

Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Legislative Report 2018



Christine Shaw
Executive Director

Rachel Zara
Legislative Delegation Aide

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Message from Delegation Chair, Representative Bill Hagar

It is my pleasure to present the 2018 Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation wrap-up report.

Inside you will find highlights of legislation and appropriations that members of our delegation worked diligently on during the 2018 Legislative Session. Included in the report are the contact information and committee assignments for each of the members of our delegation.

This Session the Legislature passed an \$88.7 billion budget, while cutting taxes by almost \$550 million. In addition, there were three local bills passed by our delegation and signed by Governor Scott.

For eight years, I have represented the citizens of Palm Beach County and it has been my honor to serve as Chair of the Delegation this past year. It is a privilege to be among those who advocate for Palm Beach County and Home Rule in the Legislature, and I am very proud to work with my colleagues on behalf of Palm Beach County's residents.



Executive Director's Report



I have enjoyed working closely with the members and staff of the delegation this year as Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation.

We have composed this report to give you a comprehensive overview of the priority issues the delegation has worked on during the 2018 legislative session. You will also find a detailed list of appropriations that the legislature allocated to Palm Beach County, as well as those vetoed by the Governor. Our delegation members worked countless hours to bring these appropriations home.

These hours consisted of individual meetings with constituents and groups, numerous public hearings throughout the County (including joint workshops with the Palm Beach County League of Cities, School Board and Board of County Commissioners), several weeks of committee hearings, and the annual 60-day Legislative Session in Tallahassee.

I would like to thank the delegation members and especially the delegation staff for their tireless work this Session. They are the hardest working people I have met and the successes this session reflects all their efforts. Kudos on a job well done! I would also like to thank our legislative delegation aide, Rachel Zara. She does a great job of keeping the Delegation office running smoothly and supporting our efforts while we are in Tallahassee.

Finally, I want to thank our Delegation Chair, Representative Bill Hagar, for his leadership over the past year and for his advocacy for Palm Beach County over the past eight years in the House. You will be missed as member of our Delegation. It has been an absolute honor and privilege working with you.

2018 Legislative Session Summary

February 14, 2018 marked a day of great sadness in Florida when 17 people were killed and 17 others were injured in a mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in the City of Parkland. In response to the tragedy, the Legislature passed SB 7026 - the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. This legislation provides law enforcement, courts, and schools with the tools to enhance public safety by temporarily restricting firearm possession by a person undergoing a mental health crisis and when there is evidence of a threat of violence. The bill appropriates \$200 million in nonrecurring and \$200 million in recurring funds to put those requirements in place. Among its many provisions, the bill prohibits a person under 21 years of age from purchasing a firearm; requires a three-day waiting period for all firearms, not just handguns; and bans the sale of bump stocks.

The House and Senate, along with Governor Scott, continued to look at ways to curb the growing opioid epidemic in the state. One of the bills signed into law by Governor Scott, HB 21 - Controlled Substances, will expand the use of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program requiring healthcare providers prescribing controlled substances to run the patient's history through the Program. HB 21 also limits prescriptions for Schedule II opioids to a 3-day supply, or a 7-day supply if deemed medically necessary. That provision excludes pain related to cancer, terminal illness, palliative care, and serious traumatic injury from these prescribing limits. The bill amends and strengthens criminal laws, and provides over \$53 million in appropriations for state agencies, emergency responders, and other entities to aid in prevention, treatment, and recovery activities.

After Hurricane Irma, nursing homes and assisted living facilities came under scrutiny when 12 residents died in a nursing home due to excessive heat following the massive storm. The legislature passed new legislation requiring that nursing homes and facilities have generators and fuel on hand for 72 hours. Appropriations were included in the budget to address the ongoing hurricane recovery efforts with more than \$40 million allocated for agricultural storm damage, \$90 million for federal disaster recovery grants for communities, \$126 million in assistance for students displaced by Hurricane Maria from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and \$11.2 million for beach repairs.

State Senators of Palm Beach County

Senator Joe Negron
District 25



Senate President

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Senator Bobby Powell
District 30



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Committee Assignments:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development, **Vice Chair**;
Agriculture; Appropriations; Appropriations
Subcommittee on Health and Human Services; Health
Policy; Judiciary; Joint Select Committee on Collective
Bargaining, **Alternating Chair**; Joint Legislative Budget
Commission

Senator Kevin Rader
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Committee Assignments:

Agriculture, **Vice Chair**; Appropriations
Subcommittee on Health and Human Services;
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development;
Governmental Oversight and Accountability;
Transportation; Joint Administrative Procedures
Committee, **Alternating Chair**

Vacant
District 31

508-C Lake Avenue
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Staff: Evelyn DuPlecy; Chauncey Graham; Melissa
Santoro

State Representatives of Palm Beach County



Representative Joseph Abruzzo
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Committees: Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, **Ranking Member**, PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee, **Ranking Member**, Ways & Means Committee, **Ranking Member**, Government Accountability Committee; Justice Appropriations Subcommittee



Representative MaryLynn Magar
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Committees: Health Innovation Subcommittee, **Chair**; Energy & Utilities Subcommittee; Health & Human Services Committee; Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee; Post-Secondary Education Subcommittee



Representative Rick Roth
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Committees: Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; Agriculture & Property Rights Subcommittee; Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee; Commerce Committee; PreK-12 Quality Subcommittee



Representative Matt Willhite
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Committees: Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee; PreK-12 Quality Subcommittee; Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee



Representative David Silvers
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1850 Forest Hill Boulevard, Suite 200
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Committees: Careers & Competition Subcommittee; Health & Human Services Committee; Health Quality Subcommittee; Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee; Post-Secondary Education Subcommittee



Representative Al Jacquet
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314 11th Street
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Committees: Careers & Competition Subcommittee; Natural Resources & Public Lands Subcommittee; Tourism & Gaming Control Subcommittee; Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Ways & Means Committee

State Representatives of Palm Beach County



Representative Bill Hager
District 89
Delegation Chair
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Committees: Justice Appropriations Subcommittee,
Chair; Appropriations Committee; Commerce
Committee; Joint Legislative Budget Commission;
Judiciary Committee; PreK-12 Innovation
Subcommittee



Representative Lori Berman
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Committees: Energy & Utilities Subcommittee,
Ranking Member; Rules & Policy Committee,
Ranking Member; Appropriations Committee;
Commerce Committee; Health & Human Services
Committee



Representative Emily Slosberg
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Committees: Agriculture & Property Rights
Subcommittee; Children, Families & Seniors
Subcommittee; Criminal Justice Subcommittee; Joint
Committee on Public Counsel Oversight; Public Integrity
& Ethics Committee; Select Subcommittee on Member
Conduct

Outgoing Delegation Members

Thank you for your years of service and leadership!



Representative Bill Hager
Delegation Chair



Senator Joe Negron
Senate President



Senator Joseph Abruzzo
House Democratic Whip

Palm Beach County Appropriations

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

Palm Beach State College

Palm Beach State College – Operating	\$44,673,856
Palm Beach State College – Education Enhancement	\$13,659,363

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

Public Safety (SB 7026)

Palm Beach County Safe Schools Allocation	\$10,384,575
Palm Beach County Mental Health Allocation	\$4,340,504

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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	\$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	\$300,000
Morse Life Assisted Living Facility	\$1,000,000
Feeding South Florida Community Kitchen	\$1,000,000

Projected Net Payments DSH (LIP Not Available until September)

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

Criminal & Civil Justice

Sago Palm Facility – PILT	\$142,900
South Bay Correctional Facility – PILT	\$275,560
Continuum of Care Program (Bay, Moore Haven, South Bay, and Blackwater River)	\$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
City of Palm Beach Gardens City Hall Expansion Emergency Facility	\$500,000

TRANSPORTATION & GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Transportation Economic Development

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	\$59,906,668

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

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

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

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

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

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

Public Transit Development

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

South Central Florida Express	\$24,885,625
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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

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

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

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

Computer Software Purchases	\$1,350,000
Computer System Hardware Enhancements	\$1,320,000
Widen Tpk (SR 91) Boynton Beach Blvd – Lake Worth Rd (4 to 8 Lns W/E; Mp 86-93)	\$4,350,000

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

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

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

CULTURE & FINE ARTS

Historic Preservation Grants

City of Boynton Beach, Development Dept. - 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

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

Library Grants

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

2018 Local Bills

HB 889 - West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund of the City of West Palm Beach **Rep. Matt Willhite**

This 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.

Signed by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-168.

HB 901 - Acme Improvement District and Pine Tree Water Control District **Rep. Matt Willhite**

This 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, 50 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.

Signed by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-170.

HB 1093 - Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District **Rep. Matt Willhite**

This bill dissolves the Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District as an independent special district and transfers it to the Town of Loxahatchee Groves as a dependent special district. The bill repeals all special acts of the Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District and all provisions will become ordinances of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves. The bill 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.

Signed by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-175.

HB 1113 - Palm Beach County Housing Authority **Rep. David Silvers and Rep. Lori Berman**

This 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 been qualified electors of the county and subject to removal or suspension by the governing body of the county.

Vetoed by the Governor on March 30, 2018.

Legislation Sponsored by Delegation Members

SB 4 - Higher Education

Sen. Bill Galvano

This bill, the Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act of 2018, was a priority of **Senate President Joe Negron**. It reinstates full funding of the Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholars Award at 100 percent of tuition and fees for spring, summer, and fall semesters; plus \$300 in fall and spring semesters to cover instructional materials and other costs. The bill also funds the Bright Futures Florida Medallion Scholars Award at 75 percent of tuition and fees beginning in the fall semester of the 2018-2019 academic year. Additionally, the bill expands and enhances policy and funding tools, allowing Florida's universities to recruit and retain the very best faculty, together with providing the resources necessary to increase the ability for the universities to compete as national destination institutions.

Signed by the Governor on March 11, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-4.

HB 33 - Texting While Driving prime cosponsored

Rep. Emily Slosberg

This bill would have amended the Florida Ban on Texting While Driving law to change the current enforcement of the ban on texting while driving from secondary to primary. The change would have allowed a law enforcement officer to stop a vehicle solely for texting while driving. Additionally, 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 their cellphone. Lastly, the bill would have required a law enforcement officer to record the race and ethnicity of a person issued a citation for texting while driving.

Died in Senate Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities Committee.

HB 61 - Restoration of Civil Rights

Rep. Al Jacquet

This bill would have restored civils rights to former felons after the sentence of incarceration and community supervision. The bill would have focused on civil rights such as voting, but would not have authorized former felons to own, possess, or use firearms.

Died in House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

HB 155 - State Symbols

Rep. MaryLynn Magar

This bill removes the repeal of the Loggerhead Turtle as the official state saltwater reptile and the Florida Cracker Horse as the official state horse both scheduled to repeal on July 1, 2018. In 2008, the Legislature designated the Loggerhead Turtle as the official state saltwater reptile and the Florida Cracker Horse as the official state horse. These animals will now remain the designated state symbols. Additionally, the bill designates the Florida Cracker Cattle as the official state heritage cattle breed.

Signed by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-43.

HB 217 - Payment of Health Care Claims

Rep. Bill Hager

This bill would have prevented health insurance companies from retroactively denying a service they had previously authorized. Physicians must obtain pre-approval from insurers, in order to provide certain care for their patients. However, there are times when patients have had a procedure pre-approved and after the procedure, the insurance company will retroactively deny the claim and refuse to pay. This bill would have guaranteed that an insurance company could no longer deny previously approved claims leaving physicians or the patients uncovered.

Died in House Health and Human Services Committee.

HB 227 - Workers' Compensation Benefits for First Responders**Rep. Matt Willhite**

This bill provides first responders with wage replacement benefits for a mental or nervous injury following a diagnosis of job related post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The bill allows first responders to receive proper medical treatment regardless of whether the individual's PTSD is accompanied by a physical injury requiring medical treatment to ensure they are in the best physical and mental shape to continue to serve their communities. The bill also requires an employing agency of a first responder to provide educational training related to mental health awareness, prevention, mitigation, and treatment.

Passed as SB 376 (Book) and signed by the Governor on March 27, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-124.

HB 231 - Risk Protection Orders**Rep. Lori Berman**

Although this bill died in the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee, a large portion of the bill's language was incorporated in the final version of SB 7026 - Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. HB 231 was modeled after similar legislation already in existence in California, Washington, Oregon, Connecticut, and Indiana. Those states allow law enforcement to petition a court to remove firearms and prohibit the purchase of firearms from an individual who is a danger or threat to themselves or others.

Incorporated into SB 7026 and signed by the Governor on March 9, 2018; Chapter 2018-3.

SB 318 - Internship Tax Credit Program**Sen. Bobby Powell**

This bill would have created the "Florida Internship Tax Credit Program" which would have authorized a corporate income tax credit up to a specified amount to a qualified business paying wages to a degree-seeking student during the student's internship at the business.

Died in Senate Education Committee.

HB 393 - Discrimination in Labor and Employment**Rep. Lori Berman**

This bill would have created the "Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Protection Act" in honor of Helen Gordon Davis for her hard work in the field of equal pay. The bill hoped to strengthen state laws in this arena. Provisions in the legislation would have included prohibiting employers from providing less favorable employment to employees based on sex, failing to notify an employee about other careers tracks and promotion opportunities, and prohibiting an employer from requiring salary history of applicants.

Died in House Careers & Competition Subcommittee.

HB 421 - Homestead Waivers**Rep. Lori Berman**

This bill creates safe harbor language that may be placed in a deed, indicating that a spouse is waiving his or her rights in a homestead property. The bill clarifies that a spouse's waiver of certain limitations on homestead transfer can be included in a recorded deed.

Passed as SB 512 (Young) and signed by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-22.

HB 443 - Nursing Home and Assisted Living Facility Resident Rights**Rep. Emily Slosberg**

This bill would have required nursing homes and assisted living facilities to notify residents and the State Long Term Care Ombudsman of the facility's current contact information, including a functional telephone number, and of any change in contact information within 30 days after such change. The bill would have required an assisted living facility to provide residents with 45 days' written notice of relocation or termination of residency and required an assisted living facility that is relocating a resident to provide the reasons for relocation to the resident or the resident's legal representative. Lastly, the bill would have required that an assisted living facility's location information is current and reported to the Agency for Health Care Administration for posting on its consumer information website.

Died on House Second Reading Calendar.

HB 491 - Theft**Rep. Rick Roth**

This bill increases the mandatory fine to \$10,000 for theft of commercially farmed animals or bee colonies of a registered beekeeper.

Signed by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-49.

HB 577 - High School Graduation Requirements**Rep. David Silvers**

This bill allows a student to use credit earned upon completion of a Department of Education registered apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program to satisfy the credit requirements for fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts to graduate. The bill also requires the State Board of Education 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.

Signed by the Governor on April 6, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-154.

SB 582 - Write-in Candidate Qualifying**Sen. Kevin Rader**

This bill codifies the 2016 Florida Supreme Court decision in *Brinkmann v. Francois* by repealing the statute that requires a write-in candidate to reside in the district that he or she seeks to represent at the time of qualifying. The Florida Constitution sets forth residency requirements for legislators, county commissioners, justices and judges, the governor, lieutenant governor, and members of the cabinet. The constitutional residency requirement for legislators, county commissioners, justices and judges has been interpreted by Florida courts to mean that residency within the district represented by the office sought is required at the time of election or at the time the candidate assumes office. Current law, s. 99.0615, F.S., requires a write-in candidate to reside within the district represented by the office sought at the time of qualification. The Florida Supreme Court recently found the statute unconstitutional because it conflicts with the residency requirements within the Florida Constitution.

Passed as HB 6009 (Geller) and signed by the Governor on March 30, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-141.

HB 635 - Victim Assistance**Rep. Al Jacquet**

This bill would have required a law enforcement agency to provide information to victims if their property is located in a pawnshop. The bill was introduced with the objective of returning property back to victims and stated that the victim's property shall be returned promptly unless there is a compelling law enforcement reason for retaining it.

Died in House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

HB 637 - Fire Safety and Prevention/SB 820 - Firesafety Inspectors **Rep. Al Jacquet/Sen. Bobby Powell**

This bill would have created s.633.217, F.S., and prohibited certain actions to influence a firesafety inspector by coercion or compensation to violate the Florida Fire Prevention Code. The bill would have imposed criminal penalties for violation of the prohibited provisions including persuading, coercing, threatening, tricking, and any other form of interference. A first offense would be a second-degree misdemeanor. A second or subsequent offense would have constituted a first-degree misdemeanor.

HB 637 died in House Criminal Justice Subcommittee and SB 820 died in House Messages.

HB 673 - Reporting of Adverse Incidents in Planned Out-of-Hospital Births**Rep. MaryLynn Magar**

This bill requires a physician, certified nurse midwife, or licensed midwife attending a planned out-of-hospital birth to submit an adverse incident report to the Department of Health, within 15 days of the occurrence of the incident. The bill defines an adverse incident as an event over which the physician, certified nurse midwife, or licensed midwife could exercise control and one of the following occurs:

- maternal death that occurs after delivery or within 42 days after delivery;
- maternal patient is transferred to a hospital intensive care unit;
- maternal patient experiences hemorrhagic shock or requires a transfusion of more than four units of blood or blood products;
- fetal or newborn death, including a still birth, attributable to an obstetrical delivery;
- newborn patient is transferred to a hospital neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) due to a traumatic birth injury;
- newborn patient is transferred to a hospital NICU within 72 hours after birth if the newborn remains in the NICU for more than 72 hours or;
- any other injury as determined by department rules.

The bill also requires the attending health care practitioner to provide a medical summary of the events in the adverse incident report. The Department of Health must review each adverse incident report to determine whether the incident involves conduct for which the health care practitioner may be subject to disciplinary action and authorizes the Department of Health to adopt rules to implement the provisions of the bill.

Passed as SB 510 (Young) and signed by the Governor on March 19, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-21.

HB 721 - Mental Health**Rep. David Silvers**

This bill would have required county jails to continue to administer prescribed psychiatric medications upon the individual's return to jail after receiving care at a mental health facility unless the jail physician documents the need to change or discontinue such medication. This is essential to maintain the stability of the inmate's mental health throughout the duration of their court case. Additionally, the bill would have required county jails to send all medical information for individuals in their custody who will be admitted to state mental health treatment facilities. This bill will be introduced again in 2019.

Died in House Returning Messages.

HB 813 - Licensure of Unarmed Security Guards**Rep. Matt Willhite**

This bill would have allowed applicants for a Class "D" unarmed security officer license to take training classes online. Applicants obtaining a license to become an unarmed security guard would no longer be required to complete their training at a brick and mortar facility. The bill would have also allowed school and training facilities to offer such training courses online.

Died on House Second Reading Calendar.

SB 936 - Juvenile Justice**Sen. Bobby Powell**

This bill would have eliminated mandatory direct file of a child and changed the discretionary prosecution of children as adults. The bill would have revised the list of crimes for which children of specified ages who are charged with committing, attempting to commit, or conspiring to commit may be transferred to adult court by a state attorney. The bill also would have required the Department of Corrections to make every reasonable effort to ensure that any child between the ages of 16 and 18 years old who is convicted and sentenced be completely separated from adult offenders in the facility.

Died in Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice.

HB 1073 - Department of Financial Services**Rep. Bill Hager**

This bill addresses clean-up issues for the Department of Financial Services, eases regulatory burdens for licenses overseen by the department, and modernizes technology. For our youth aging out of foster care, there is now a requirement that the Department of Financial Services provide information on financial literacy and requires young adults who have aged out of foster care who request aftercare services to receive this information. The bill also provides consumer protection by barring individuals who were directors or officers of bankrupt insurers from serving in that capacity again. It also adds arson involved insurance fraud to the list of crimes that a reward can be offered for when the tip leads to an arrest.

Signed by the Governor on March 23, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-102.

HB 1099 - Advanced Birth Centers**Rep. MaryLynn Magar**

This bill would have created a new licensure program within the Agency for Health Care Administration for advanced birth centers. An advanced birth center is a birth center that may perform trial of labor after cesarean deliveries for screened patients that qualify, planned low risk cesarean deliveries, and anticipated vaginal delivery of laboring patients at the beginning of the 37th week of gestation to the end of the 41st week of gestation. The bill would have required advanced birth centers to be operated and staffed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The bill also would have required a mother and her infant to be discharged from the advanced birth center within 48 hours after the birth of the infant for a vaginal delivery and within 72 hours when delivery is by cesarean section, except in unusual circumstances as defined by rule.

Died in House Health & Human Services Committee.

HB 1147 - Abandoned Animals**Rep. Emily Slosberg**

This bill was filed in response to the 2016 animal cruelty case, State v. Milewski, during which the trial court held that Mr. Milewski had an expectation of privacy in the remains of his dead beagle puppy, Molly. The opinion of the trial court was overturned on appeal. This bill would have specified that an animal owner who abandons the animal has no expectation of privacy in the animal's body or remains.

Died in House Agriculture & Property Rights Subcommittee.

HB 1211/SB 1612 - Airboat Regulation**Rep. Joseph Abruzzo/Sen. Kevin Rader**

This bill creates “Ellie’s Law” in honor of Elizabeth “Ellie” Goldenberg who died in 2017 from injuries she sustained after being thrown from an airboat on an Everglades airboat tour. The bill establishes minimum safety certification standards for commercial airboat operators carrying passengers for hire on state waters. Operators must now complete a boating safety course or have a coastguard captain’s license, complete a Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission approved airboat course and be CPR certified. A person who violates the airboat operating provisions commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by up to 60 days imprisonment or a \$500 fine.

Passed as HB 1211 and signed by the Governor on March 30, 2018; Chapter No. 2018- 137.

HB 1335 - Capitol Relocation Task Force**Rep. Bill Hager**

This bill would have created a task force with members appointed by the Legislature, the Governor, and the State Employee Unions. It would have considered the fiscal impact of relocating the state capitol building and the Legislative and Cabinet offices. In addition, the task force would have taken into consideration the cost involved in traveling to Tallahassee compared to a part of the state more accessible to the most residents as well as the time involved in travel and accessibility to Floridians.

Died in House Oversight, Transparency & Administration Subcommittee.

SB 1364 - Public Records/Substance Abuse Service Providers**Sen. Kevin Rader**

This bill creates an exemption to protect certain personal identifying information of mental health and substance abuse treatment facility professionals, their spouses, and children. The bill provides staff protection from the danger of physical and emotional harm from hostile patients who may react inappropriately and violently to actions taken of the employees.

Passed as HB 1055 (DuBose) and signed by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-64.

SB 1392 - Criminal Justice**Sen. Jeff Brandes**

A priority of **Senate President Joe Negron**, this bill requires the creation of a pre-arrest diversion program in each judicial circuit. Among other requirements, each judicial circuit's pre-arrest and civil citation or similar pre-arrest diversion program must specify the misdemeanor offenses that qualify an offender for participation in the program as well as the program's requirements, including, but not limited to: the completion of community service hours; payment of restitution, if applicable; and intervention services indicated by a needs assessment of the offender. Additionally, the bill requires the Florida Department of Law Enforcement 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.

Signed by the Governor on March 30, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-127.

HB 1437 - Employment Services for Persons with Disabilities**Rep. Joseph Abruzzo**

This bill extends state workers' compensation benefits to participants of work experience programs within the Division of Blind Services and Vocational Rehabilitation. Extending these, benefits will maximize employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and increase their independence and self-sufficiency, while reducing costs for employers.

Signed by the Governor on March 21, 2018; Chapter No. 2018-72.

SB 1440 - Mental Illness Training for Law Enforcement Officers**Sen. Bobby Powell**

The bill would have required the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to establish a continued employment training component relating to mental illness. The training would have focused on the recognition of symptoms and characteristics of an individual with a mental illness and appropriate responses to an individual exhibiting such symptoms and characteristics. Completion of the training component would have counted toward the 40 hours of instruction for continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer.

Died in Senate Appropriations.

HB 1441 - Minimum Wage**Rep. Al Jacquet**

This bill would have increased the minimum wage through a periodic increase per year to meet the cost of inflation. The yearly increase would have been calculated by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for the cost of inflation. Additionally, the bill would have proposed adding \$1 to the cost of inflation for the first year, and \$1.50 every additional year.

Died in House Careers & Competition Subcommittee.

SB 1790/HB 1377 - Baker Act**Sen. Bobby Powell/Rep. David Silvers**

This bill would have directed the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to create a workgroup to evaluate methods to improve the operational effectiveness of the Florida Mental Health Act and recommended changes to existing laws, rules, and agency policies needed to implement the workgroup recommendations. The bill would have identified the members of the workgroup and a final report would have been provided to the Secretary of DCF, the Secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives with the workgroup's findings and recommended statutory and administrative rule changes by November 1, 2018.

SB 1790 died in Senate Appropriations and HB 1377 died in House Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee.



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