



2026 Legislative Session Weekly Update- Week 6

Week 6

Martin County Fire Rescue was proudly represented in Tallahassee this week for Florida Fire Service Day at the Capitol, joining departments from across the state to highlight the vital role of Florida's firefighters and first responders. While there, they also met with our local legislative delegation to discuss key priorities and issues impacting public safety at the local level.

Week 6 of the Florida Legislative Session was packed with movement on tax policy and growth management. HB 203 passed the House 80-30 after being amended on the floor to fully eliminate non-school homestead property taxes rather than phase them out. The joint resolution now heads to the Senate, with HJR 203 advancing to Senate Appropriations. The proposal represents a significant tax shift from homestead property owners to businesses and renters and carries an estimated \$9 billion statewide impact, according to county analysis. Meanwhile, HB 103 repealing the Local Business Tax also cleared the House, and SB 840, revising post-hurricane land use restrictions tied to SB 180, passed the Senate unanimously and now awaits House consideration.

Growth and development legislation continued to move across committees. The House advanced CS/CS/HB 299 creating a new framework for large-scale Blue Ribbon Projects, while the Senate companion SB 354 also progressed. HB 691 on Agricultural Enclaves passed its third House committee stop, with SB 686 moving in the Senate. Permit and development process changes gained traction as HB 803 on building permits and private providers and CS/CS/HB 927 on local land planning cleared House committees, alongside HB 979 establishing the Infill Redevelopment Act. Environmental policy saw action as CS/CS/HB 1019 and CS/CS/SB 1230 relating to PFAS advanced with amendments providing liability protections for utilities during ongoing monitoring. Overall, the week reflected continued focus on property taxes, regulatory reform, and statewide preemption of local land use authority.

