:

General Revenue: \$32.4 billion

Trust Funds: \$56.3 billion

The total veto amount was \$64.05 million.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health and Human Services received \$37.14 billion, which represents an 8.77% increase in total spending over the Fiscal Year 2017-18 appropriation. This is the largest portion of funding in the budget.

Florida KidCare is appropriated at \$42.2 million.

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities will receive \$1.33 billion.

The Department of Children and Families will receive \$3.19 billion.

The Department of Elder Affairs will receive \$334.1 million.

The Department of Health will receive \$2.96 billion.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS

Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations totaled \$5.2 billion, a 4.55% increase over FY 2017-18.

The Department of Corrections will receive \$2.6 billion, which includes \$42.7 million for Mental Health Treatment Services.

The Department of Juvenile Justice will receive \$590.2 million, which will include \$1.7 million for PACE Center for Girls. It also includes \$6.4 million for the continuation and expansion of prevention and early intervention programs.

Funds for residential mental health treatment services within the Department of Corrections will receive \$52.7 million.



TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations totaled \$14.5 billion, a 12.4% increase from FY 2017-2018.

The Department of Economic Opportunity will receive \$1.4 billion, which is \$475 million more than last year's budget.

Department of Transportation - \$10.9 billion

- Transportation Work program - \$9.9 billion
 - Rail Development Grants - \$303.8 million
 - County Transportation Programs
 - Small County Road Resurface Assistance Program (SCRAP) - \$29.8 million
 - Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) - \$72.8 million, which includes \$15 million to rural areas of opportunity. This is an \$8.5 million statewide increase, with a \$6 million dollar increase for rural areas of opportunity.
- Transportation Disadvantaged Program - \$59.9 million

Department of Economic Opportunity - \$1.4 billion

- Affordable Housing Programs \$109.6 million
 - State Housing Programs \$69.2 million
 - At least \$41.5 million for the SAIL Program
 - \$15 million for workforce housing to serve low-income persons
 - SHIP \$44.45 million
 - Palm Beach County \$1,430,741
 - Boca Raton \$122,468
 - Boynton Beach \$98,961
 - Delray Beach \$87,747
 - West Palm Beach \$147,377
 - \$4.1 million for Homeless Challenge Grants
 - \$5.4 million for Housing and Community Development Projects
- Weatherization Grant Program - \$2 million
- Farm Share and Food Banks - \$6.9 million
- Quick Response Training - \$9 million
- Enterprise Florida - \$16 million
- Visit Florida - \$76 million
- State Aid to Libraries - \$20.1 million
- Florida Job Growth Grant Fund - \$85 million

Division of Emergency Management - \$1.86 billion

- Federally Declared Disaster Funding - \$1.84 billion
- Statewide Notification and Alert System - \$3.5 million
- Hurricane Mitigation Projects - \$11.1 million

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Funding for Agriculture and Natural Resources totaled \$4 billion, a \$400 million increase over FY 17-18.

The agreement appropriates \$72 million for DEP Land Acquisition.

It offers \$11.2 million for Hurricane Recovery Beach Projects and \$50 million for Beach Management Funding Assistance.

\$143 million goes toward Everglades Restoration and another \$31 million will go to the northern Everglades restoration.



Highlights include:

- Herbert Hoover Dike - \$50 million
- Florida Forever - \$100.8 million
 - \$10 million for the Florida Communities Trust (FCT)
 - \$2 million for the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program
- Springs Protection - \$50 million
- Drinking Water Construction Loan Programs - \$122.8 million
- Petroleum Tanks Cleanup - \$110 million

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services - \$1.7 billion

- Northern Everglades & Estuaries Restoration - \$31 million
- Florida Agriculture Promotion Campaign - \$5.3 million
- Farm Share and Food Banks - \$8.7 million

Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission - \$378 million

- Derelict Vessel Removal - \$1 million
- Artificial Reef Construction - \$600K

EDUCATION

Public Schools/K12 FEFP – Total: \$21.1 billion [\$11.9 billion state funds; \$9.2 billion local funds]

- FEFP Total Funds Increase is \$484.8 million or 2.35%
- FEFP Increase in Total Funds per Student is \$101.5, a 1.39% increase [from \$7,306 to \$7,408]
- Required Local Effort millage reduction of .217 mills
- Teachers Classroom Supplies Allocation – \$8.9 million increase to raise the amount for each teacher by \$50, from \$250 to \$300
- Funding Compression Allocation – additional \$56.8 million for low-funded school districts

School Safety Appropriations (SB 7026) – Total: \$400 million

- School Safety Appropriations in CS/SB 7026
 - Mental Health Awareness and Assistance Training – \$6.7 million

- Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Memorial – \$1 million
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Building Replacement – \$25.3 million
- School Hardening Grants program – \$99 million

Higher Education – Total: \$9 Billion (\$6.1 billion state funds; \$2.9 billion local)

- There is no tuition increase this year in the State University System
- Bright Futures - \$519.7 million
- Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program - \$500,000 (CS/SB 4)



Palm Beach County Budget Items of Interest

**strikethrough indicates item was vetoed.*

EDUCATION

Florida Atlantic University

Florida Atlantic University – Education Enhancement	\$22,359,264
Florida Atlantic University – Everglades Restoration and Community Resilience Post Irma	\$250,000
Florida Atlantic University – Medical School	\$24,615,684
Florida Atlantic University – Autism Center	\$1,056,776
Florida Atlantic University – Operating	\$115,275,621
Florida Atlantic University – Max Planck Scientific Fellows	\$750,000
Florida Atlantic University – Max Planck Scientific Fellowship Program (Recurring)	\$889,101
Florida Atlantic University – Financial Assistance	\$399,658
Florida Atlantic University – Secondary Robotics Team Support	\$100,000
Florida Atlantic University – Tuition Authority	\$136,074,256
TOTAL:	\$292,122,113

Palm Beach State College

Palm Beach State College – Operating	\$44,673,856
Palm Beach State College – Education Enhancement	\$13,659,363
TOTAL:	\$58,333,219

Palm Beach County Schools K-12

Palm Beach County Public Schools K-12 FEFP Total Funds	\$1,505,637,316
Palm Beach County Workforce Education Programs	\$17,692,976
Palm Beach School Readiness	\$36,405,733
Palm Beach County Voluntary Prekindergarten	\$28,337,405
Riviera Beach Early Learning to Kindergarten Pilot	\$150,000
Kindness Matters Florida (Statewide)	\$142,000
TOTAL:	\$1,588,365,970

Public Safety (SB 7026)

Palm Beach County Safe Schools Allocation	\$10,384,575
Palm Beach County Mental Health Allocation	\$4,340,504
TOTAL:	\$14,725,079

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Controlled Substances (HB 21) - Statewide

State Targeted Response of the Opioid Crisis Grant	\$27,035,532
Opioid Addiction Treatment, Outreach, and Recovery Services	\$14,626,911
Emergency Opioid Antagonists for distribution to Emergency Responders	\$5,000,000
Office of State Court Administrator for Medication-Assisted Treatment	\$6,000,000
Improvements to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program	\$990,789
TOTAL:	\$53,653,232

Health & Human Services

Palm Beach Habilitation Center Creative Arts/Special Needs Emergency Center	\$500,000
Palm Beach Habilitation Center [Contingent on FEMA Reimbursements]	\$1,000,000
Alzheimer's Community Care Association	\$1,500,000
Place of Hope – Child Welfare Foster Care Regionalization Phase IV	\$1,250,000
Jerome Golden Center for Behavioral Health	\$200,000
Community Action Treatment for Mental Health/Substance Abuse – Sinfonia, West Palm Beach	\$750,000
Palm Beach County Rape Crisis Center	\$282,039
Holocaust Survivors Assistance Program - Boca Raton Jewish Federation	\$92,946
Affordable Housing Catalyst Program	\$500,000
Homeless Housing Assistance Grants	\$3,590,800
ChildNet Opioid and Substance Abuse Services for Children and Affected Families	\$360,000
Florida Association of Recovery Residences (FARR) Development of Certification Infrastructure and Trainings (Sober Homes Task Force)	\$300,000
Morse Life Assisted Living Facility	\$1,000,000
Feeding South Florida Community Kitchen	\$1,000,000
TOTAL:	\$63,979,017

Projected Net Payments DSH (LIP Not Available until September)

Palms West Hospital	\$5,831
St. Mary's Medical Center	\$19,728
TOTAL:	\$25,559

PUBLIC SAFETY

Criminal & Civil Justice

Sago Palm Facility – PILT	\$142,900
South Bay Correctional Facility – PILT	\$275,560
Continuum of Care Program (Bay, Glades, Palm Beach, Santa Rosa)	\$6,962,578
South Bay Correctional Facility	\$1,521,875
Justice Administrative Commission for PIP Fraud (Palm Beach and other counties)	\$1,767,857
West Palm Beach – Critical Incident Response Equipment	\$300,000
Riviera Beach Summer Youth Employment Program	\$150,000
RESTORE Ex-Offender Reentry Program	\$250,000
TOTAL:	\$11,220,770

Emergency Management

City of Palm Beach Gardens City Hall Expansion Emergency Facility	\$500,000
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TRANSPORTATION & GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Transportation Economic Development

Everglades Restoration Agricultural Community Employment Training Program	\$1,500,000
Glades Communities Street Resurfacing and Reconstruction	\$1,000,000
SR 5/US 1/Broadway Ave from 25 th St to 42 nd St	\$1,250,000
Rales Rides – Senior Transportation	\$179,520
Pahokee Marina	\$990,000
City of West Palm Beach – Rosemary Corridor Enhancement	\$400,000
Lake Worth Park of Commerce	\$1,500,000
Jewish Association for Residential Care (JARC) Community Works	\$300,000
Transportation Disadvantaged (Statewide)	\$59,906,668
TOTAL:	\$67,026,188

Arterial Highway Construction

Congress Avenue from N of 45 th Street to Blue Heron Boulevard	\$2,010,563
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Aviation Development Grants

Boca Raton Airport Expand A/P Road & Utility Corridor	\$1,200,000
N. PB County Airport Construct Additional Tie Down/Transient Apron	\$1,620,000
Palm Beach County Glades Airport Hangers & Infrastructure	\$1,100,000
Palm Beach Int'l Airport Gafis Facilities Improvements	\$1,200,000
Palm Beach Int'l Airport Maintenance Compound Redevelopment	\$3,000,000
TOTAL:	\$8,120,000

Bridge Construction

Alternate SR A1A/SR 811 Ramp to I-95 over RCA Center Dr & FEC RR	\$1,205,494
SR 800/Spanish River Blvd over ICWW	\$2,645,303
SR A1A/Blue Heron Brdg 930269 over ICWW Replace Fender System	\$2,071,725
TOTAL:	\$5,922,522

Construct/Inspect/Consult

Resurface Tpk Mainline in Palm Beach County, Mp 81.4-87.3	\$2,627,950
SR 7/441 South of SR 806/Atlantic Ave to SR 804/Boynton Beach Blvd	\$1,001,779
SR 804/Boynton Beach from W of Jog Road to Congress Avenue	\$1,106,805
SR 9/I-95 at Linton Boulevard Interchange	\$1,441,949
SR 9/I-95 at SR 808/Glades Road	\$2,508,510
SR 9/I-95 from South of Glades Rd to South of Linton Blvd	\$10,539,817
Widen Tpk (SR 91) Boynton Beach Blvd - Lake Worth Rd (4 to 8 Lns W/E)(Mp 86-93)	\$14,825,242
TOTAL:	\$34,052,052

County Transportation Programs

SR 809/Military Trail at Forest Hill Blvd	\$2,322,276
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Highway Maintenance

Palm Beach Co ITS Maintenance	\$2,100,000
I-95 Asset Management Palm Beach County	\$3,415,000
Palm Beach County JPAs for Maintenance Lighting Maintenance	\$3,189,359
Palm Beach County Road Ranger Patrol	\$2,207,047

SR25/US 27 Asset Management Contract US 27 & Belle Glade Area	\$1,900,000
TOTAL:	\$12,811,406

Intrastate Highway Construction

Indiantown Road from Turnpike Intersection to SR 5/US 1	\$4,601,639
Palm Beach County Push Button Contract for Signalization	\$1,000,000
Roadside Improvements in Palm Beach County, Mp 81.4-87.3	\$2,522,528
SR 80/Southern Blvd at Forest Hill Blvd	\$3,357,835
SR 9/I-95 at Linton Boulevard Interchange	\$9,922,264
SR 9/I-95 at SR 808/Glades Road	\$25,041,378
SR 9/I-95 from Brow/Palm Beach Co Line to South of Glades Road	\$1,600,000
SR 9/I-95 from South of Glades Rd to South of Linton Blvd	\$94,577,230
Widen Tpk (SR 91) Boynton Beach Blvd – Lake Worth Rd (4 to 8 Lns W/E) (Mp 86-93)	\$164,005,524
TOTAL:	\$306,628,398

Preliminary Engineering Consult

SR 25/US 27 from Hendry/Palm Beach Countyline to SR 80	\$1,215,569
SR 7 from SR 704/Okeechobee Blvd to Northlake Blvd	\$3,000,000
SR 9/I-95 at 10th Ave North in Lake Worth	\$1,000,000
SR 9/I-95 at Lantana Road	\$1,000,000
SR 9/I-95 from Broward/Palm Beach County Line to North of Linton Blvd	\$1,750,000
SR 9/I-95 from South of Glades Rd to South of Linton Blvd	\$1,228,100
SR 9/I-95 from South of Woolbright Road to North of Woolbright Road	\$1,000,000
Widen Tpk - Palm Beach C/L to Glades Rd (Mp 73-75) (6-10 Lns) W/E	\$1,300,000
Widen Tpk from Glades to Atlantic Ave (Mp 76.4-81.6) (6 to 10 Ln) W/E	\$4,719,828
Widen Tpk from SR 710 (Mp 106.1) to Mp 117 (4 to 8 Lns)	\$22,740,000
Widen Tpk from WPB Service Plaza to SR 710 (Mp 94.5-106.1)(4 to 8 Lns) W/E	\$8495,802
Widen Turnpike Mainline Atlantic to Boynton (Mp 81.6-86)(6 to 10 Lns) W/E	\$4,735,000
TOTAL:	\$52,184,299

Public Transit Development

Palm Beach County Block Grant Operating Assistance	\$5,337,955
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Rail Development

South Central Florida Express, US Sugar Rail Line	\$24,885,625
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Resurfacing

Resurface Tpk Mainline in Palm Beach County, Mp 81.4-87.3	\$20,215,003
SR 5/US 1/Dixie Hwy from N of Hypoluxo Rd to 300' S of Waterway Dr	\$2,459,938
SR 5/US 1/Federal Hwy from North of George Bush Blvd to C-16 Canal	\$6,772,820
SR 7/441 South of SR 806/Atlantic Ave to SR 804/Boynton Beach Blvd	\$9,703,855
SR 710/Beeline Hwy from S of Pratt Whitney Rd to S of Park of Commerce Bl	\$1,115,904
SR 804 Boynton Beach from W of Jog Road to Congress Avenue	\$9,673,787
TOTAL:	\$49,941,307

Right of Way Land Acquisition

SR 5/US 1 Federal Highway from CR A1A to Beach Road	1,077,737
SR 710/Beeline Hwy from West of Australian Ave to Old Dixie Hwy	1,310,130
SR 9/I-95 at Linton Boulevard Interchange	3,333,136

SR 9/I-95 at PGA Boulevard/Central Boulevard	8,229,743
SR 9/I-95 at SR 808/Glades Road	4,931,152
TOTAL:	\$18,881,898

Right of Way Support

SR 806/Atlantic Ave from West of SR 7/441 to East of Lyons Road	\$1,721,748
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Seaport Grants

On Port Rail Facility Expansion Project	\$4,337,579
Port of Palm Beach Berth 1 Expansion	\$3,000,000
Port of Palm Beach Passenger Loading Bridge	\$1,250,000
TOTAL:	\$8,587,579

Small County Outreach Program

Barfield Hwy from E 7 Street to E Main Street	\$2,952,534
SW 10 Ave from S Terminus to Dr MLK Jr Blvd	\$1,307,813
TOTAL:	\$4,260,347

Toll Operation Contracts

Account Management System/Ccss Operations	\$48,271,474
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Transport Planning Grants

Palm Beach UPWP FY 2018/2019/2020	\$1,252,377
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Turnpike System Equipment & Development

Widen Tpk (SR 91) Boynton Beach Blvd – Lake Worth Rd (4 to 8 Lns W/E; Mp 86-93)	\$4,350,000
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Traffic Engineering

Palm Beach County Signal Maintenance & Operations on State Hwy System	\$2,424,838
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ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Projects

Boynton Beach – Alternative Reclaimed Water Supply Project	\$250,000
Jupiter Inlet Village Water Quality Improvements	\$628,760
Jupiter Jones Creek Preserve Hydrologic Enhancement	\$3,740
Loxahatchee River Imperial Woods Septic to Sewer Conversion	\$117,500
Riviera Beach Singer Island South Stormwater Improvements	\$750,000
Palm Beach Gardens Stormwater Maintenance, Repairs and Operation Program	\$250,000
Royal Palm Beach Canal System Rehabilitation Project	\$150,000
Herbert Hoover Dike	\$50,000,000
TOTAL:	\$52,150,000

Beach Restoration

North Boca Raton Segment/Palm Beach County Shore Protection Project	\$12,750
Delray Segment/Palm Beach County Shore Protection Project	\$272,937
Ocean Ridge Segment/Palm Beach County Shore Protection Project	\$102,600
Jupiter/Carlin Segment – Palm Beach County Shore Protection Project	\$7,300,000

Juno Beach Nourishment	\$7,437,500
South Boca Raton Beach Nourishment	\$943,619
Mid-Town Beach Nourishment, Town of Palm Beach	\$538,146
Phipps Ocean Park Beach Nourishment	\$7,410,000
TOTAL:	\$24,017,552

PARKS & RECREATION

Palm Beach Zoo and Conservation Society, Water Quality and Recreation	\$250,000
Country Club Pool (Village of North Palm Beach)	\$50,000
Cunningham Park Phase II (City of Riviera Beach)	\$50,000
Phipps Ocean Park (Town of Palm Beach)	\$50,000
Scott's Place Park Phase II (Village of Wellington)	\$50,000
Delray Beach Atlantic Dunes Park Coastal Dune Restoration and Water Quality Improvement	\$300,000
TOTAL:	\$500,000

CULTURE & FINE ARTS

Historic Preservation Grants

City of Boynton Beach, Development Department - Boynton School Repairs and Exterior Painting	\$47,922
City of Lake Worth - Educational Guidelines for Historic Preservation	\$40,000
City of Lake Worth - Historical Resources Survey Update, Phase III	\$50,000
Lake Worth Historical Resources Survey Update, Phase II	\$50,000
Florida Atlantic University - Belle Glade Mound Historical Marker	\$925
Northwood Village Main Street - Main Street Start-Up Grant	\$25,000
Town of Lake Park - Restoration of Town Hall Mirror Ballroom French Doors	\$56,600
West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency - Historic Sunset Lounge Stabilization and Rehabilitation, Phase II	\$500,000
TOTAL:	\$720,472

Cultural and Museum Grants

Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center, Inc.	\$8,398
Aequalis, Inc.	\$2,643
Ballet Palm Beach, Inc.	\$3,683
Blue Planet International Explorers' Bazaar & Writers' Room, Inc.	\$1,420
Boca Ballet Theatre Company	\$7,267
Boca Raton Historical Society, Inc.	\$5,548
Boca Raton Museum of Art, Inc.	\$9,691
Boca Raton Philharmonic Symphonia, Inc.	\$5,704
Center for Creative Education, Inc.	\$9,416
Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, Inc.	\$9,617
Delray Beach Creative City Collaborative, Inc.	\$7,463
Expanding and Preserving Our Cultural Heritage, Inc.	\$3,734
Florida Atlantic University - University Galleries Exhibitions and Public Programs	\$3,805
Friends of Mounts Botanical Garden, Inc.	\$1,533
Historical Society of Palm Beach County	\$6,862
Lighthouse ArtCenter, Inc.	\$7,808
Loxahatchee River Historical Society, Inc.	\$8,440
Lynn University, Inc.	\$9,176
Maltz Jupiter Theater, Inc.	\$9,514

Norton Museum of Art, Inc	\$9,749
Old School Square Center for the Arts, Inc.	\$9,136
Palm Beach Dramaworks, Inc.	\$9,658
Palm Beach Opera, Inc.	\$9,754
Palm Beach State College – Palm Beach State College Presents	\$9,396
Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.	\$9,941
School of the Arts Foundation, Inc.	\$9,497
Sol Children Theatre, Inc.	\$1,232
South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, Inc.	\$9,632
Sunfest of Palm Beach County, Inc.	\$8,970
The Armory Art Center, Inc.	\$9,293
The Children's Museum, Inc.	\$2,845
The Henry Morrison Flagler Museum	\$9,911
The Lake Worth Playhouse, Inc.	\$5,838
The Morikami, Inc.	\$9,323
The Palm Beach Symphony Society, Inc.	\$1,543
The Zoological Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.	\$9,119
Village of Wellington - Cultural Programs & Facilities Division	\$1,418
Young Singers of the Palm Beaches, Inc.	\$6,074
TOTAL:	\$264,060

Library Grants

State Library State Aid	\$20,304,072
Library Cooperatives	\$2,000,000
TOTAL:	\$22,304,072

**strikethrough indicates item was vetoed.*

TAX CUT

The governor signed a tax cut package (HB 7087) worth over **\$168 million**.

The bill includes the following:

- Expanding the commercial lease tax reduction from 5.8% to 5.7%
- 3-day back-to-school sales tax holiday (August 3-5, 2018)
- 7-day disaster preparedness sales tax holiday (June 1-7, 2018)

Also included in the tax omnibus bill was **HB 585 – Tourist Development Taxes by Rep. Fine (R-Palm Bay)** as amendment 844462. As passed, counties that received at least \$10 million in tourism development tax revenues during the previous year, and which spends at least 40% of its Tourist Development Tax (TDT) dollars to promote and advertise tourism could use TDT dollars to fund up to 70 percent of the cost of tourism-related public infrastructure, if approved by a 2/3 vote of the governing board provided that an independent professional analysis perform at the expense of the Tourist Development Council has demonstrated that the infrastructure will have a positive impact on tourism-related businesses in the county.

Additionally, **HB 243 – Discretionary Sales Surtax by Rep. Avila (R-Hialeah)** was included. It requires that at least 60 days prior to a referendum on a new discretionary sales surtax, a performance audit of the program associated with the surtax adoption must be made available to the public.

HJR 7001 – Supermajority Vote for State Taxes or Fees by Ways & Means Committee has been filed with the Secretary of State, if approved by 60 percent of the voters in November, an amendment to Florida's Constitution will require that a state tax or fee imposed by the Legislature be approved by two-thirds of the membership in both chambers.

LEGISLATION SUPPORTED BY THE COUNTY THAT PASSED

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ISSUES

Controlled Substances

HB 21 – Controlled Substances by Rep. Boyd (R-Bradenton): The bill includes significant reforms, such as limitations on the initial prescription of opioids for acute pain, increased training for prescribers, improved access to medication-assisted treatment and additional requirements for use of the prescription drug-monitoring program (PDMP). Also included within the legislation is approximately \$53 million in funding towards substance abuse treatment services, which includes \$5 million for opioid antagonists (i.e.; Narcan, etc.) for emergency responders.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-013.

Guardian Ad Litem

HB 6021 – Guardian Ad Litem Direct-Support Organization by Rep. Stevenson (R-Saint Augustine): A direct-support organization (DSO) is a non-profit organization authorized by statute to carry out specific tasks in support of a public entity or public cause.

The Guardian ad Litem (GAL) Program established its DSO, the Guardian ad Litem Foundation, in 2007, with a mission to provide additional resources for the GAL Program, its volunteers, and its affiliated circuit nonprofit organizations, and to promote GAL representation for abused, neglected and abandoned children in the dependency system. The GAL Foundation solicits grants, enhances volunteer recruitment and retention opportunities, and offers supplemental training to staff and volunteers. The Guardian ad Litem Foundation's authorization is set to repeal on October 1, 2018.

The bill removes the scheduled repeal date for the Guardian ad Litem Foundation, the DSO for the Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-038.

Trauma Services

HB 1165 – Trauma Services by Rep. Trumbull (R-Panama City): The bill limits the number of trauma centers in the state to 35. The bill provides a process for approving trauma centers in excess of the statewide cap based upon current population, trauma caseload, and expected population growth. The bill also requires DOH to analyze the trauma system every three years, beginning August 2020, to determine if additional trauma centers are required. The bill restricts legal challenges to DOH's decisions related to the trauma system to applicants and existing trauma centers in the same trauma service area (TSA) or a contiguous TSA.

The bill also creates the Florida Trauma System Advisory Council, which is appointed by the Governor. The council must hold its first meeting by June 1, 2018, and is authorized to submit recommendations to DOH on how to maximize existing resources to achieve an inclusive trauma system. The bill requires the advisory council to study the feasibility of using a national certification for pediatric trauma centers. The advisory council must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2018.

The bill was approved by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-066.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Affordable Housing

The documentary stamp tax paid on all real estate transactions fund the Local Housing Trust Fund, which is the funding source for the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) program. The State Housing Trust Fund funds the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) program. The Legislature approved SHIP at \$44.45 million:

- Palm Beach County \$1,430,741
- Boca Raton \$122,468
- Boynton Beach \$98,961
- Delray Beach \$87,747
- West Palm Beach \$147,377

The Legislature approved SAIL at \$41.5 million.

Glades Initiatives

The state of Florida continues to make investments into the Glades Region – This year, \$990,000 was appropriated for improvements to Pahokee Marina, as well as \$1 million for the Glades Communities Street Resurfacing and Reconstruction.

Everglades Restoration Agricultural Community Employment Training Program

F.S. 446.71 as part of SB 10 (2017) creates the Everglades Restoration Agricultural Community Employment Training Program. Funds must be annually appropriated by the Legislature. The Program will provide grants to stimulate and support training and employment programs that seek to match persons who complete such training programs to nonagricultural employment opportunities in areas of high agricultural unemployment, and to provide other training, education, and information services necessary to stimulate the creation of jobs in the areas of high agricultural unemployment. The program has been funded at \$1.5 million for FY 2019.

The Job Growth Grant Fund

The Job Growth Grant Fund is meant to act as economic incentives, but rather than benefiting one company or entity, the funding will go towards infrastructure investment in communities that will drive private sector investment. Public infrastructure projects are also included and can fund transportation and utilities needed to support economic development. The Job Growth Grant Fund is funded at \$85 million for FY 2019.

Enterprise Florida/Visit Florida

For FY 2019, \$16 million is allocated to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to contract with Enterprise Florida. Additionally, another \$76 million is allocated to DEO to contract with Visit Florida.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ratification of Dept. of Elder Affairs Rule

SB 7028 – Ratification of Dept. of Elder Affairs Rule by Rules Committee: The bill ratifies rule 58A-5.036, F.A.C., requires, by June 1, 2018, currently licensed assisted living facilities (ALFs) to maintain an alternative power source that can air-condition an area of no less than 20 net sq. ft. per resident at a temperature of 81 degrees Fahrenheit or lower for at least 96 hours. The rule requires the ALFs to keep

fuel on-site or use piped natural gas. The rule allows ALFs under common control that are located on a single campus to share fuel, alternative power sources, and resident space. The rule also allows the Agency for Health Care Administration to grant an extension to comply with the requirements until January 1, 2019, for ALFs that can show delays caused by necessary construction, delivery of ordered equipment, zoning or other regulatory approval processes.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 26, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-122.

Ratification of Agency For Health Care Administration Rules

HB 7099 -- Ratification of Agency for Health Care Administration Rules by Rules Committee: The bill ratifies Rule 59A-4.1265, F.A.C., requires, by July 1, 2018, currently licensed nursing homes to maintain an alternative power source, such as a generator, that can air-condition an area of no less than 30 net sq. ft. per resident at a temperature of 81 degrees Fahrenheit or lower for at least 96 hours. The rule requires the nursing home to keep 72 hours of fuel on-site. The rule allows facilities under common control that are located on a single campus to share fuel, alternative power sources, and resident space. The rule also allows the Agency for Health Care Administration to grant an extension to comply with the requirements until January 1, 2019 for nursing homes that can show delays caused by necessary construction, delivery of order equipment, zoning or other regulatory approval processes.

The bill was approved by the Governor on March 26, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-123.

EDUCATION

Biomedical Research Funding

Max Planck received \$889,101 in recurring general revenue for an ongoing partnership with FAU. As well as an additional appropriation of \$750,000 for Max Planck Florida Scientific Fellows.

PUBLIC SAFETY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE ISSUES

Public Safety

SB 7026 – Public Safety (The Marjory Stoneman Douglas Act) by Rules Committee: The bill appropriates \$400 million, adding funds to expand the number of school resource officers; increase security at schools; and enhance mental health training, screening, counseling, and services in schools.

There are also provisions that improve communication between schools, law enforcement and state agencies.

The law also ratifies several new gun restrictions, including raising the age limit to 21 to buy a gun and adding a three-day waiting period for all gun purchases. It also bans bump stocks, devices that, when attached to a semi-automatic rifle, let it fire even faster.

The law also creates the first statewide “guardian” program. The voluntary program will allow school personnel, except for those individuals who exclusively teach, to carry guns if they complete law enforcement training.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 9, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-003.

Criminal Justice

SB 1392 -- Criminal Justice by Sen. Brandes (R-St. Petersburg): The bill requires the state attorney, the public defender, the clerk of the circuit court, and law enforcement agencies to establish a prearrest diversion program for adults and a civil citation or similar prearrest diversion program for juveniles in each judicial circuit. The bill additionally requires the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to adopt rules to provide for the expunction of a non-judicial record of the arrest of a juvenile who has successfully completed a diversion program for a misdemeanor offense.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 30, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-127.

Criminal Justice Commission

HB 7031 – Criminal Justice Commission by Oversight, Transparency & Administration Subcommittee: The bill removes the scheduled repeal of public meetings exemption for certain portions of meetings by duly constituted criminal justice commissions.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-40.

LEGISLATION SUPPORTED BY THE COUNTY THAT FAILED

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse Services

HB 1069 – Substance Abuse Services by Rep. Hager (R-Boca Raton): The bill would have addressed issues related to recovery residences by:

- Allowing a licensed service provider to accept a referral from a noncertified recovery residence if the resident has experienced a recurrence of substance use and it appears that the resident may benefit from such services.
- Prohibiting a recovery residence, its owners, directors, operators, employees, or volunteers from receiving a financial benefit, directly or indirectly, from referrals.
- Requiring certified recovery residences to comply with the applicable provisions of the Florida Fire Prevention Code for either one-family and two-family dwellings, public lodging establishments, or rooming houses, or other housing facilities, as applicable.

Additionally, the bill would have amended background screening for substance abuse treatment provider personnel by:

- Expanding the screened offenses for owners, directors, and chief financial officers certified recovery residence to include those enumerated in s. 408.809, F.S.
- Requiring a level 2 background screening for peer specialists with direct contact with individuals receiving services, and including the screened offenses enumerated in s. 408.809, F.S.
- Expanding the crimes for which an individual can receive an exemption from disqualification without the statutorily imposed waiting period, if they are working only with individuals 13 years of age and older.
- Requiring DCF to render a decision on an application for exemption from disqualification within 60 days after DCF receives the complete application.

- Allowing an individual to work under supervision for up to 90 days while DCF evaluates his or her application for an exemption from disqualification, so long as it has been five or more years since the individual completed all nonmonetary conditions associated with his or her most recent disqualifying offense.
- Granting the head of the appropriate agency authority to grant an exemption from disqualification which is limited solely to employment related to providing mental health and substance abuse treatment.

This bill died in House Returning Messages.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Public Records/Disaster Response

HB 7079 – Public Records/Disaster Response by Oversight, Transparency & Administration Subcommittee and Rep. Burgess (R-Zephyrhills): The bill would have created a public record exemption for the name, address, and telephone number of a person using a public shelter during an emergency. It also would have created a public record exemption for the name, address, and telephone number of a homeowner or tenant held by an agency for providing damage assessment data following a disaster, for one year following the date of the disaster.

This bill died in Senate Government Oversight and Accountability Committee after passage in the House.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Affordable Housing

SB 874 – State Funds by Sen. Passidomo (R-Naples): The bill would have exempted the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund from a provision authorizing the Legislature, in the General Appropriations Act, to transfer unappropriated cash balances from specified trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund.

This bill died in its second committee of reference (Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development).

Film and TV Incentives

SB 1606 – Film and Television Production by Sen. Taddeo (D-Miami): The bill would have established the Florida Motion Picture Capital Corporation (corporation) and the Florida Motion Picture Capital Account (account). The purpose of the corporation was to attract feature film and television productions to the state by using the account to assist with financing. The bill would have dictated the composition of the corporations' board, its financing application and approval process, formation and guidelines for the account, and production eligibility qualifications. The bill would have required yearly reporting to the Department of Economic Opportunity, and provides for yearly audits by the Auditor General.

This bill died in its second committee of reference (Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development).

PUBLIC SAFETY

Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Pilot Program

SB 1320 –Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Pilot Program by Sen Braynon II (D-Miami Gardens): The bill would have expanded the existing sterile needle and syringe exchange pilot program to be implemented in Palm Beach County.

This bill died in its first committee of reference (Senate Health Policy).

Drones

SB 624 – Drones by Sen. Young (R-Tampa): The bill would have expanded the definition of “critical infrastructure facility” to include prohibitions on the use of drones in close proximity to any of the following: A state correctional institution or a private correctional facility; A secure juvenile detention center or facility, a non-secure residential facility, a high-risk residential facility or a maximum-risk residential facility; and a county detention facility.

This bill died in its second committee of reference (Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development).

Texting While Driving

HB 33 – Texting While Driving by Rep. Toledo (R-Tampa) and Rep. Slosberg (D-Delray Beach): The bill would have changed current enforcement of the texting while driving ban from a secondary offense to a primary offense, which will allow a law enforcement officer to stop a vehicle solely for texting while driving. The bill would have required a law enforcement officer who detains a motor vehicle operator for texting while driving to inform the operator that he or she has a right to decline a search of his or her wireless communications device. Additionally, the bill would have prohibited a law enforcement officer from accessing the wireless communications device without a warrant, confiscating the device while waiting for the issuance of a warrant, or using coercion or other improper method to convince the operator to provide access to such device without a warrant.

This bill died in Senate Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities after passage in the House.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Land Acquisition Trust Fund

SB 370 – Land Acquisition Trust Fund by Sen. Bradley (R-Orange Park): The bill would have dedicated an annual appropriation of \$100 million from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to the Florida Forever Trust Fund. Although the bill did not pass, just over \$100 million was appropriated to Florida Forever.

This bill died in House Messages.

Coastal Management

SB 174 – Coastal Management by Sen. Hukill (R-Port Orange): The bill would have revised beach nourishment project funding criteria, and dedicated an annual appropriation from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to beach projects. While the bill did not pass, the legislature did appropriate \$50 million for beach funding in the final budget.

This bill died in House Messages.

Environmental Regulation

HB 1149 – Environmental Regulation by Rep. Payne (R-Palatka): The bill would have revised policies relating to Florida’s environmental regulation by:

- Requiring the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to revise the water resource implementation rule to create criteria for an impact offset or substitution credit to be applied to the issuance, renewal, or extension of a consumptive use permit (CUP) or to address additional water resource constraints imposed by the adoption of a recovery or prevention strategy;
- Providing that the Legislature encourages the development of aquifer recharge for reuse implementation;
- Requiring DEP and water management districts to develop and enter into a memorandum of agreement no later than December 1, 2018, that provides for coordinated review of any reclaimed water project requiring a reclaimed water facility permit, an underground injection control permit, and a CUP, to be used solely at the permit applicant’s request;
- Requiring reissuance of the construction phase of an expired environmental resource permit (ERP) if the applicant can demonstrate meeting certain criteria and no more than three years have passed since the original ERP expired, prohibiting local governments from requiring a person claiming that a particular activity meets an ERP exception to provide further verification from DEP, and revising the ERP exception for the replacement or repair of existing docks and piers;
- Providing an exemption for governmental entities to provide mitigation for projects other than its own;
- Requiring local governments to address the contamination of recyclable material in contracts with residential recycling collectors and recovered materials processing facilities;
- Clarifying operation provisions of the C-51 reservoir project and providing waiver of repayment under the water storage facility revolving loan fund; and
- Creating the blue star collection system assessment and maintenance program, which is a voluntary, incentive-based program to assist public and private utilities in limiting sanitary sewer overflows and the unauthorized discharge of pathogens.

This bill passed both chambers, and was vetoed by the Governor on April 6, 2018.

Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Drilling

HB 1247 – Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Drilling by Rep. Cruz (D-Tampa): The bill would have urged Congress to oppose the presidential executive order lifting the moratorium prohibiting oil drilling off the coast of Florida.

This bill died in its first committee of reference (Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee).

LEGISLATION OPPOSED BY THE COUNTY THAT FAILED

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Economic Development and Tourism Promotion

HB 3 – Economic Development and Tourism Promotion Accountability by Rep. Grant (R-Port Charlotte): The bill would have placed significant requirements on county economic development and tourist development functions and as well as those that contract with counties to provide services related to tourism development and economic development.

This bill died in Senate Commerce and Tourism committee after passage in the House.

Tree and Vegetation Maintenance

HB 521 – Tree and Vegetation Maintenance within Established Flood and Drainage Rights-of-Way by Rep. Edwards-Walpole (D-Sunrise): The bill would have prohibited local governments from requiring permits or other approvals for tree and vegetation maintenance within certain rights-of way managed by Water Management Districts or other special districts and would have required such districts to provide notice before conducting maintenance.

This bill died in Senate Messages.

Vacation Rentals

HB 773 – Vacation Rentals by Rep. La Rosa (R-Saint Cloud): The bill would have authorized local laws, ordinances, or regulations to regulate activities relating to vacation rentals; required vacation rental owner or representative to submit specified documents and information to local jurisdictions; prohibited local jurisdiction from assessing certain fees; and revised applicability for preemption of certain local laws, ordinances, or regulations.

This bill died on the House Second Reading Calendar.

Recovered Materials

HB 879 – Recovered Materials by Rep. Toledo (R-Tampa): The bill would have expanded the statutory definition of “recovered materials” to include wood, asphalt and concrete. The bill would have required local governments to suspend any exclusive contracts for the collection, hauling, staging or disposal of storm-generated debris or commercial or residential solid waste, and would have prohibited local governments from entering new or extending existing contracts for storm debris.

This bill died in its second committee of reference (Government Accountability).

Bicycle Sharing

HB 1033 – Bicycle Sharing by Rep. Toledo (R-Tampa): The bill would have preempted regulation of dockless sharing companies to the state, specifically prohibiting local governments from imposing taxes or requiring business licenses. The bill also would have prohibited exclusive agreements between bike sharing companies and local governments.

This bill died in Senate Banking and Insurance after passage in the House.

TRANSPORTATION

Towing and Immobilizing Fees and Charges

HB 963 – Towing and Storage Fees by Rep. B. Cortes (R-Orlando): The bill would have required a county or municipality to establish maximum rates for the towing and storage of vessels, as well as to place a cap on the maximum rate for immobilizing a vehicle or vessel. The bill would have prohibited a county or municipality from enacting a rule or ordinance that imposes a fee or charge on authorized wrecker operators.

The bill would not have prohibited a county or municipality from levying a local business tax on authorized wrecker operators.

The bill would have provided an authorized wrecker operator to impose and collect the administrative fee and is only required to remit the fee to the county or municipality after it has been collected. The bill would have prohibited counties and municipalities from adopting or enforcing ordinances or rules that impose fees on the registered owner or lienholder of a vehicle or vessel removed and impounded by an authorized wrecker operator.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs after passage in the House.

TAX AND ADMINISTRATION

Local Regulation Preemption

HB 17 – Local Regulation Preemption by Rep. Fine (R-Palm Bay): The bill would have prohibited certain local governments from imposing or adopting certain regulations on businesses, professions, and occupations; and preempted to state regulations concerning businesses, professions, and occupations.

This bill died in its second committee of reference (House Commerce Committee).

Impact Fees

HB 697 – Impact Fees by Rep. Miller (R-Orlando): The bill would have prohibited any local government from requiring payment of impact fees any time prior to issuing a building permit. The bill would have codified the requirement for impact fees to bear a rational nexus both to the need for additional capital facilities and to the expenditure of funds collected and the benefits accruing to the new construction. Local governments would have been required to designate the funds collected by the impact fees for acquiring, constructing, or improving the capital facilities to benefit the new users. Impact fees collected by a local government would have been used to pay existing debt or pay for prior approved projects unless such expenditure has a rational nexus to the impact generated by the new construction. The bill would have further excluded fees charged for connecting to water and sewer systems.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs Committee after passing in the House.

OTHER LEGISLATION OF INTEREST THAT PASSED

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Workers' Compensation Benefits for First Responders

SB 376 – Workers' Compensation Benefits for First Responders by Sen. Book (D-Plantation): The bill revises the standards for determining compensability of employment-related posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) under workers' compensation for first responders, which includes volunteers or employees engaged as law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics. The bill allows first responders that meet certain conditions to access indemnity and medical benefits for PTSD without an accompanying physical injury. Current law provides only medical benefits for a mental or nervous injury without an accompanying physical injury and requires the first responder to incur a compensable physical injury to receive indemnity benefits for a mental or nervous injury. Generally, the bill will increase the likelihood of compensability for workers' compensation indemnity benefits for PTSD.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 27, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-124.

Sale of Firearms

HB 55 – Sale of Firearms by Rep. White (R-Pensacola): The bill allows the background check processing fees to be paid or transmitted by electronic means, including, but not limited to, debit cards, credit cards, or electronic funds transfers. The bill also authorizes a licensee to request FDLE to conduct a criminal history check via electronic means other than a telephone call.

This bill was approved by the Governor on April 6, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-144.

Theft

HB 491 – Theft by Rep. Roth (R-Palm Beach Gardens): The bill increases the fine for theft of a commercially farmed animal or bee colony of a registered beekeeper.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-049.

Trespass on Airport Property

HB 523 – Trespass on Airport Property by Rep. B. Cortes (R-Altamonte Springs): The bill increases criminal penalties where an offender trespasses on the operation area of an airport with the intent to:

- Injure another person
- Damage property
- Impede the operation or use of an aircraft, runway, taxiway, ramp or apron area

This bill was approved by the Governor on April 6, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-151.

EDUCATION

High School Graduation Requirements

HB 577 – High School Graduation Requirements by Rep. Silvers (D-Lake Clarke Shores): The bill allows a student to use credit earned upon completion of a DOE-registered apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program to satisfy the credit requirements for fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts. The bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to approve and identify in

the Course Code Directory apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs from which a student may use earned credit to satisfy graduation requirements.

This bill was approved by the Governor on April 6, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-154.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES

Voter Registration List Maintenance

HB 85 – Voter Registration List Maintenance by Rep. Spano (R-Riverview): The bill allows the Department of State (Department) to become a member of a nongovernmental entity whose membership is composed solely of election officials of state governments for the purpose of sharing and exchanging information to maintain the statewide voter registration system. Such membership may also include election officials of the District of Columbia. The bill also provides that the Department may only become a member of a nongovernmental entity if it is controlled or operated by the participating jurisdictions. The Department must retain the ability to withdraw its membership from the nongovernmental entity at any time. The Department may only share confidential and exempt information after becoming a member in a nongovernmental entity if each member agrees to maintain the confidentiality of the information. Additionally, if the department becomes a member of a nongovernmental entity, its bylaws must provide that each member and the entity itself maintain the confidentiality of any information as required by the laws of the jurisdiction supplying the information. If the Department becomes a member of a nongovernmental entity, it must submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1 of each year.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-032.

Public Records/Statewide Voter Registration System

HB 87 – Public Records/Statewide Voter Registration System by Rep. Spano (R-Riverview): The bill creates a public record exemption for information received by the Department of State, pursuant to its membership in a nongovernmental entity, from another state or the District of Columbia that is confidential or exempt pursuant to the laws of that jurisdiction. The bill provides for repeal of the exemption on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-033.

State Symbols

HB 155 – State Symbols by Rep. Magar (R-Hobe Sound): The bill removes the scheduled repeal of the Loggerhead Turtle as the official state saltwater reptile and the scheduled repeal of the Florida Cracker Horse as the official state horse. As such, these animals will remain designated state symbols. In addition, the bill designates the Florida Cracker Cattle as the official state heritage cattle breed.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-043.

Resign to Run

SB 186 – Resign to Run by Sen. Hutson (R-Palm Coast): The bill requires a state or local officer who seeks a federal public office to submit his or her resignation at least 10 days before the first day of qualifying for the federal office if the terms of the two offices overlap. A state officer's qualifying for a federal office and not submitting this resignation constitutes an automatic, immediately-effective

resignation from his or her office. A similar “resign-to-run” law already applies to state or local officers who seek another state, district, county, or municipal public office.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 30, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-126.

Unfair Insurance Trade Practices

HB 533 – Unfair Insurance Trade Practices by Rep. Hager (R-Boca Raton): The bill provides an extensive list of unfair methods of competition in the business of insurance. Among these is a prohibition on an insurer refusing to insure anyone solely because they have not bought the following services related to the ownership and use of a motor vehicle: towing service; procuring group coverage from an insurer for bail and arrest bonds or for accidental death and dismemberment; emergency service; procuring prepaid legal services, or providing reimbursement for legal services; offering assistance in locating or recovering stolen or missing motor vehicles; or paying emergency living and transportation expenses of the owner of a motor vehicle related to a damaged motor vehicle.

This bill was approved by the Governor on April 6, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-153.

Prohibition Against Contracting with Scrutinized Companies

HB 545 – Prohibition Against Contracting with Scrutinized Companies by Rep. Fine (R-Palm Bay): The bill prohibits a company that is on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List or that is engaged in a boycott of Israel from bidding on, submitting proposals for, or entering into or renewing contracts with an agency or local governmental entity for goods or services.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-052.

Possession of Real Property

HB 631 – Possession of Real Property by Rep. Edwards-Walpole (D-Sunrise): The bill prohibits a governmental entity from adopting or keeping in effect an ordinance or rule establishing customary use of privately owned dry sand areas. A governmental entity seeking to establish the customary use of privately owned lands is required to adopt, at a public hearing, a formal notice of intent, provide notice to affected parcel owners, and file a complaint with the circuit court to determine whether the land is subject to the customary use doctrine. This section of the bill does not apply to a governmental entity that had an ordinance or rule adopted and in effect prior to January 1, 2016. Additionally, land that has received beach renourishment from the state will be excluded from this rule.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-094.

Public Records/Water Management District Surplus Lands

HB 705 – Public Records/Water Management District Surplus Lands by Rep. Burgess (R-Zephyrhills): The bill creates a public record exemption for written valuations of Water Management Districts (WMD) land determined to be surplus; related documents used to form, or which pertain to, the valuation; and written offers to purchase such surplus land. The public record exemption expires two weeks before the WMD first considers the contract or agreement regarding the purchase, exchange, or disposal of the surplus land.

This bill was approved by the Governor on April 6, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-156.

Community Associations

HB 841 – Community Associations by Rep. Moraitis (R-Fort Lauderdale): The bill amends current law relating to condominium associations, cooperatives, and homeowner’s associations (HOA), including, but not limited to:

- Extends the deadline for condominium associations over 150 units to create a website.
- Requires a condominium association to permanently maintain certain official records.
- Clarifies the term limit provision for condominium association board members, limiting time in office to eight consecutive years, unless waived by affirmative vote of two-thirds of all votes cast in the election.
- Provides for the recall of a condominium board member if the board determines the recall is valid and permits attorney’s fees under certain circumstances
- Permits a unit owner in a condominium association to install an electric vehicle charging station within the boundaries of their common element parking area at the owner’s expense.
- Limits a condominium association from waiving the financial reporting requirements for two years, as opposed to indefinitely, if it fails to timely respond to a Division of Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Home request to provide a financial report to a unit owner.
- Increases the time, from five working days to ten, in which a condominium or cooperative must respond to a unit owners’ request to inspect records, requires electronic records related to voting to be retained as official records, and allows website notice of board meetings.
- Amends cooperative law to mirror condominium law regarding the records holding period, meeting notice, removal and restrictions of board members, fines, committee makeup, and including communication and information services in bulk contracts as a common expense.
- Amends HOA law to mirror condominium law by clarifying that an HOA may apply a payment from a unit owner to interest, fines, and fees before applying the payment to assessments due, and permitting an HOA to provide electronic notice to members.
- Amends cooperate, condominium, and HOA law related to board-imposed fines, requiring a majority vote of a committee consisting of at least three members before imposing a fine, and requiring payment of the fine within five days after the meeting approving the fine.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-096.

School Food and Nutrition Service Program

HB 7011 – OGSR/School Food and Nutrition Service Program by Oversight, Transparency & Administration Subcommittee: The bill removes a scheduled repeal of exemption from public record requirements for personal identifying information of applicants or participants in a school food and nutrition service program.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-074.

ENVIRONMENTAL/NATURAL RESOURCES/AGRICULTURAL ISSUES

Coral Reefs

HB 53 – Coral Reefs by Rep. Jacobs (D-Coconut Creek): The bill establishes the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area. The conservation area includes the sovereign submerged lands and state waters offshore of Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties from the St. Lucie Inlet in the north to the northern boundary of the Biscayne National Park in the south.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-30.

Linear Facilities

HB 405 – Linear Facilities by Rep. Williamson (R-Pace): The bill revises the definition of "development" to exclude certain utility work on rights-of-way or corridors and the creation or termination of distribution and transmission corridors; requires DEP to consider certain variance standard for certification of power plants and transmission corridors; specifies PSC authority to locate transmission lines underground.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-034.

Developments of Regional Impact

HB 1151 – Developments of Regional Impact by Rep. LaRosa (R-Saint Cloud): The bill amends statewide provisions related to existing developments of regional impact (DRIs), largely repealing most state oversight functions and shifting such responsibilities to local governments. The legislation preserves vested rights and other protections for existing DRIs.

This bill was approved by the Governor on April 6, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-158.

OTHER LEGISLATION OF INTEREST THAT FAILED

Federal Immigration Enforcement

HB 9 – Federal Immigration Enforcement by Rep. Metz (R-Groveland): The bill would have required states, local governments and law enforcement agencies, including their officials, agents, and employees to support and cooperate with federal immigration enforcement.

This bill passed the House chamber, but died in Senate Judiciary.

Community Redevelopment Agencies

HB 17 – Community Redevelopment Agencies by Rep. Raburn (R-Valrico): The bill would have provided that the creation of new CRAs on or after October 1, 2018, may only occur by special act of the Legislature. It would have also provided for the eventual phase-out of existing CRAs at the earlier of the expiration date stated in the agency's charter or on September 30, 2038, with the exception of those CRAs with any outstanding bond obligations. However, phase-out may be prevented if a supermajority of board members serving on the board of the entity that created the CRA vote to retain the agency. Additionally, the bill would have provided a process for the Department of Economic Opportunity to declare a CRA inactive if it has reported no revenues, no expenditures, and no debt for three consecutive fiscal years.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs after passage in the House.

Public Meetings

SB 192 – Public Meetings by Sen. Baxley (R-Lady Lake): The bill would have revised Florida's "Government in the Sunshine Law" by codifying judicial interpretation and application of s. 286.011, F.S. Specifically, the bill would have provided from jurisprudence definitions for the terms: "de facto meeting," "discussion," "meeting," "official act," and "public business." The bill also would have provided guidelines for boards to conduct permissible fact-finding exercises or excursions. Finally, the

bill would have provided in statute that notice is not required when two or more members of a board are gathered if no official acts are taken and no public business is discussed.

This bill died in House Messages.

Public Records

HB 273 – Public Records by Rep. R. Rodrigues (R-Fort Myers): The bill would have prohibited a county that received a request to inspect or copy a record from responding to such request by filing a civil action against the individual or entity making the request.

This bill died in Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability after passage in the House.

Local Tax Referenda

HB 317 – Local Tax Referenda by Rep. Ingoglia (R-Spring Hill): The bill would have required that a referendum to adopt or amend a local discretionary sales surtax must be held at a general election.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs after passage in the House.

Criminal Justice

SB 484 – Criminal Justice by Sen. Bradley (R-Orange Park): This bill would have authorized a court to sentence a person for up to 24 months in the county jail in the county where the offense was committed; one prerequisite would have been the existence of a contractual agreement between the county and the Florida Department of Corrections.

This bill died on the Senate Second Reading Calendar.

High Speed Passenger Rail

SB 572 – High Speed Passenger Rail by Rep. Mayfield (R-Melbourne): The bill would have required railroad companies to install certain technology and equipment; allocated responsibility for certain maintenance, repair, improvement and upgrade costs to railroad companies; and provided that it does not impair existing contracts with respect to its requirements related to maintenance and repair of roadbeds, tracks, and culverts, as well as safety equipment maintenance and improvements and upgrades to railroad-highway crossings. The bill also would have provided for enforcement jurisdiction and required any penalty for a violation of the bill's provisions to be imposed upon the railroad company that commits such violation.

This bill died in its second committee of reference (Community Affairs).

Permit Fees

HB 725 – Permit Fees by Rep. Williamson (R-Pace): The bill would have required the governing bodies of counties and municipalities to post permit and inspection fee schedules and building permit and inspection utilization reports on their websites by December 31, 2019. After December 31, 2019, the governing body of a local government that provided a schedule of fees would have had to update its building permit and inspection utilization report before making any adjustments to the fee schedule. Finally, the bill would have established reporting requirements.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs after passage in the House.

Contraband in County Detention Facilities

HB 773 – Contraband in County Detention Facilities by Rep. Sullivan (R-Eustis): The bill would have added cellular telephones and other portable communication devices to the definition of contraband in a county detention facility.

This bill died in Senate Criminal Justice after passage in the House.

Local Government

HB 883 – Local Government by Rep. Ingoglia (R-Spring Hill): The bill would have:

- Provided that a rural boundary or urban development boundary created by initiative or referendum must be ratified every 10 years at a general election and provides for the ratification of existing boundaries;
- Increased accountability and transparency for CRAs by requiring annual ethics training, establishing reporting requirements, providing moneys in the redevelopment trust fund may only be expended pursuant to an annual budget for purposes provided in current law, and required counties and municipalities to include CRA data in their annual financial report;
- Provided for creation of new CRAs on or after October 1, 2018, only by special act of the Legislature and a phase-out for existing CRAs not reauthorized by the creating local government;
- Provided a process declaring a CRA inactive if it has reported no revenues, no expenditures, and no debt for three consecutive fiscal years;
- Enabled CDDs created by a county government to include a list of parcels in the creation petition that the district expects to annex within the next 10 years;
- Eliminated state and regional review for existing DRIs, eliminated the Florida Quality Development (FQD) program, and transferred the responsibility for implementation of, and amendments to, DRI and FQD development orders to the local governments in which the developments are located;
- Transferred the DRI exemptions and partial exemptions currently found in s. 380.06, F.S., to s. 380.0651, F.S., which contains the statewide guidelines and standards for determining whether a proposed development is a DRI-sized development subject to state coordinated review;
- Deleted the criteria for determining when two or more developments must be “aggregated” and treated as a single development for the purposes of DRI review and deleted the substantial deviation criteria for development order changes;
- Eliminated all DRI appeals to the Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission except for decisions by local governments to abandon an approved DRI; and
- Repealed the Department of Economic Opportunity’s DRI and FQD rules and Administration Commission rules related to DRI aggregation.

This bill died in Senate Messages.

Florida Smart City Challenge Grant Program

SB 852 – Florida Smart City Challenge Grant Program by Sen. Brandes (R-St. Petersburg): The bill would have established a grant program to fund innovative transportation projects. Counties and cities would have been among the eligible recipients for these grant dollars.

This bill died on Second Reading Calendar.

Firefighters

SB 900 – Firefighters by Sen. Flores (R-Miami): The bill would have required fire service employees of full-time firefighters to offer cancer insurance coverage to its firefighter employees. The bill would have provided that upon diagnosis of cancer, a firefighter is entitled to certain benefits if the firefighters has been employed by his or her employer for at least five continuous years, has not used tobacco products for a least the preceding five years, and has not been employed in any other position in the preceding years that has been proven to create a higher risk for cancer.

This bill died in its final committee of reference (Senate Appropriations).

Affordable Housing

HB 987 – Affordable Housing by Rep. B. Cortes (R-Altamonte Springs): The bill would have created new provisions on the use of local and state government-owned surplus land and local government permitting as it relates to the development of affordable housing. The Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Transportation, and water management districts, in conjunction with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), would have been required to evaluate all non-conservation surplus lands for suitability for residential use and the development of permanently affordable housing and offer such parcels to the county or municipality where the land is located. The bill would have provided for additional evaluation criteria intended to address specific needs and characteristics for development of affordable housing.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs after passage in the House.

Recyclable Materials

SB 1014 – Recyclable Materials by Sen. Stewart (D-Orlando): The bill would have removed the existing state preemption on local government regulation of auxiliary containers, wrappings, or disposable plastic bags.

This bill died in its first committee of reference (Community Affairs).

Term Limits for School Board Members

HB 1031 – Limitation on Terms of Office for Members of a District School Board by Rep. Fischer (R-Jacksonville): The bill proposed a constitutional amendment to limit terms of office for members of district school boards.

This bill was postponed and died in the House on Second Reading.

Regional Rural Development Grants

SB 1646 – Regional Rural Development Grants by Sen. Montford (D-Quincy): The bill would have increased the amount each Rural Area of Opportunity may receive in state dollars to \$250,000 and decreased the local match to 25 percent of the state contribution.

The bill also would have removed a requirement that grants from the Rural Infrastructure Fund be limited to 40% of the total cost of catalyst site projects and increased the maximum amount that DEO could award for non-catalyst site projects from 30 percent to 50 percent of the cost of the project.

The bill would have required the use of grant funds to expand broadband be available only for telecommunications providers that are registered providers of communications services with the state Department of Revenue and added the SITES program under the auspices of DEO.

This bill died in Senate returning Messages.

Traffic Infraction Detectors

HB 6001 – Traffic Infraction Detectors by Rep. Avila (R-Hialeah): The bill would have removed the authorization for the DHSMV, counties, and municipalities to install and maintain red light cameras. The bill maintained s. 316.0076, F.S., which expressly preempts to the state regulation of the use of cameras for enforcing the Florida Uniform Traffic Control law. This means counties and municipalities would no longer have the authority to implement red light camera programs by local ordinance.

This bill died in Senate Transportation after passage in the House.

Home Rule Protections

An important priority for many local governments is to protect the Home Rule Powers Act. The summary below includes some of the bills introduced this session that attempted to remove home rule authority from local governments. All of the bills died this session.

Local Government Fiscal Transparency

HB 7 – Local Government Fiscal Transparency by Rep. Burton (R-Lakeland): The bill would have created additional voting and notice requirements when counties issue debt. The bill would have required the creation of a “debt affordability analysis” to be published in a newspaper prior to the consideration of the issuance of new debt. It would also have required that two public hearings be held prior to issuance of debt, or increases in local option sales taxes, and would have required that vote counts be maintained for tax increases or issuance of tax supported debt for five years on the county’s website, and would have required additional auditing and remedial measures.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs after passage in the House.

Government Accountability

HB 11 – Government Accountability by Rep. Metz (R-Groveland): The bill would have created a state-wide travel reporting system, requiring detailed monthly reporting of all county official and employee travel to the Department of Management Services. Among other provisions related to county audits, it would have required that charter county audit committees include constitutional officers. During its last committee stop, SB 354 was amended to require all counties (other than those whose charters designate an official other than the clerk of court as the county comptroller), cities, special districts, school districts, and water management districts to provide digital copies of their budgets and other financial information to the clerk of the court. Failure to do so would have mandated that the clerk require the salary of the head of the local government be withheld.

This bill died in Senate Community Affairs after passage in the House.

County and Municipal Public Officer Transparency

HB 815 – County and Municipal Public Officer Transparency by Rep. Avila (R-Hialeah): The bill would have required that a governing body of a county or municipality at regularly scheduled meetings approve requests for travel authorization by county or municipal public officers. It would have also required a county, constitutional officer, or municipality to adopt travel policy and include travel expenses as a separate budget item.

This bill died in Senate Ethics and Elections after passage in the House.

Financial Reporting

HB 1019 – Financial Reporting by Rep. La Rosa (R-Saint Cloud): The bill would have required local governments to post annual budgets to the website for five years; provide an electronic copy of their budgets to the Office of Economic Demographic Research (EDR) on specified forms, provide a copy of their budget and a certification of timely filing to the clerk of the court, and file annual financial reports and audit reports within six months of the end of the fiscal year.

This bill died in Senate Messages.

Local Government Ethics Reform

HB 7003 – Local Government Ethics Reform by Public Integrity & Ethics Committee: The bill would have created a local government lobbyist registration system, which all local government lobbyists would have been required to use to register to lobby any local government, and created additional requirements for public officers when reporting potential conflicts of interest.

This bill passed the full House chamber, but died in Senate Ethics and Elections.

LOCAL BILLS

West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund of the City of West Palm Beach

HB 889 – West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund by Rep. Matt Willhite (D-Royal Palm Beach): The bill amends the special act for the West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund, established in 1947. The bill revises retirement pension calculations for the City of West Palm Beach police department and corrects scrivener's errors. The bill also makes two clarifying changes concerning the effective date of a previous change to the special act and a reference to Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) account balances for deceased fund members.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-168.

Acme Improvement District and Pine Tree Water Control District

HB 901 -- Acme Improvement District and Pine Tree Water Control District by Rep. Matt Willhite (D-Royal Palm Beach): The bill transfers the portion of the Flying Cow Ranch property within the Acme Improvement District and places it in the jurisdiction of the Pine Tree Water Control District to facilitate the development of the Flying Cow Ranch property. Currently, fifty acres of the property lies within Acme Improvement District and 100 acres lies within the Pine Tree Water Control District. The bill also amends the charters of the Acme Improvement District and the Pine Tree Water Control District to state the new boundaries of each District as a result of the parcel move.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-170.

Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District

HB 1093 by Rep. Matt Willhite (D-Royal Palm Beach): The 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 will take effect only upon its approval by a majority of those landowners of the District voting in the same manner by which the District's governing body is elected in a referendum to be held no later than October 1, 2018.

This bill was approved by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-175.

Palm Beach County Housing Authority

HB 1113 by Rep. David Silvers (D-Lake Clarke Shores) and Rep. Lori Berman (D-Boynton Beach): The bill would have allowed the governing body of Palm Beach County to appoint two additional members to the Palm Beach County Housing Authority. The Palm Beach County Housing Authority is a five-member board appointed by the Governor. The bill would have expanded the governing board of the Palm Beach County Housing Authority from five members to seven members. The members appointed would have had to be qualified electors of the county and subject to removal or suspension by the governing body of the county.

This bill passed both chambers, and was vetoed by the Governor on March 30, 2018.

