



2017 Legislative Bulletin

Call Your Representatives Today!

Your representatives need to hear from you today on the impact of the additional homestead exemption

VOTE **NO** ON ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

What: [HJR 7105](#)

When:

Tuesday, April 25th & Wednesday, April 26th

Where:

Florida House of Representatives

Action Needed:

1. [Know your local impact - click here to view](#)
2. Call / Email [House](#) 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.

Questions/More information:

[Laura Youmans](#)

COUNTY BY COUNTY ANALYSIS ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION



Bills in the News: [Additional Homestead Exemption](#)

FAC Priority: Opioid Epidemic

[SB788](#) (Sen. Clemons) –related to marketing practices for substance abuse services was heard and passed on Wednesday, 4/19/17 in the Senate Rules Committee. The bill is now headed to the Senate floor. The House companion [HB 807](#) has been placed on the House Special Order Calendar for 2nd reading on Tuesday, 4/25/17.



[SB 588](#) (Sen. Passidomo) is the companion bill to [HB 249](#) (Rep. Rommel) encourages first responders to report certain overdose incident data to the Department of Health within 120 hours of the incident through the existing state Emergency Medical Service Tracking and Reporting System (or other appropriate method) and requires the Department to make the information available to local government agencies no later than 120 hours after receipt. [SB 588](#) was passed on Monday, 4/17/17 by the Senate Criminal Justice committee and is now scheduled to be heard by the Senate Rules committee on 4/25/17. [HB 249](#) and Similar [HB 61](#) has been placed on the special-order calendar for 2nd reading on Tuesday, 4/25/17.

[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 by the Senate Judiciary committee on Wednesday, 4/19/17 and is now scheduled to be heard by the Senate Appropriations committee on Tuesday 4/25/17. [HB 477](#) was passed by the full House on 4/20/17.

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



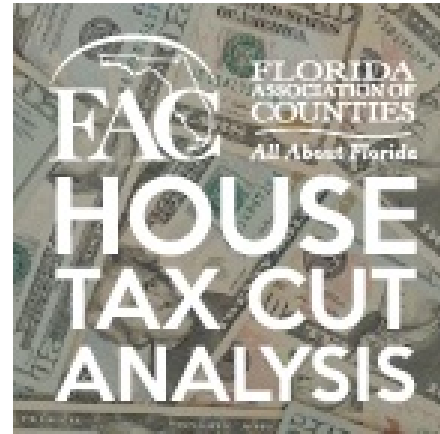
[SB 406](#) (Sen. Bradley) was heard and passed on Tuesday, 4/18/17 during a meeting of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services. The bill is scheduled to be heard during the Senate Appropriations committee on Tuesday 4/25/17. [HB 1397](#) (Rep. Rodrigues) was heard and passed on Tuesday, 4/18/17 in the House Appropriations Committee. The bill is scheduled to be heard during the House Health and Human Services committee on Monday, April 24, 2017.

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 has been placed on the House Special Order Calendar for 4/25/17. Based on [FAC's analysis](#) of the proposed tax cut concepts, Counties will experience an estimated \$33million recurring impact statewide.



10% Assessment Limit on Non-Homestead Property - [HB 21](#) (Rep. Burton) has been substituted for [SB76](#) (Sen. Lee) and has been scheduled for 3rd reading and final passage on Wednesday 4/26/2017

Additional Homestead Exemption - Please review FAC's new County by County impact analysis of [SJR 1774](#) (Sen. Lee) and [HB 7105](#) (Rep. LaRosa) [here](#). HB 7015 has been placed on Special Order for 4/25/17

Renewable Energy - [SB90](#) (Sen. Brandes) was passed unanimously on 4/20/2017 by the Senate Appropriations committee and is now headed to the Senate floor. HB 1351 (Rep. Rodrigues) was passed unanimously by the House Commerce committee on 4/19/17 and has now placed on the House special order calendar for 2nd reading on Tuesday, 4/25/17.

Local Business Taxes - [SB330](#) (Sen. Stuebe) is scheduled to be heard in Senate Appropriations on 4/25/17. [HB 487](#) (Rep. Renner) is scheduled to be heard in the House Government Accountability committee on 4/25/17 as well.

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 has been passed by the Full House as of 4/20/17.

[SB 1748](#) (Sen. Stewart) was heard and passed in the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation committee on Wednesday, 4/19/17.

[SB532](#) (Sen. Galvano) related to public notices of pollution was passed off the Senate Floor on 4/18/17 and is now in House messages.

[SB 10](#) (Sen. Bradley) – Relating to Water Resources passed off the Senate floor and is now in House messages.

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

[SB 1590](#) (Sen. Latvala) – Relating to Coastal Management passed unanimously on 4/20/17 in the Senate Appropriations committee.

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](#)

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

- [SB 2506](#) (Senate Appropriations) / [HB 7051](#) (Rep. Byrd) -Relating to Clerks of the Circuit Court
- [SB 2506](#), which provides for additional funds for clerks and a mechanism to adjust for budget fluctuations during the year, was passed off the Senate Floor, received by the House which took up the bill and amended the legislation and ultimately agreed to include the subject matter of the bill as a part of the upcoming budget conference.
- [HB 7051](#) revises the way in which clerk of court budgets would be approved. Specifically, it removes the duties of LBC regarding budgets of Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation & clerks of court; revises duties of the corporation; revises budgeting requirements for court-related costs of clerks of court; requires cost of certain changes in court rules & administrative orders to be reviewed by Criminal Justice Estimating Conference; revises duties of JAC relating to budgets & payroll of clerks of court. [HB 7051](#) has been placed on the special-order calendar for 2nd reading on 4/25/17.
- FAC webpage: fl-counties.com/clerks-circuit-court

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

- [HB 1027](#) was passed off the House floor on 4/20/17.
- [SB 832](#) was heard and passed on 4/19/17 by the Senate Communications, Energy, and Utilities committee. The bill is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Rules committee on 4/25/17.
- FAC webpage: fl-counties.com/drones

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

- [HB 205](#) was passed by the House Judiciary committee on 4/20/17 and is now headed to the House floor. The bill was substantially amended to removed mandatory civil citations and merely encourages the use of such diversion programs and provides for the expunction of juvenile records who successfully complete the program.
 - FAC webpage: fl-counties.com/civil-citation-program-juveniles
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Finance, Tax & Administration

[Laura Youmans](#)

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

- [SB 80](#) and [HB 163](#) have both been passed as of 4/20/17 and will be submitted to the Governor.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/public-records

Worker's Compensation –

[SB 1582](#) / [HB 7085](#)

- The bills provide concepts for reform of existing worker's compensation system. [SB 1582](#) (Sen. Bradley) was passed in the Senate Rules committee on 4/19/17 and is now headed to the Senate floor. The Senate version would cap attorneys' fees at \$250 and would require individual insurers to file their own rate requests rather than the requests being filed by the National Council on Compensation Insurance. The bill now includes language that would deem multiple myeloma and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma to be occupational diseases for firefighters for purposes of workers' compensation. [HB 7085](#) (Rep. Burgess) was passed off the House floor on 4/19/17 and will now await action by the Senate. Among other provisions, the House version of the workers' compensation reform would limit claimants' attorney's fees to \$150.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/workers-compensation

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

- The bills stipulate when local governments must have their local referendum elections and by what threshold they must pass. [SB 278](#) was heard and passed on Monday, 4/17/17 by the Senate Community Affairs committee. [HB 139](#) has been placed on the House special order calendar for 2nd reading on 4/25/17.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/local-referenda

Local Government Fiscal Transparency – [HB 7065](#) (House Ways & Means Comm.)

Among various provisions, the bill provides for:

- a) Voting records related to Board actions to increase taxes and the issuance of tax-supported debt.
- b) The provision of online access to historical TRIM notices by parcel.
- c) Additional requirement for public meetings and notice for local option tax increases and tax-supported debt issuances.
- d) The requirement for local governments to conduct a debt affordability analysis prior to approving new long-term tax-supported debt.
- e) The requirement that local governments include compliance with transparency requirements in their annual audit.

Currently, there is no Senate companion bill to [HB 7065](#).

The bill was heard and passed by the House Government Accountability Committee on 4/25/17. The bill has now been placed on the House special order calendar for 4/25/17.

FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/local-government-fiscal-transparency

• Growth Management, Environmental & Transportation

[Eric Poole](#)

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

- [SB 188](#) was heard and passed on Monday, 4/17/2017, during the Senate Community Affairs committee meeting. The bill was amended to allow existing ordinances to be amended to be less restrictive or add measures that reduced the regulatory burdens on veterans that own vacation rental property. [HB 425](#) is scheduled to be heard by the House Commerce committee on 4/24/17.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/vacation-rentals

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

- The bills have been passed by both chambers and will now be presented to the Governor.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/transportation-network-companies

Public Works Contracting: [SB 534](#) / [HB 599](#)

- [HB 599](#) was passed off the House floor on 4/19/17 and now awaits action by the Senate. [SB 534](#) was heard and passed by the Senate Appropriations committee on 4/20/17 and now heads to the Senate floor.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/utility-transmission-lines

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

- Both bills require substantial changes to the management of CRAs. [SB 1770](#) failed to pass the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development. [HB 13](#) was heard and passed by the House Government Accountability committee and has been placed on the House special order calendar for 2nd reading on 4/25/17.
- FAC Webpage: fl-counties.com/community-redevelopment-agencies

