



2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PREVIEW



5 PRIORITY ISSUES

Sales Tax Fairness

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to update Florida's sales and use tax laws that apply to online/e-commerce sales from out-of-state retailers. Changes are needed to ensure in-state retailers are treated equitably and that the Florida sales and use tax laws are equally enforced.

Short-Term Rentals

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation providing for a collaboration between the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and cities to ensure that short-term rental properties abide by state and local regulations, are properly licensed and insured, and comply with state and local taxation requirements as well as industry-accepted safety practices. The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation clarifying that existing grandfathered municipal short-term rental ordinances can be amended without penalty.

Discharges to Surface Waters

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that establishes reasonable time frames for utilities to eliminate, to the extent possible in compliance with regulatory requirements and with specified exceptions, discharges to surface waters unless a utility demonstrates it is not environmentally, technically or economically feasible.

Affordable Housing

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that requires all monies from the Sadowski State and Local Housing Trust Funds be used only for Florida's affordable housing programs.

Annexation

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that facilitates the municipal annexation of unincorporated areas while protecting private property rights and respecting municipal boundaries.

For more information on these issues, please [click here](#) to view our 2021 Legislative Action Agenda.

OTHER ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Digital Divide

Mobility Plans

Cybersecurity

Transportation Funding

Resilient and Sustainable Florida

CALENDAR

- 2/8/21 **Interim Committee Week 4**
- 2/15/21 **Interim Committee Week 5**
- 2/18/21 **FLC Pre-Session Call-In**
- 2/20/21 **Governor DeSantis Budget Announcement**
- 3/2/21 **2021 Legislative Session Begins**
- 3/15-19/21 **FLC Virtual Legislative Action Week**
- 4/19/21 **Final Week of Committee Meetings**
- 4/30/21 **Sine Die/Last Day of Session**
- 5/6/21 **FLC Post-Session Wrap-Up**

HOUSE LEADERSHIP

- Speaker** | Chris Sprowls (R-Palm Harbor)
- Speaker Pro-Tempore** | Bryan Avila (R-Miami Springs)
- Majority Leader** | Michael Grant (R-Charlotte)
- Minority Leader** | Bobby DuBose (D-Fort Lauderdale)
- Appropriations Chair** | Jay Trumbull (R-Panama City)
- Rules Chair** | Paul Renner (R-Palm Coast)
- Commerce Chair** | Blaise Ingoglia (R-Spring Hill)
- Education & Employment Chair** | Chris Latvala (R-Clearwater)
- Health & Human Services Chair** | Colleen Burton (R-Lakeland)
- Judiciary Chair** | Daniel Perez (R-Miami)
- State Affairs Chair** | Ralph Massullo (R-Inverness)
- Ways & Means Chair** | Bobby Payne (R-Palatka)
- Pandemics & Public Emergencies Chair** | Tom Leek (R-Ormond Beach)
- Public Integrity & Elections Chair** | Erin Grall (R-Vero Beach)

SENATE LEADERSHIP

President | Wilton Simpson (R-Inverness)

President Pro-Tempore | Aaron Bean (R-Fernandina Beach)

Rules Chair | Kathleen Passidomo (R-Naples)

Majority Leader | Debbie Mayfield (R-Indialantic)

Minority Leader | Gary Farmer (D-Fort Lauderdale)

Agriculture Chair | Darryl Rouson (D-St. Petersburg)

Appropriations Chair | Kelli Stargel (R-Lakeland)

Banking & Insurance | Jim Boyd (R-Bradenton)

Children, Families & Elder Affairs Chair | Lauren Book (D-Plantation)

Commerce & Tourism Chair | Ed Hooper (R-Palm Harbor)

Community Affairs Chair | Jennifer Bradley (R-Orange Park)

Criminal Justice Chair | Jason Pizzo (D-Miami)

Education Chair | Joe Gruters (R-Sarasota)

Environment & Natural Resources Chair | Jason Brodeur (R-Lake Mary)

Ethics & Education Chair | Dennis Baxley (R-Lady Lake)

Finance & Tax Chair | Ana Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral)

Government Oversight & Accountability Chair | Ray Rodrigues (R-Fort Myers)

Health Policy | Manny Diaz Jr. (R-Hialeah Gardens)

Judiciary | Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg)

Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security | Tom Wright (R-Port Orange)

Regulated Industries | Travis Hutson (R-Palm Coast)

Rules | Kathleen Passidomo (R-Naples)

Transportation | Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart)



THE 2021 FLORIDA LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

78 Republicans
42 Democrats

SENATE

24 Republicans
16 Democrats



COVID-19'S IMPACT ON LOBBYING



HOUSE AND SENATE COVID-19 PROTOCOLS during legislative committee weeks (session protocols will be announced in late February):

Visits/Meetings with Legislators

The House and Senate strongly encourage virtual meetings or conference calls instead of in-person meetings.

- ▶ The Capitol opens to the public two hours before the first committee meeting of the day and closes 30 minutes after the last committee meeting of the day.
- ▶ Masks are required at the Capitol, even when providing public testimony.

Committee Meetings

- ▶ The House and Senate have staggered, block meeting schedules reducing the number of meetings that occur at once and the number of days legislators are in Tallahassee.

Public Testimony

House:

- ▶ Those wishing to provide public testimony must submit an electronic appearance record before the meeting. If you receive a public testimony "pass," you will be allowed to testify in the committee meeting room. If the room fills up, there will be another room nearby in the Capitol where you can testify virtually. If that room also fills up, you will have to provide written testimony.

Senate:

- ▶ No in-person public testimony.
- ▶ All public testimony will be held virtually from a designated meeting room at the Civic Center nearby.

2021 RULES AND PROCEDURE CHANGES

The Florida Senate and House have enacted numerous rules and procedure changes that will impact the 2021 Legislative Session. These changes include:

SENATE

Committees may enter recess and reconvene when and where the Senate president allows, even past 6:00 p.m. ET.

Committees may take up bills not on the original agenda.

Committee members may propose amendments on behalf of the bill sponsor.

Committee meeting notices must be made by 2:30 p.m. ET (previously was 4:30 p.m. ET).

HOUSE

The Rules Committee will set new procedures to manage questions and debate for every bill:

- ▶ Halting frivolous bill amendments that do not offer a "technical or substantive purpose."
- ▶ Increasing the number of bills a member can file from six to seven.
- ▶ Extending the deadline to file bills, including appropriations project bills, to January 29.
- ▶ Allowing subcommittees to meet through the sixth week of the nine-week session.
- ▶ Limiting proposed committee bills.
- ▶ Allowing appropriation bills to be placed on subcommittee consent agenda.

NEW LEGISLATORS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE

**2 Senate
members**

**9 House
members**



SENATE

Jim Boyd | SD 21 | Former Palmetto City Council Member

Ana Maria Rodriguez | SD 39 | Former Doral City Council Member

HOUSE

Yvonne Hayes Hinson | HD 20 | Former Gainesville City Commissioner

Webster Barnaby | HD 27 | Former Deltona City Commissioner

Linda Chaney | HD 69 | Former St. Pete Beach City Commissioner

Omari Hardy | HD 88 | Former Lake Worth City Commissioner

Christine Hunschofsky | HD 96 | Former Mayor of Parkland

Felicia Robinson | HD 102 | Former Miami Gardens City Councilwoman

Robin Bartleman | HD 104 | Former Weston City Commissioner

David Borrero | HD 105 | Former Sweetwater City Commissioner

Jim Vernon Mooney Jr. | HD 120 | Former Mayor and Councilman for City of Islamorada

RETURNING LEGISLATORS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE

**3 Senate
members**
**16 House
members**

SENATE

Aaron Bean | SD 4 | Former Fernandina Beach Commissioner

Dennis Baxley | SD 12 | Former Belleview City Commissioner

Ed Hooper | SD 16 | Former Clearwater City Commissioner

HOUSE

Alex Andrade | HD 2 | Former Outside Attorney, City of Milton

Ramon Alexander | HD 8 | Former Aide to the Mayor, City of Tallahassee

Clay Yarborough | HD 12 | Former Jacksonville City Council Member

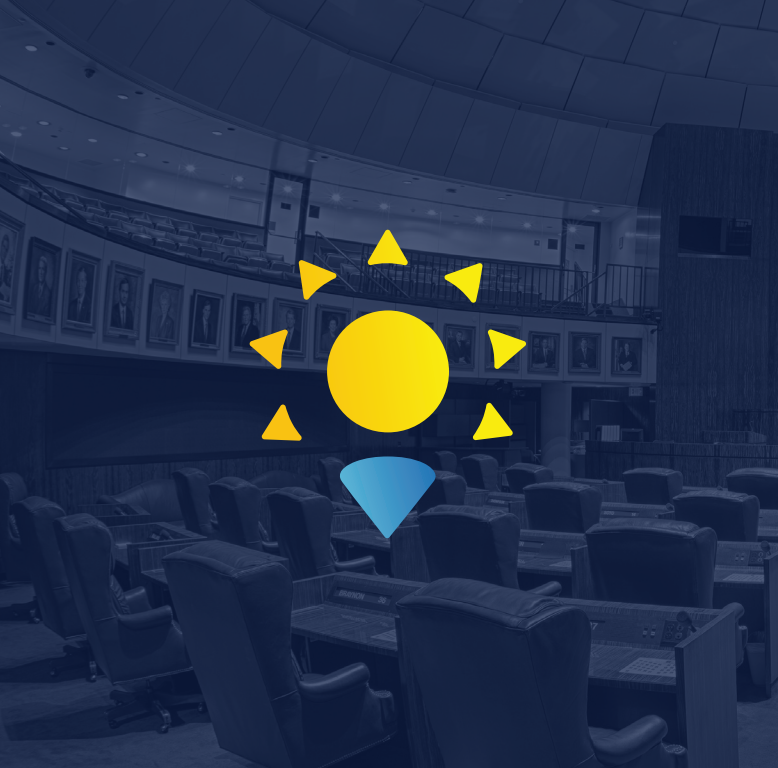
Tracie Davis | HD 13 | Former City of Jacksonville Compliance Officer

Joy Goff-Marcil | HD 30 | Former Maitland City Council Member

Anthony Sabatini | HD 32 | Former Eustis City Commissioner

Melony Bell | HD 56 | Former Fort Meade City Commissioner

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Matt Willhite | HD 86 | Former Wellington Village Council Member
Joseph Casello | HD 90 | Former Boynton Beach City Commissioner
Patricia Williams | HD 92 | Former Lauderdale Lakes City Commissioner
Chip LaMarca | HD 93 | Former Lighthouse Point City Commissioner
Bobby DuBose | HD 94 | Former Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner
Dan Daley | HD 97 | Former Coral Springs City Commissioner
Joe Geller | HD 100 | Former North Bay Village Mayor
Dotie Joseph | HD 108 | Former North Miami Beach Deputy City Attorney
Michael Grieco | HD 113 | Former Miami Beach City Commissioner

FLC LOBBYING TEAM



CASEY COOK

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Property Rights
Land Use/Growth Management
Community Redevelopment
Insurance



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General Utilities
Ethics and Elections
Rights of Way



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Finance and Taxation
Personnel/Retirement/Pension
Revenues and Budgeting
Telecommunications



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Transportation
Affordable Housing
Construction/Building Codes
Emergency Management



TARA TAGGART

Legislative Policy Analyst
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Short-Term Rentals
Economic Development
Public Safety
Public Records/Meetings
Ordinance/Code Enforcement



NEW FIELD ADVOCACY AND FEDERAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

The League launched a new department focused on grassroots engagement, citizen support and member relationships. This department is led by Scott Dudley, who is a fearless Home Rule advocate and a unique political talent. His background and knowledge of the League's legislative issues make him the perfect person to lead this new department.



SCOTT DUDLEY

Director, Field Advocacy
and Federal Affairs
sdudley@flcities.com



ALLISON PAYNE

Manager, Advocacy Programs
and Federal Affairs
apayne@flcities.com

KEYS TO LOBBYING VIRTUALLY

Stay up to date on the issues. Working with League staff before your meeting will help ensure you have the latest status updates on an issue while also ensuring a coordinated message is provided to the legislator.

Set up a virtual meeting with a legislator. While meeting with a legislator in person is more difficult these days, the ability to meet remotely allows greater flexibility for legislators, so take advantage of this situation by scheduling a virtual call with them.

Submit an op-ed to your local media outlet. An op-ed is a great way to get out your message to your constituents as well as your local legislator. The League's experienced communications staff is available to help fine-tune an op-ed or letter to the editor before submittal.

Boost your social media engagement by tagging the League.

Let your voice be heard on social media, and tag those legislators who might be key in promoting your issue. Tagging the League (@*flcities*) allows us to retweet and help boost your tweet/post to provide more engagement. Also, be sure to use the League's hashtag #LocalVoices to show your support for Home Rule.

Use the League's Legislative Alerts to effectively communicate your position on key FLC issues. These alerts include background information, talking points and other helpful tools.

Become a more effective advocate by using the League's online resources. The League's website *flcities.com* provides a comprehensive list of advocacy resources you can use, while the *BuildingStrongerCities.com* website hosts resources that can help sharpen your message to legislators and residents.

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR

Not sure how to contact your senator or representative?
Click below to find a complete list of senators' and
representatives' contact info as well as their key staff.



myfloridahouse.gov/Representatives



flsenate.gov/Senators



flcities.com/contact-your-legislator



FLORIDA'S NEWLY ELECTED LEGISLATORS

FLORIDA SENATE



Lorraine Ausley*
SD 3 | D | Attorney



Jennifer Bradley
SD 5 | R | Attorney



Jason Brodeur*
SD 9 | R | President, Seminole County
Regional Chamber of Commerce



Danny Burgess*
SD 20 | R | Former Executive Director of
Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs



Jim Boyd*
SD 21 | R | Insurance Agent



Ray Rodriguez*
SD 27 | R | Director of
Community Relations



Tina Polsky*
SD 29 | D | Attorney



Shevrin Jones*
SD 35 | D | Executive Director,
Florida Reading Corps



Ileana Garcia
SD 37 | R | Former Press Secretary
for Dept. of Homeland Security



Ana Maria Rodriguez*
SD 39 | R | Realtor

* Former member of Florida House of Representatives

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Michelle Salzman

HD 1 | R | Former president of the Escambia County Council of PTAs/PTSAs



Patt Maney

HD 4 | R | Retired Judge



Allison Tant

HD 9 | D | Disability Rights Advocate



Angie Nixon

HD 14 | D | Community Organizer



Sam Garrison

HD 18 | R | Attorney



Yvonne Hayes Hinson

HD 20 | D | Childhood Education



Joe Harding

HD 22 | R | Owner of Landscaping Business



Webster Barnaby

HD 27 | R | Minister



Keith Truenow

HD 31 | R | Small Business Owner



Fred Hawkins

HD 42 | R | President/CEO of Local Education Foundation



Kristen Arrington

HD 43 | D | Marketing Consultant



Travaris McCurdy

HD 46 | D | Former Chief Legislative Aide



Daisy Morales

HD 48 | D | Former Federal Employee



Kaylee Tuck

HD 55 | R | Real Estate/Land Use Attorney



Andrew Learned

HD 59 | D | Small Business Owner



Traci Koster

HD 64 | R | Attorney



Linda Chaney

HD 69 | R | Former St. Pete Beach City Commissioner



Michele Rayner

HD 70 | D | Civil Rights Attorney



Fiona McFarland

HD 72 | R | Consultant



Adam Botana

HD 76 | R | Founder of Bay Water Boat Club



Mike Giallombardo

HD 77 | R | Chief Warrant Officer in National Guard



Jenna Persons-Mulicka

HD 78 | R | Founder of a Civil Law Firm



Lauren Melo

HD 80 | R | Real Estate Broker



Kelly Skidmore

HD 81 | D | Public Relations



John Snyder

HD 82 | R | Manages a Recruiting/Staffing Company



Dana Lee Trabulsy

HD 84 | R | Small Business Owner



Omari Hardy

HD 88 | D | Education Development



Christine Hunschofsky

HD 96 | D | Former Mayor of Parkland



Marie Paule Woodson

HD 101 | D | County Government Employee



Felicia Simone Robinson

HD 102 | D | Educator



Tom Fabricio
HD 103 | R | Attorney



Robin Bartleman
HD 104 | D | Educator



David Borrero
HD 105 | R | Project &
Estimating Coordinator



Christopher Benjamin
HD 107 | D | Attorney



Alex Rizo
HD 110 | R | Small Business
Owner



Demi Busatta Cabrera
HD 114 | R | Development
Director for Nonprofit



Kevin Chambliss
HD 117 | D | Youth Pastor



Jim Vernon Mooney Jr.
HD 120 | R | Small Business
Owner

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