



**Interim Committee Week: County Lobbyist Call  
Monday, January 23, 2017**

**Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Davin Suggs, FAC's Director of Public Policy, made the following announcements:

1. The Governor's 2017 Jobs Summit will be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Orlando, Florida. Information will be sent from FAC to Commissioners and staff encouraging them to attend.
2. FAC would like to encourage all counties that received a request for information from the Speaker's office regarding economic development spending to comply with this request. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Poole at [epoole@fl-counties.com](mailto:epoole@fl-counties.com)
3. The Florida League of Cities will be conducting a municipal contract lobbyist pre-session education luncheon on January 26 at 12:15 pm and a mid-session luncheon on March 30 at 12:15 pm. FAC and affiliated lobbyists have been invited to join. Information will be sent out electronically and those wishing to attend need to RSVP to the League of Cities.

**2017 Priorities Update**

**Opioid Abuse – Lisa Hurley, Esq.**

Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association (FADAA) will be presenting on Opioid Overdoses and Substance -Exposed Newborns in Senate Children, Families & Elder Affairs Monday at 4:00 p.m. On Wednesday, at noon in the House media room #333, FADAA and other stakeholders, including FLC, FSA, FHA & FAC will hold a press conference on the Opioid Epidemic. Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Palm Beach County, will be speaking on behalf of her county and FAC. They are planning to highlight 7 counties (Brevard, Broward, Duval, Manatee, Orange, Palm Beach, Sarasota) at the press conference using the attached statistics compiled by FADAA with the assistance of various drug task forces.

Bills filed to date attempting to deal with the epidemic include – HB 61 (Lee, Jr) pertaining to treatment one should receive if hospitalized for an unintentional overdose; HB 249 (Rommel) related to the mandatory reporting of drug overdoses & SB 150 (Steube) which creates crimes of trafficking in fentanyl and synthetic drugs and increases penalties for some drug related offenses.

**Medical Marijuana – Laura Youmans, Esq. and Susan Harbin, Esq.**

On 1/17/17 the Department of Health issued a notice of Development of Rulemaking. The notice is posted on the FAC website [here](#). The rule will address the implementation of the recently amendment

to the constitution regarding the use of medical marijuana. The notice contains several dates and locations for public hearings to provide input on the proposed rule. The notice also contains the draft text of the proposed rule.

On 1/19/17 SB 406 by Sen. Bradley was filed. The bill provides a proposed framework for the implementation of medical marijuana. With regard to FAC's Priority Statement, the proposed bill does extend local government authority to regulate land use activity with regard to "Dispensaries". The bill preempts regulation cultivation and processing to the State. Currently the bill is silent with regards to taxation.

FAC's updated Medical Marijuana resource page can be found [here](#).

FAC's Medical Marijuana Summit Update (Saturday, February 4, Osceola County) – The agenda is being finalized and speakers are being confirmed.

#### **Tax Reform / Local Revenue Enhancement – Laura Youmans, Esq.**

- **Amendment 4 – Renewable Energy**  
Sen. Brandes filed SB 90 to implement Amendment 4 to exempt solar and renewable energy devices from property taxes. Leader Rodrigues will have in the House. We are working to exempt existing facilities per discussions with sponsors last year.
- **Commercial Leases Sales tax exemption** – Rep. Ahern has filed HB 223, however FAC does not support this version of the concept. FAC does expect other versions of this concept to be filed that we may be able to support.
- **Property taxes - 10 % Non-homestead Cap** - Sen. Lee has filed SB 76 – Joint Resolution to continue 10 % increase limit on assessments for non-homestead property. Expected forfeited revenue \$776 Million in 2017 but likely to be revised down due to lower expectations for real estate market.

#### **Economic Development – Eric Poole**

Review of last committee week:

The House Subcommittee on Careers and Competition started its review of the state's involvement in economic development programs this week. On Wednesday, the committee heard from a diverse panel of economic development experts and those interested evaluating the efficacy of using state funds for private sector growth. Among the meeting's objectives was to have a better understanding of what role government plays in supporting economic development and how the state currently evaluates its return on investment under the existing economic development programs. Panelists included: Amy Baker, Coordinator of the State Office of Economic & Demographic Research; Cissy Proctor, Executive Director- Department of Economic Opportunity; Chris Hart IV, President & CEO, Enterprise Florida; Shawn Kantor, L. Charles Hilton Jr. Distinguished Professor of Economic Prosperity and Individual Opportunity, Florida State University; Kelly L. Smallridge, President and CEO, Business Development Board of Palm Beach County; and, Fatima Perez, Regional Manager of State Government Affairs, Koch Companies Public Sector, LLC.

### **Beach Nourishment – Susan Harbin, Esq.**

- Week 2 Review: N/A
- Week 3 Preview: The House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee will review agency budgets for DACS, Dept. of Citrus, DEP, and FWC.
- No bills filed

### **Comprehensive Water – Susan Harbin, Esq.**

- Week 2 Review:
  - The Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation committee heard presentations from the DEP on implementation of last year's major water resources bill (SB 552), as well as on revisions to the human health-based water quality criteria rule. The House Natural Resources and Public Lands Subcommittee also heard from DEP on SB 552 implementation.
  - The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Environment and Natural Resources heard presentations and took public testimony on the Lake Okeechobee discharge issues.
- Week 3 Preview:
  - The House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee will review agency budgets for DACS, Dept. of Citrus, DEP, and FWC.
  - The House Energy and Utilities Subcommittee will hold a panel discussion on wastewater utility systems
- Bills filed: HB 285 by Rep. Fine – Related to Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System Inspections
  - HB 285 would remove the prohibition on local governments requiring evaluations of a septic systems at the point of sale in real estate transactions, and would instead require inspection of a septic tanks at the point of sale. The bill does not specify which entity or entities are responsible for the costs associated with inspection. Failing septic systems are known to contribute to water quality problems and excessive nutrients in the state's water bodies.

### **2017 Emerging Issues Update**

#### **Cell Towers – Eric Poole**

No update. Please refer to the notes from the last call on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Local Referenda – Laura Youmans**

HB 139 by Reg. Ingoglia will be heard on Wednesday. The current version maintains the current passage threshold at 50% for general elections. However, the current draft does not include language maintaining ability to utilize non-general elections that was included in the final bill last year. Rep. Ingoglia has indicated a willingness to work with us to go back to language from last year allowing referendums during special elections at a 60% threshold.

## **Ethics – Laura Youmans**

PIEC 3. Was heard during the last committee week. The proposed bill language would require counties to establish (if they do not currently have one) a local lobbyist registration system. Additionally, the proposed bill language would propose further restrictions upon local public officials when conflicts of interest arise.

## **Business Taxes – Laura Youmans**

SB 330 by Sen. Stuebe was filed on 1/10/17. The bill proposes restrictions and limitations on local governments with regards to local business taxes. This concept will be discussed in the House Careers and Competition Subcommittee on Wednesday, 1/25/17 at 1:00 p.m.

## **Firefighters – Lisa Hurley**

SB 158 (J.Latvala)/HB 143 (Fitzenhagen) Relating to Firefighters – SB 158 will be heard on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in Governmental Oversight & Accountability. It creates a presumption that certain types of cancers causing partial or total disability to or the death of a firefighter were contracted in the line of duty unless competent evidence is shown to the contrary. It seeks to increase the FRS rate for Special Risk Class employees by 0.01 percentage point to fund the benefit change. FAC is currently attempting to place a fiscal on the bill.

## **Civil Citation Program for Juveniles – Lisa Hurley**

SB 196 (Flores)/HB 205 (Ahern) Juvenile Civil Citation & Similar Diversion Programs - SB 196 will be heard in Criminal Justice at 4:00 p.m. Monday. The bill requires that every county establish either a juvenile civil citation program or other “similar diversion program” and mandates law enforcement use one of the programs in lieu of arrest for certain misdemeanor offenses (but still permits law enforcement to issue a simple warning in lieu of cc or diversion). According to DJJ, 60 counties have a civil citation program and all 67 counties have what can be considered a “similar diversion program.” Since counties already appear to be in compliance with the programmatic parts of the bill, the issues to consider are the potential benefits of the legislation versus the restrictions placed on our law enforcement officers. Historically law enforcement has been opposed to any restrictions placed upon their discretion and I suspect their position has not changed. However, if the bill passes one would anticipate positive societal benefits associated with diverting more youth from the juvenile justice system and possibly lower county juvenile detention costs in that less arrests could lead to less detention days.

## **Review of Other Legislation Last Week**

### **Medicaid**

Senate Appropriations heard presentations on emerging budget issues including AHCA’s revelation that in FY 13-14, FY14-15 they underpaid managed care companies by nearly \$148 million as a result of using a lower than contracted for rate. AHCA has partially paid back the companies but it seeking a \$75 million appropriation from the State to pay off the rest. S

## Weekly Calendar

### **Monday**

4:00 p.m. (S) Commerce & Tourism

- Discussion with Chris Hart, President & CEO of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

4:00 p.m. (S) Criminal Justice

- SB 196 Juvenile Civil Citation and Similar Diversion Programs (Flores)

### **Tuesday**

10:00 a.m. (S) Community Affairs

Florida Growth Management Presentations: What's Working – Not Working

- Department of Economic Opportunity
- 1000 Friends of Florida
- Florida Association of Community Developers
- Florida League of Cities
- Florida Association of Counties – Senator Commissioner Lee Constantine

Consideration of proposed bill:

SPB 7000 by Community Affairs – Florida Building Commission

10:00 a.m. (S) Governmental Oversight and Accountability

- SB 158 Firefighters (J. Latvala)

2:30 p.m. (H) Ways & Means

- Sales Tax Overview
- Property Tax Overview

### **Wednesday**

9:00 a.m. (H) Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

- Panel Discussion on Wastewater Utility Systems

9:00 a.m. (H) Health Quality Subcommittee

Presentations and panel discussion on medical cannabis:

- Rosalie Pacula, Ph.D., RAND Drug Policy Research Center
- Almut Winterstein, Ph.D., University of Florida, College of Pharmacology
- Andrew Freedman, former Director of Marijuana Coordination in Colorado
- Chief Daniel Oates, Florida Police Chiefs Association
- Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, Florida Sheriffs Association
- Lt. Colonel Mike Thomas, Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles

9:00 a.m. (H) Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Sub

- Consideration of: HB 139 Local Tax Referenda (Ingoglia)

1:00 p.m. (H) Agriculture & Property Rights Sub

- Presentation and discussion of property rights laws

1:00 p.m. (H) Careers & Competition Sub

- Panel discussion on the reduction or elimination of unnecessary professional and business regulations
- Testimony on excessive local regulations faced by Florida businesses

1:00 p.m. (H) Transportation & Infrastructure Sub

- Consideration of: HB 6007 Traffic Infrastructure Detectors (Avila)

2:00 p.m. (S) Regulated Industries

- SB 0008 Gaming (Galvano)

3:30 p.m. (H) Insurance & Banking Sub

- Panel discussion on issues relating to Florida's Workers' Compensation System – Part I

## **Thursday**

1:30 p.m. (S) Appropriations

- Presentations on Florida's Tourism Marketing

- Presentation on 2016 Economic Evaluation for Select State Economic Development Incentive Programs by Amy Baker, Coordinator, Office of Economic and Demographic Research

- Update on Status of Enterprise Florida, Inc., Contracts by Cissy Proctor, Executive Director, Department of Economic Opportunity

- Continuation of items not completed at the January 12, 2017 meeting:

- Update on the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund

- Update on Citizens Property Insurance

- Overview of State Contracting System

- Discussion of Florida PALM (FLAIR Replacement)

- Other Related Meeting Documents

## **Q&A**

There were no questions.