



State Legislative Update



January 21, 2022

The 2022 Session of the Florida Legislature is in full swing. Week two was marked by many visits to legislative and executive branch leadership as well as progress on key funding requests.

MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES UPDATE

FUNDING REQUESTS

Septic to Sewer:

- \$2 million for Seven J's Industrial Park Force Main Project
- \$8 million for Coral Gardens Vacuum Sewer Project
- **Progress:**
 - Budget request filed by Senator Harrell, awaiting Senate budget development

Martin County REACH Center:

- \$1 million for Building 17 REACH Center at the Martin County Airport to provide workforce training and economic development
- **Progress:**
 - Filed by Senator Harrell, awaiting budget development
 - HB 2977 (Overdorf) referred to Infrastructure and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee

Cypress Creek Floodplain Restoration Project:

- \$750,000 to restore the historic floodplain of Cypress Creek, one of the main tributaries to the Loxahatchee River
- **Progress:**
 - HB 2079 (Snyder) unanimously approved in Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
 - HB 2079 referred to Appropriations Committee

IN THIS EDITION

- Key Legislative Updates
 - Funding Requests
 - Water Quality
 - Tourism
 - Home Rule
- Martin County Meetings
- Federal Infrastructure Work Plan

WATER QUALITY

[SB 0832](#)

Implementation of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force by Stewart

Implementation of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force: Requiring owners of certain onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to have the systems periodically inspected, beginning on a specified date; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to administer the inspection program; requiring new or revised basin management action plans to include a list that identifies and prioritizes certain spatially focused projects, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2022

Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government

Actions

01/11/2022

SENATE Now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government

Identical

[HB 0561](#)

Implementation of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force (Goff-Marcil)

11/19/2021 HOUSE Now in Environment, Agriculture & Flooding Subcommittee

[HB 0349](#) Water Resources Management by Sirois

Water Resources Management: Authorizing Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement Trust Fund to grant easements on sovereignty submerged lands for specified mitigation banks; directing DEP to create and modify specified rules; exempting certain docks on recorded easements from certain permit and verification requirements; granting certain docks authorization to use submerged lands upon approval of board; providing that specified structures associated with docks create presumption of specified compliance. Effective Date: upon becoming a law

Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee

Actions

12/08/2021

HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee

Similar

[SB 0198](#)

Water Resources Management (Rodriguez (A))

01/20/2022 SENATE Now in Community Affairs

[HB 1019](#) Saltwater Intrusion Vulnerability Assessments by Duggan

Saltwater Intrusion Vulnerability Assessments: Requiring coastal counties to conduct vulnerability assessments analyzing effects of saltwater intrusion on water supplies and preparedness to respond to threats and provide copies to DEP and water management districts; requiring water management districts to submit certain projects to DEP; requiring DEP to update comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise data, make certain information available online, and provide cost-share funding to coastal counties. Effective Date: upon becoming a law

Current Committee of Reference: House Environment, Agriculture & Flooding Subcommittee

Actions

01/07/2022 HOUSE Now in Environment, Agriculture & Flooding Subcommittee

Identical

[SB 1238](#) Saltwater Intrusion Vulnerability Assessments (Polsky)
01/05/2022 SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Appropriations

[SB 1418](#) Soil and Groundwater Contamination by Albritton

Soil and Groundwater Contamination: Requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules for statewide cleanup target levels for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in soil and groundwater; prohibiting such rules from taking effect until ratified by the Legislature; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a specified analysis of certain assessment and cleanup programs and submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date, etc. Effective Date: upon becoming a law

Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources

Actions

01/19/2022 SENATE On Committee agenda - Environment and Natural Resources, 01/24/22, 3:00 pm, 37 S

Similar

[HB 1475](#) Cleanup of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (McClure)
01/16/2022 HOUSE Now in Environment, Agriculture & Flooding Subcommittee

TOURISM

[SB 0512](#) Vacation Rentals by Burgess

Vacation Rentals: Requiring advertising platforms to collect and remit taxes for certain transactions; revising the regulated activities of public lodging establishments and public food service establishments preempted to the state to include licensing; expanding the authority of local laws, ordinances, or regulations to include requiring vacation rentals to register with local vacation rental registration programs; authorizing local governments to adopt vacation rental registration programs and impose fines for failure to register; requiring advertising platforms to require that persons placing advertisements for vacation rentals include certain information in the advertisements and attest to certain information, etc. Effective Date: except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law

Current Committee of Reference: Senate Community Affairs

Actions

01/12/2022

SENATE Now in Community
Affairs

Compare

[SB 0286](#)

Vacation Rentals (Garcia)

10/18/2021 SENATE Withdrawn
prior to introduction

Identical

[HB 0325](#)

Vacation Rentals (Fischer)

11/05/2021 HOUSE Now in
Regulatory Reform Subcommittee

HOME RULE

[SB 0620](#)

Local Government by Hutson

Local Government: Authorizing certain businesses to claim business damages from a county or municipality if the county or municipality enacts or amends certain ordinances or charter provisions; authorizing businesses to recover costs and fees in a specified manner and if certain requirements are met; requiring courts to consider certain factors and follow specified guidance when assessing costs; specifying requirements for the courts in determining and awarding attorney fees; requiring attorneys and businesses to submit certain documentation relating to attorney fees, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2022

Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations

Actions

01/20/2022

SENATE Favorable with CS by Appropriations;
11 Yeas, 7 Nays

Similar

[HB 0569](#)

Business Damages Caused by Local
Governments (McClure)

01/18/2022 HOUSE Now in Local
Administration & Veterans Affairs
Subcommittee

[SB 0280](#)

Local Ordinances by Hutson

Local Ordinances: Authorizing courts to assess and award reasonable attorney fees and costs and damages in certain civil actions filed against local governments; requiring a board of county commissioners to prepare a business impact estimate before the enactment of a proposed ordinance; requiring a governing body of a municipality to prepare a business impact estimate before the enactment of a proposed ordinance, etc. Effective Date: 10/1/2022

Current Committee of Reference: Senate Rules

Actions

01/21/2022

SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C2)
Filed

Similar

[HB 0403](#)

Local Ordinances (Giallombardo)

12/01/2021 HOUSE Now in Civil Justice & Property Rights Subcommittee

[HB 0001](#)

Additional Homestead Property Tax Exemption for Specified Critical Public Services Workforce by Tomkow

Additional Homestead Property Tax Exemption for Specified Critical Public Services Workforce: Proposing amendment to State Constitution to authorize the Legislature, by general law, to grant an additional homestead property tax exemption on \$50,000 of the assessed value of homestead property owned by classroom teachers, law enforcement officers, correctional officers, firefighters, child welfare services professionals, active duty members of the United States Armed Forces, and members of the Florida National Guard.

Current Committee of Reference: House Ways & Means Committee

Actions

01/12/2022

HOUSE Now in Ways & Means Committee

Compare

[SB 1748](#)

Homestead Property Tax Exemptions For Classroom Teachers, Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Child Welfare Professionals, And Servicemembers (Brodeur)

01/20/2022 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/25/22, 3:30 pm, 37 S

Identical

[SB 1746](#)

Homestead Property Tax Exemption (Brodeur)

01/20/2022 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 01/25/22, 3:30 pm, 37 S

Linked

[HB 1563](#)

Homestead Property Tax Exemptions for Classroom Teachers, Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Child Welfare Professionals, and Servicemembers (Tomkow)

01/12/2022 HOUSE Now in Ways & Means Committee

MARTIN COUNTY DELEGATION MEETINGS

A team of Martin County commissioners and staff had several meetings this week at the capitol to promote the County's legislative agenda. The group also participated in the Florida Association of Counties and Treasure Coast Legislative Conferences.

Legislator Meetings: Representative Overdorf, Representative Snyder, Representative Grall, Representative Trabulsy, Senator Harrell, Senate Majority Leader Mayfield, and Senator Simpson's Senior Environmental Advisor

Executive Branch Meetings: DEP Deputy Secretary Adam Blalock, DOT Assistant Secretary Brad Thoburn, DEO Secretary Dan Eagle, DEP Chief Resiliency Officer Wes Brooks, Governor's Legislative Director Stephanie Kopelouses, and Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff Anna DeCerchio

FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS USACE WORK PLAN

The US Army Corps of Engineers announced their plan for spending \$1.1 billion on South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) from the Infrastructure Funds. This equates to more than half of the total Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Funds for the nation. This will complement the \$350 million already budgeted for federal spending on SFER and the nearly \$1 billion proposed in Governor DeSantis' budget. In total, we can anticipate over **\$2.3 billion in Everglades restoration progress this year**, which is more than double the record smashing year in FY21. The most notable element of the work plan for Martin County is **full construction funding for the C-23/24 North Reservoir**.

Click here to see the entire work plan:

<https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll6/id/2236>