



2017 Legislative Bulletin

Preemption bills up this week!

Call now and ask Legislators to:



What: [SJR 1774](#)

When:

Thursday, April 13th *tentative*
1:00 p.m.

Where:

[Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance & Tax](#)

Action Needed:

1. [Determine local impact](#)
2. Call / Email [Senate committee](#) members

Messages:

1. This is a tax SHIFT not a tax CUT.
2. Small counties hit the hardest
3. Citizens will get less with less

[CLICK HERE](#) for more.

Some county impacts:

- Broward: \$40 million
- Miami-Dade: \$76 million
- Manatee: \$9.9 million
- Indian River: \$4.5 million
- St. Lucie: \$8.2 million
- Santa Rosa: \$4.7 million



What: [SB 596](#)

When:

Wednesday, April 12
5:00 p.m.

Where:

[Senate Rules Committee](#)
110 Senate Office Building

Action Needed:

Call / Email [Senate Rules Committee](#) members

Messages:

1. Taxpayers shouldn't foot the bill
2. Let's work together
3. The CST red herring
3. Protect public safety and community standards
4. Stop the Preemption

[CLICK HERE](#) for more.

Questions/More information:

[Eric Poole](#)



Know the impact to your county? [Click here](#) to tell FAC.

Want to know the impact to your county, [click here](#) to learn how.

Questions/More information:
[Laura Youmans](#)

FAC Priority: Opioid Epidemic



[SB 788](#) (Sen. Clemons) –related to marketing practices for substance abuse services unanimously passed the Senate Appropriations committee on 4/5/2017 and now is headed to its last committee of reference, the Senate Rules Committee.

[SB 150](#) (Rep. Steube) / [HB 477](#) (Rep. Boyd) creates crimes of trafficking in fentanyl and synthetic drugs and increases penalties for some drug related offenses. This is the priority legislation for the Florida Sheriffs Association. [SB 150](#) was passed unanimously by the Senate Criminal Justice committee on Monday, 4/3/17 and is now headed to the Senate Appropriations committee, it's last committee of reference. [HB 477](#) was passed unanimously by the House Justice Appropriations subcommittee on Monday, 4/3/17 and is now headed to the house floor.

Questions/More information:

To learn more about this issue and related legislative information contact Lisa M. Hurley, Esq. via email @ lhurley@fl-counties.com or visit the **OPIOID EPIDEMIC** Legislative page [here](#).



Bills in the News: Opioid Epidemic

FAC Priority: Medical Marijuana

[SB 406](#) (Sen. Bradley) was passed unanimously by the Senate Health Policy committee on Monday 4/3/17. The bill was amended substantially to among other things:

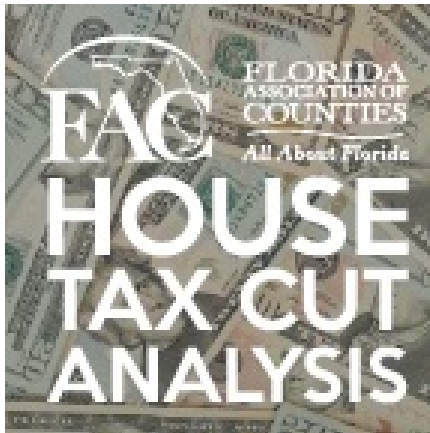
- Require independent testing of marijuana
- Creates a new medical marijuana research group at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa
- Allows nonresidents to get medical marijuana if they are approved in their home state
- Bars minors from buying medical marijuana, the marijuana must be purchased by a guardian
- The limit for a patient's supply is expanded from 45 to 90 days; and
- Allows for more dispensaries by adding 5 more by October 3, 2017, and another 4 for every 75,000 approved patients.



Legislation and FAC Contact

To learn more about this issue and related legislative information contact Susan Harbin, Esq. via email @ sharbin@fl-counties.com or visit the **MEDICAL MARIJUANA** Legislative page [here](#).

FAC Priority: Tax Reform



House Proposed Tax Cut Package - [HB 7109](#) - The proposed 2017 House tax cut package was passed unanimously by the Ways and means Committee on 4/5/2017 and is intended to provide for a wide range of tax reductions and modifications designed to directly impact both households and businesses, and to improve tax administration. The proposed concepts contain several provisions related to **sales tax** including a reduction of the sales tax on commercial leases from 6% to 4.5% for the first two years and then permanently by 0.5%. For **property tax** purposes, the proposed concepts provide property tax relief for certain property used to provide affordable housing and amends the definition of inventory to include certain

construction and agricultural equipment. Based on [FAC's analysis](#) of the proposed tax cut concepts, Counties will experience an estimated \$33 million recurring impact statewide.

10% Assessment Limit on Non-Homestead Property - [SB 76](#) (Sen. Lee) was unanimously passed on Thursday, 4/6/17 by the Senate Appropriations committee meeting. The bill is scheduled to be heard on Wednesday, 4/12/17 by the Senate Rules Committee before it heads to the Senate Floor.

Renewable Energy - [HB 1351](#) (Rep. Rodrigues) was passed unanimously on 4/5/2017 by the House Ways and Means committee. The bill was amended to include protection for solar projects currently under construction in several counties. These counties will now realize the full amount of speculated tax revenues if the bill continues towards successful adoption.

Sales Tax on Commercial Leases - [SB 484](#) (Sen. Hukill) which proposes to phase out the sales tax on commercial leases by beginning with a 1 cent reduction was passed by the Senate Community Affairs committee on 4/3/2017.

Questions / More Information:

To learn more about this issue and related legislative information contact Laura Youmans, Esq. via email @ lyoumans@fl-counties.com or visit the **TAX REFORM** Legislative page [here](#)

FAC Priority: Comprehensive Water Reform

[HB 285](#) (Rep. Fine) -Relating to Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System Inspections passed its final committee on 4/6/2017 and is heading to the floor. In its current form, **[HB 285](#)** would require DOH to create a database of existing septic systems including location and operational condition. The amended bill also requires a disclosure form at the point of sale indicating that a septic system exists on the property and recommending that the purchaser request the latest inspection report or request an inspection and assessment of the system a report is not available.



[SB532](#) (Sen. Galvano) related to public notices of pollution was passed unanimously on 4/6/17 by the Senate Appropriations committee and has been placed on the Senate Special Order Calendar for 2nd reading on Thursday, 4/13/2017.

[SB 10](#) (Sen. Bradley) – Relating to Water Resources passed its final committee, Senate Appropriations, on 4/5/2017. A strike-all amendment, which significantly alters the bill's original proposal to purchase 60,000 acres of land from willing sellers for a storage reservoir, was adopted. As amended, the bill would use state-owned land to create a deep storage reservoir. The bill also clarifies that CERP projects will continue to receive funding, and establishes a job training program for displaced agricultural workers. For a comprehensive summary of SB10 amendments from Senate President's office; [click here](#). [SB 10](#) has been placed on the Senate Special Order calendar for 2nd reading on Wednesday, 4/12/2017.

Questions / More information:

To learn more about this issue and related legislative information contact Susan Harbin, Esq. via email @ sharbin@fl-counties.com or visit the **COMPREHENSIVE WATER** Legislative page [here](#).

FAC Priority: Beach Re-nourishment

The House has proposed an appropriation of \$30,060,495 for statewide beach projects, with \$20 million appropriated from general revenue and the remainder coming from the LATF. The Senate has proposed \$50 million from the LATF for statewide beach projects, as well as \$50 million for beach recovery funds for nourishment, dune restoration, and dune repair projects in areas damaged by Hurricanes Matthew and Hermine. The complete [FAC analysis](#) of the Proposed SFY 2018 Senate and House budget can be found [here](#).

Questions / More Information

To learn more about this issue and related legislative information contact Susan Harbin, Esq. via email @ sharbin@fl-counties.com or visit the **BEACHRENOURISHMENT** Legislative page [here](#).



Bills in the News: Beach Re-nourishment

Other Legislative Issues of Note

The following provides information regarding legislation that may significantly impact Florida's counties.

Health & Human Services / Public Safety

[Lisa Hurley](#)

Florida Criminal Justice Reform Task Force: [SB 458](#) / [HB 387](#)

- [SB 458](#) (Sen. Brandes) was passed unanimously on 4/5/17 by the Senate Appropriations committee.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/criminal-justice-reform-task-force

Relating to Sentencing: [SB 1068](#) / [HB 157](#)

- SB 1068 was substantially amended on March 27, in the Senate Criminal Justice committee to include the substance of SB 1194 which includes sentencing guidelines.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/sentencing

Clerks of the Circuit Court: [SB 2056](#)

- [SB 2506](#), which provides for additional funds for clerks and a mechanism to adjust for budget fluctuations during the year, was passed unanimously on 4/5/2017 by the Senate Appropriations committee and immediately placed on the Special Order calendar for 2nd reading on 4/12/2017.
- FAC webpage: fl-counties.com/clerks-circuit-court

Drones - [SB 832](#) / [HB 1027](#)

- [HB 1027](#) was passed unanimously by the House Government Accountability Committee on 4/4/2017. It is now headed to the House Floor.
- [SB 832](#) was passed unanimously by the Senate Transportation Committee on 4/4/2017. This bill has two more committee references.
- FAC webpage: fl-counties.com/drones

Civil Citation Program for Juveniles - [SB 196](#) / [HB 205](#)

- [HB 205](#) was passed unanimously on Monday 4/3/17 by the House Justice Appropriations subcommittee.
- FAC webpage: fl-counties.com/civil-citation-program-juveniles

Finance, Tax & Administration

[Laura Youmans](#)

Public Records – [SB 80](#) / [HB 163](#)

- [HB 163](#) (Rep. Burgess) passed by the House Government Accountability Committee on 4/6/2017 and is headed to the House Floor.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/public-records

Constitutional Officers – [SJR 134](#) / [HJR 721](#)

- [SJR 136](#) relating to Property Appraisers was passed by the Senate Judiciary committee on 4/4/2017 and is now headed to the Senate Rules committee.
- [SJR 134](#) relating to Sheriffs was temporarily postponed by the Senate Judiciary committee on 4/4/17. [HJR 721](#) was also temporarily postponed on 4/6/2017 by the House Government Accountability committee.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/constitutional-officers

Worker's Compensation – [SB 1582](#) / [HB 7085](#)

- [SB 1582](#) (Sen. Bradley) was passed on Monday 4/3/17 in the Senate Banking and Insurance committee.
- [HB 7085](#) (Rep. Burgess), was passed by the House Commerce committee on 4/6/2017.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/workers-compensation

Local Referenda – [HB 139](#) / [SB 278](#)

- [HB 139](#) (Rep. Ingoglia) was amended and passed on, 4/5/2017 during a meeting of the House Ways and Means committee. The amendment added the ability for local governments to hold a referenda election to adopt local option sales taxes during a primary election as long as the voter passage threshold is increased to 60%. General elections still only require a 50% threshold.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/local-referenda

Growth Management, Environmental & Transportation

Vacation Rentals - [SB 188](#) / [HB 425](#)

- [SB 188](#) was temporarily postponed on Monday, 4/3/2017, during the Senate Community Affairs committee meeting.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/vacation-rentals

Relating to Transportation Network Companies: [SB 340](#) / [HB 221](#)

- [SB 340](#) was passed on 4/6/2017 in the Senate Rules Committee.
- [HB 221](#) was passed on third reading on the house floor on 4/5/2017.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/transportation-network-companies

Utility Transmission Lines - [SB 1048](#) / [HB 1055](#)

- Both bills have been fast-tracked, with [SB 1048](#) being passed on third reading on the Senate Floor on 4/6/2017.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/utility-transmission-lines

Community Redevelopment Agencies - [SB 1770](#) / [HB 13](#)

- [SB 1770](#) passed its first committee, Senate Community Affairs, by a 5-3 vote. Amendments were adopted to allow a city or county to continue a CRA's existence beyond the date set in the charter or September 30, 2037 by a supermajority vote of governing body that established the CRA. [HB 13](#) also passed its second committee, House Ways and Means, by a 14-5 vote, and was amended to allow an existing CRA to continue operating by a supermajority vote of the establishing body.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/community-redevelopment-agencies



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