

MEMORANDUM

TO: NAIOP
FROM: GrayRobinson
DATE: September 26, 2021
SUBJECT: 2022 Legislative Session – Committee Week 1 Summary (September 20-24)

In Tallahassee this week, the 2022 Legislative Session got off to an official start with the first committee week. The Capitol is back open to the public pursuant to Speaker Pro Tempore, Bryan Avila's, September 20 COVID protocols memo. While COVID testing is still available to members and staff, weekly testing and screening are no longer a condition to enter the Capitol. Further, members are only permitted to have one additional staff member serving at the Capitol in addition to their one designated district employee. This week's committee meetings, mainly, focused around overviews of Agency and Department budget requests and legislative priorities, as well as presentations on implementation updates of certain bills passed last legislative session. No filed 2022 session bills were heard this week. These and other topics are covered below in our summary of the week that was in Tallahassee.

Summary of Committee Week One (September 20-24)

Budget on the Mind

The following legislative budget request presentations were heard (only House Appropriations Committees met this week):

- House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Agency for Persons with Disabilities
 - Department for Elder Affairs
 - Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs
- House Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
 - Department of Military Affairs
 - Department of Transportation

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- House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Department of Education
- House State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Department of Revenue
 - Office of Financial Regulation
- House Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Department of Education
 - Board of Governors
- House Justice Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Office of the Attorney General/Department of Legal Affairs
 - Florida Department of Law Enforcement
 - Department of Juvenile Justice

Bill Implementation and Workshop Presentations

The following presentations were heard by the House:

- House Health & Human Services Committee
 - Workshop on Hospital Care Innovation:
 - AdventHealth
 - Mayo Clinic
- House Pandemics & Public Emergencies Committee
 - Updates on the Florida hospital system
- House Judiciary Committee
 - Updates on Criminal Justice Data Transparency, Uniform Arrest Affidavit and Florida Incident Based Reporting technology projects by Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- House Civil Justice & Property Rights Subcommittee
 - Presentation on sovereign immunity and the legislative claim bill process by Civil Justice & Property Rights Subcommittee staff
- House Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee
 - Implementation of HB 1507 (2021) by the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help
- House Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee
 - Implementation of HB 7011 (2021) by the Department of Education and University of Florida

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- House Professions & Public Health Subcommittee
 - Workshop on Florida Infant Mortality by Department of Health and FL Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc.
- House Finance & Facilities Subcommittee
 - Agency for Health Care Administration Implementation update on:
 - Repeal of Certificate of Need, HB 19 (2019)
 - Patient Safety Culture Surveys, HB 763 (2020)
 - Personal Care Attendants, HB 485 (2021)
 - Postpartum Medicaid Coverage, HB 2518 (2021)
- House Government Operations Subcommittee
 - Update by the Department of Management Services on:
 - Implementation of CS/CS/CS/HB 1391 (2020), relating to technology innovation
 - Implementation of CS/CS/HB 1297 (2021), relating to cybersecurity
- House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Presentation on the Nonenrollment Reports Pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter No. 2021-44, Laws of Florida
 - Update on Status of Allocations Versus Disbursements of Federal Coronavirus Funds
- House Criminal Justice & Public Safety Subcommittee
 - Presentation by Florida Department of Corrections on temporary prison closures and staffing issues
- House Post-Secondary Education & Lifelong Learning Subcommittee
 - Presentation by the Board of Governors on implementation of:
 - Tuition & fee waivers as required by HB 1261
 - The intellectual freedom & viewpoint diversity assessment as required by HB 233
 - The nursing study as required by HB 1507
- House State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Updates on the State Law Enforcement Radio System by Department of Management Services
- House Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee
 - Discussion of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
- House Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee
 - Briefings on the following:
 - At-Risk Boys and Fatherhood
 - All Pro Dads
 - AMIKids
- House Environment, Agriculture & Flooding Subcommittee
 - Update on Piney Point by the Department of Environmental Protection

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The following presentations were heard by the Senate:

- Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee
 - Presentations by the Department of Children and Families on:
 - The implementation of Senate Bills 80 and 96 (2021)
 - Florida's transition to full implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act
- Senate Criminal Justice Committee
 - Discussion on 2022 Legislative Priorities:
 - Florida Sheriffs Association
 - Florida Police Chiefs Association
- Senate Education Committee
 - Presentation on K-12 Standards, Assessments, and Student Supports by Department of Education
- Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee
 - Presentation on the United States Space Force by United States Space Force
 - Presentation updates on Space Florida
- Senate Banking and Insurance Committee
 - Presentations on the Florida Insurance Market by the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation and Florida Insurance Consumer Advocate
- Senate Transportation Committee
 - Presentation on the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Master Plan by the Florida Department of Transportation
 - Presentation on Electric Vehicle Charging Initiatives by Florida Power & Light Company
 - Update on Digital Driver Licenses and Identification Cards by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
- Senate Agriculture Committee
 - Presentation on Racial Equality in Florida Agriculture by the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund
 - Update on the Status of the Medical Marijuana License for a Recognized Class Member of *Pigford v. Glickman*

Notable Topics

House Speaker Designation Ceremony

At the meeting of the House Republican Conference on September 24, chaired by House Majority Leader Michael Grant and Speaker Sprowls, Representative Paul Renner was nominated and confirmed to serve as Speaker of the Florida House for the 2022-2024 legislative term. During his designation speech, Renner touted freedom while rejecting division that stifles opposing thought. Renner denounced social media bans, group guilt, and marginalizing opposing viewpoints as a

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negative vision. Renner also highlighted education, health care and “preserving the beauty of Florida’s natural resources.” Governor DeSantis, Lieutenant Governor Nuñez, Chief Financial Officer Patronis, and Attorney General Moody, Senate President Simpson, former Speakers John Thrasher, Dean Cannon, Steve Crisafulli, Richard Corcoran were in attendance.

Redistricting

Redistricting will be a major topic this session, as it only happens once every ten years. The committees that met didn’t discuss any business yet, but rather discussed overviews of committee jurisdiction, introduction to redistricting terminology and timeline, and census/census data explanation. The public redistricting site was also announced and released (<https://www.floridaredistricting.gov/>). Federal law demands near-perfectly divided districts for congressional seats. The ideal population, based on the 2020 count of residents, would put each district as home to 769,221 people. The Legislature may vary districts in size by one. While the committee staff were working last session, the committees for the 2022 session were just recently named and are meeting for the first time this session:

- Senate Committee on Reapportionment (Met September 20)
 - Senate Select Subcommittee on Congressional Reapportionment
 - Senate Select Subcommittee on Legislative Reapportionment
- House Redistricting Committee (Met September 22)
 - House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee (Met September 23)
 - House State Legislative Redistricting Subcommittee (Met September 23)

Abortion Bill

On September 22, Representative Barnaby filed HB 167 (titled the Florida Heartbeat Act), which has been touted as a “Texas-style abortion bill.” The bill would require physicians to test for and inform woman seeking abortion of presence of detectable fetal heartbeat. It would also prohibit physicians from performing or inducing abortion if fetal heartbeat is detected, as well as change the term “fetus” to “unborn child.” The bill provides exceptions for medical emergencies and necessities. Currently, there is no Senate companion filed, although Senate President Simpson said earlier this month that legislative leadership was already looking into a fetal heartbeat bill. House Speaker Sprowls said that he is supportive of stricter abortion rules but didn’t yet endorse this specific bill, rather on the day HB 167 was filed Sprowls said he had asked House Judiciary Committee Chair Grall and House Health and Human Services Committee Chair Burton to review abortion law proposals and to take point on the issue. Governor DeSantis has also previously said he supports pro-life legislation, although he said he would look into the legislation before endorsing it. Democrats, such as Rep. Eskamani, US Rep. Charlie Crist, and Agricultural Commissioner Nikki Fried, immediately criticized the bill.

New Doctor in Charge

On September 21, Governor DeSantis announced the appointment of Dr. Joseph A. Ladapo as Florida Surgeon General and Secretary of the Florida Department of Health. Dr. Ladapo holds a

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MD and PhD from Harvard. He was previously a professor at UCLA School of Medicine, NYU School of Medicine, and fellow at the US FDA; he was recently granted professorship at the University of Florida College of Medicine. Dr. Ladapo was born in Nigeria and immigrated to the US when he was five years old. The new Surgeon General opposes mask mandates, government shutdowns, and vaccine mandates.

Governor Names New Right-hand Man

On September 23, Governor DeSantis announced that current General Counsel James Uthmeier will become the new Chief of Staff, when current chief Adrian Lukis departs the administration on October 1. Before joining the DeSantis administration in October 2020, Uthmeier served as a senior adviser and counsel to U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and an associate at the law firm Jones Day. He is also an adjunct professor at Florida State University.

Vaccine Mandate Review

Senator Manny Diaz, chair of the Senate Health Policy Committee, said that he plans to review *all* existing vaccine requirements that have long been in place in Florida schools, such as measles and mumps. Under current law, only parents who cite religious or health reasons can exempt their children from vaccination requirements. Otherwise, parents need to show proof of vaccination showing they've received a long list of vaccinations.

Vaccine Mandates for Emergency Personnel

HB 53, by Rep. Fetterhoff, that would have walked back employee vaccine mandates for firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, law enforcement officers, and correctional officers, was withdrawn from the House this week. The bill would have also added COVID-19 and "infectious diseases" to the list of conditions that, if suffered by an emergency rescue or public safety worker, is presumed to have been contracted while at work.

Drink Up

HB 6031, by Rep. LaMarca which would repeal the current individual wine container size limit of one (1) gallon, was filed this week. Similar bills have been filed every session since 2018, some making it very close to the finish line, although none have passed both chambers in the past years.

Current Bill Statistics

Total Bills Filed: 254 (138 House; 116 Senate)

Appropriations Bills Filed: 22

Schedule for Committee Week 2 (October 11-15)

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The Senate's schedule can be viewed [here](#).

The House's schedule can be viewed [here](#).

Preview of 2022 Legislative Session

Key Dates

The 2022 Legislative Session gavels-in on January 11, 2022.

Committee Week Schedule

- Week 2 – October 11-15
- Week 3 – October 18-22
- Week 4 – November 1-5
- Week 5 – November 15-19
- Week 6 – November 29 - December 3

Other Key Dates

- November 17, 5:00pm
 - Deadline for submission of appropriation bills in the House
- January 11, 12:00pm
 - Deadline for filing drafts of bills for introduction

