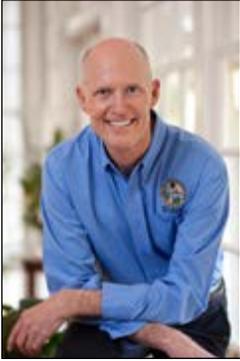


2014

Legislative Final Report





Governor's Priorities

It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget - Reduce Taxes and Fees by \$500 Million

Governor Rick Scott reached his goal of putting more money back into the pockets of Florida taxpayers. He successfully worked with the Legislature to cut Floridians' taxes and fees by half a billion dollars—\$500 million—in the fiscal year 2014-25 budget. These tax cuts ensured that Florida families can keep more of their hard-earned money and pursue their dreams in our great state.

Job Growth

Governor Scott's "It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget" continued to support key elements of Florida's economic growth agenda: creating jobs, promoting an economic climate for Florida's businesses to grow and thrive, and providing resources to quickly and efficiently support job creation and economic development opportunities. This budget provided more than \$71 million in flexible economic development funding. These resources allowed our state the ability to be competitive and stimulate Florida's economy.

Strengthening Florida's Education System

Governor Scott's "It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget" made a record investment in Florida's education system. The Governor's budget included historic levels for K-12, state colleges and universities in Florida. These investments ensured Florida students have access to a high quality, affordable education. Governor Scott remained focused on equipping Florida's education system with the resources necessary to provide every student with a world-class education. In addition to historic funding levels for education, Governor Scott worked with the Legislature to hold the line on tuition – making college more affordable for every family in our state.

The chart below summarizes the key issues tracked by the Department of Management Services (DMS) during the 2014 legislative session. In total DMS tracked 219 bills of the 1,812 total bills filed. Of the 1,812 total bills filed, the Legislature passed and enrolled 264 bills for the Governor's action. Please find the below table to general bill statistics helpful:

2012 Regular Session		2013 Regular Session		2014 Regular Session	
Total Filed Bills	2052	Total Filed Bills	1848	Total Filed Bills	1812
Total Passed	292	Total Passed	286	Total Passed	264
Percentage Passed	14.2%	Percentage Passed	15.5%	Percentage Passed	14.6%

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The Department of Management Services Legislative Priority Bill

[SB 604 \(Ring\)](#) **Relating to the Florida State Employee Charitable Campaign (FSECC)**

The Florida State Employees' Charitable Campaign, maintained by DMS, is the annual charitable drive funded by state employees. State officers and employees may voluntarily donate money to nonprofit charitable organizations participating in the FSECC. In the 2012 session, legislative changes were made to the FSECC that eliminated the ability of state officers and employees to contribute funds without designating a specific organization as the recipient. At FSECC fundraising events, employees must fill out a form to designate a specific charitable organization as the recipient and contribute a minimum donation of \$5 to offset the administrative costs of processing the donation. Since many agency FSECC fundraising events are intended to accommodate the collection of small, one-time contributions, DMS determined it is not cost effective to individually track and process these designations. This determination comes after receiving feedback from sister state agencies that saw the elimination of undesignated funds as burdensome.

This bill would have reinstated state officers' and employees' ability to contribute undesignated funds to FSECC at agency fundraising events. Furthermore, the bill specified that undesignated funds are to be distributed among the charitable organizations in direct proportion to the percentage of the designated funds pledged to those organizations. It also would have repealed the requirement of a local steering committee be created to assist the fiscal agent in conducting the FSECC.

Last Action: Died in messages to the House

General Appropriations Act and Implementing Bills

[HB 5001 \(Appropriations Committee\)](#) **Relating to General Appropriations Act**

The bill provides appropriations for fiscal year 2014-2015, beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015. The bill provides appropriations to pay salaries and other expenses, capital outlay and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government.

APPROPRIATION: \$77.1 billion

Approved by Governor with appropriation veto on June 2, 2014

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 5003 \(Appropriations Committee\)](#) **Relating to Implementing the General Appropriations Act**

The bill provides the statutory authority necessary to implement and execute the General Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2014-15. Statutory changes set forth in the implementing bill are temporary and expire on July 1, 2015.

Approved by the Governor on June 2, 2014

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 5005 \(Appropriations Committee\)](#) **Relating to Florida Retirement System**

The bill conforms the law to HB 5001, the 2014-2015 General Appropriations Act (GAA), as retirement and retiree health insurance subsidy (HIS) contributions are included in the GAA. The bill establishes the employer contribution rates for the normal costs and the unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) of the Florida

Retirement System (FRS) as determined by the July 1, 2014, Annual Valuation, necessary to adequately fund the program. The normal and UAL rates were blended with the investment plan allocations and salaries to establish employer contribution rates. In addition, the bill increases the employer-paid contributions for (HIS) from 1.26 to 1.66 percent of salaries.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

HB 5007 (Appropriations Committee) Relating to Collective Bargaining

The bill directs the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse not related to salary and benefit issues for fiscal year 2014-15 regarding state employees. Salary and benefit issues are typically resolved based on the spending decisions included in the fiscal year 2014-15 General Appropriations Act or legislation implemented for that act.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

The Department of Management Services specific appropriations:

Division of Real Estate Development and Management:

- Florida Facilities Pool: \$8 million trust fund for Fixed Capital Outlay (FCO) funding as requested and \$16 million additional funding in general revenue for FCO backlog issues
- Provided \$250,000 for OPS to manage the FCO projects
- Koger \$1.5 million trust fund and pool tenant space improvements \$1.4 million trust fund
- \$4 million for FACT system replacement
- (\$3.2 million) reduction due to energy savings initiatives in the Florida Facilities Pool
- (\$293,925) energy consumption reduction from adjusting critical systems

Division of Administration: Fleet Management:

- \$30,000 transfer for OPS for online auctions
- Increase of \$20,000 for Federal Property Assistance expenses

Division of Administration: Private Prison Monitoring:

- \$150,000 for nursing consultant
- \$540,412 for maintenance and repairs

Division of Telecommunications:

- Funding for business case: Voice Over IP Systems \$250,000
- Funding for business case: Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System \$1 million
- Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System Enhancement \$3,671,015
- FIN/MAB \$3.5 million
- E-rate OPS funding for FIRN \$244,118
- OPS for public safety \$71,015
- E911 Grant: Eliminates E911 grant which expired September 2012 (\$1,392,228)
- Broadband Grant: Broadband mapping grant expiration reduction (\$609,362)

Human Resource Management and People First

- People First procurement assistance \$468,000

Division of State Group Insurance:

- \$721,557 for Health Savings Accounts

Division of Retirement:

- Vulnerability assessment for IRIS \$200,000
- Additional support staff for locals \$99,555
- Pensions and Benefits \$151,250
- Additional HIS funding for GASB Valuation \$10,000

Office of the Secretary/Administration:

- Provided \$50,000 for Gartner IT services
- (\$240,000) reduction to contracted legal services

Implementing Bill:

- Section 26. Renegotiating private lease agreements – tenant broker requirements
- Section 29. Change in membership of the Joint Task Force on State Agency Law Enforcement Communications (add Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; delete Department of Transportation)
- Section 48. Legislative review of 5 percent Budget Amendments is broader
- Section 50. No competitive solicitations to be initiated without budget authority
- Section 53. Intergovernmental exchange of public employees
- Section 55. Trust Fund sweeps – no impact to the DMS
- Section 58. Restricted travel – travel memo to be updated effective July 1 and posted with the travel policy
- Section 63. Continuing language related to the prescription drug program; new language regarding dispensing fees and reimbursement rates

Section 8. Back of the Bill:

- Prescription drug maintenance list – retail pharmacies and 90 day prescriptions
- Six credit hours per semester tuition free at a state university, college or community college
- Allows for payment of legal education courses and bar dues
- Competitive pay adjustments and merit pay increases authorized
- Continuing language allowing Health Savings Accounts

Major Bills That Passed

General

[HB 9 \(Nuñez\)](#) **Relating to Legislature**

The bill sets the date for convening the 2016 regular legislative session to Jan. 12, 2016.

Effective Date: June 13, 2014

[HB 7073 \(Appropriations Committee\)](#) **Relating to Information Technology Governance**

The bill establishes an enterprise information technology (IT) governance structure within the executive branch. Creates the Agency for State Technology (AST) within the Department of Management Services and establishes an executive director of the agency who is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Agency for State Technology is comprised of the Northwood Shared Resource Center (NSRC) and the Southwood Shared Resource Center (SSRC). All duties related to the Agency for Enterprise Information Technology are repealed.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Office of the General Counsel

[SB 238 \(Joyner\)](#) **Relating to Public Records/Names of Spouses and Children of Public Defenders and Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel**

The bill expands an existing public records exemption for certain personal identification and location information of current and former public defenders, of current and former criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, and of the spouses and children of such defenders and counsel. The bill provides that the exemption also protects the names of such spouses and children.

Effective Date: Oct. 1, 2014

[SB 1678 \(Governmental Oversight and Accountability\)](#) **Relating to OSGR/Agency Personnel Information**

The bill reenacts the existing public records exemption for former and current agency employees' Social Security numbers under s. 119.071(4)(a), Florida Statutes. This bill provides that an agency may disclose an employee's Social Security number if required by law, a court order, if another agency needs the Social Security number to perform its duties, or if an employee consents to the release of his or her Social Security number. This bill eliminates the sunset date of the exemption, thus continuing the current public records exemption.

Effective Date: Oct. 1, 2014

Division of Telecommunications

[HB 175 \(Steube\)](#) **Relating to Emergency Communication System**

The bill provides a mechanism for collection of the E911 (Emergency Communication System) fee on prepaid wireless services by retailers at the point of sale and establishes a new category in the E911 Trust Fund for revenues derived from this fee.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 177 \(Steube\)](#) **Relating to Public Records/Prepaid Wireless E911 Fee**

The bill expands the public record exemption for proprietary confidential business information submitted to the Board or Technology Program to include such information when it is submitted to the Department of Revenue (DOR) as an agent of the board. The Department of Revenue may provide the confidential and exempt information to the Secretary of DMS or to the board for use in the conduct of official business by DMS or the board.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 803 \(Boyd\)](#) **Relating to Communications Services Tax**

The bill, for the purposes of the communications services tax, adds to the definition of information services, data processing and other services that allow data to be generated, acquired, stored, processed, or retrieved and delivered by an electronic transmission to a purchaser where such purchaser's primary purpose for the underlying transaction is the processed data or information.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Division of State Group Insurance

[SB 86 \(Latvala\)](#) **Relating to Dentists**

The bill prohibits an insurer, health maintenance organization (HMO), or prepaid limited health service organization from contracting with a licensed dentist to provide services to an insured or subscriber at a specified fee unless such services are covered services under the applicable contract. The bill prohibits an insurer, HMO, or prepaid limited health services organization from requiring that a contracted dentist participate in a discount medical plan. The bill also prohibits an insurer from requiring that a contracted health care provider accept the terms of other practitioner contracts with a prepaid limited health service organization that is under common management and control with the contracting insurer.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[SB 97 \(Magar\)](#) **Relating to Access to Health Care for the Underserved**

The bill allows a dentist or dental hygienist to accept reimbursement of some or all of an indigent patient's dental laboratory costs without being considered to have accepted compensation, thus retaining sovereign immunity protection. If a patient becomes ineligible for treatment under the act, the bill allows a 30-day transition period where the dental provider continues to be an agent of the state.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[SB 702 \(Bean\)](#) **Relating to Pharmacy Audits**

The bill establishes the rights of a pharmacy when it is audited, directly or indirectly, by a managed care company, insurance company, third-party payer, pharmacy benefit manager, or an entity that represents responsible parties such as companies or groups that self-insure.

Effective Date: Oct. 1, 2014

Division of Human Resource Management

[HB 5007 \(Appropriations Committee\)](#) **Relating to State Employees**

The bill directs the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse not related to salary and benefit issues for fiscal year 2014-15 regarding state employees. Salary and benefit issues are typically resolved based on the spending decisions included in the fiscal year 2014-15 General Appropriations Act or legislation implemented for that act.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 7015 \(Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee\)](#) **Relating to Military and Veteran Support**

The bill makes numerous changes to Florida law relating to military installations, military personnel, veterans, and their families. House Bill 7015 expands Florida veterans' preference in public employment process, and authorizes but does not require, a public-sector employer to establish a veterans' preference process for honorably discharged veterans and certain spouses.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Office of the Inspector General

[HB 1385 \(Raulerson\)](#) **Relating to Inspectors General**

The bill revises provisions relating to duties, appointment, and removal of the Chief Inspector General (CIG) and agency inspectors general. The bill increases the independence of each inspector general in a state agency under the jurisdiction of the Governor. Such inspectors general must report to the CIG and may only be hired by the CIG. Such inspectors general may only be removed from the office by the CIG for cause. The bill provides that an agency head may request the inspector general to perform audits, rather than direct the inspector general to conduct such audits.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Division of Specialized Services

[HB 53 \(Stone\)](#) **Relating to Inmate Reentry**

The bill requires the Department of Corrections (DOC), working in conjunction with the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV), to assist Florida-born inmates in acquiring a birth certificate and a state-issued ID prior to release. For non-Florida born inmates, the bill directs the DOC to assist inmates in completing the necessary forms or applications to obtain a Social Security card, driver license, or state-issued ID. The bill requires the DOC to assist all inmates in applying for and obtaining a Social Security card.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Division of State Purchasing

[HB 953 \(Peters\)](#) **Relating to State Contracting**

The bill requires state agencies to consider the prior relevant experience of a vendor when evaluating the responses to a request for proposal or invitation to negotiate. Currently, agencies may consider prior relevant experience, but are not required to do so.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Division of Real Estate Development and Management

[HB 41 \(Campbell\)](#) **Relating to Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame**

The bill establishes the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame. The bill requires DMS to set aside an appropriate public area for the hall of fame on the Plaza Level of the Capitol Building and to consult with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in developing the design and theme of the area.

Effective Date: Oct. 1, 2014

[SB 398 \(Detert\)](#) **Relating to the Florida Tourism Hall of Fame**

The bill establishes the Florida Tourism Hall of Fame to recognize persons, living or dead, whose work in the tourism industry have made significant contributions to the economic climate in Florida. The Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation will administer the Florida Tourism Hall of Fame without the appropriation of state funds. The Department of Management Services must set aside an area on the Plaza Level of the Capitol Building for the hall of fame and consult with VISIT Florida regarding the design and theme of the area.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 731 \(Hood\)](#) **Relating to POW-MIA Chair of Honor Memorial**

The bill establishes the POW-MIA Chair of Honor Memorial to honor the sacrifices endured by members of the United States Armed Forces who were held as prisoners of war or remain missing in action. The bill requires DMS to consider recommendations from the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Florida chapters of Rolling Thunder, Inc., and the Florida Department of State's Florida Historical Commission, when approving the design and placement of the memorial. The bill also requires the DMS to coordinate with the Florida Department of State's Division of Historical Resources.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 7015 \(Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee\)](#) **Relating to Military and Veteran Support**

The bill creates the Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor and the Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden. The walk of honor and memorial garden are to be administered by the direct support organization of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA). The bill directs DMS to set aside an area for the walk of honor on the Capitol grounds. The bill also directs DMS to set aside an area for the memorial garden. The Department of Management Services must consult with the DVA and the DVA's direct support organization regarding the design and theme of the area.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Division of Retirement

[SB 106 \(Dean\)](#) **Relating to County Employees**

The bill clarifies the authority of counties relating to employee benefit. It specifies that the county's power to employ personnel includes, but is not limited to, the authority to determine the benefits available to different types of personnel. It also specifies that the Florida Retirement System Act governs the participation of county employees in the Florida Retirement System.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

[HB 117 \(Ray\)](#) **Relating to Public Retirement Plans**

The bill expands applicability of the Marvin B. Clayton Police Officers Pension Trust Fund (act). The bill provides that the act applies to municipalities organized as a single consolidated government consisting of a former county and one or more municipalities. The bill requires the consolidated government to notify DMS' Division of Retirement when it enters into an interlocal agreement to provide police services to a municipality within its boundaries. It provides that the municipality may enact an ordinance to levy a premium tax as authorized in law, and the municipality may distribute any premium taxes reported for the municipality to the consolidated government as long as the interlocal agreement is in effect.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

HB 931 (Kerner) Relating to West Palm Beach Firefighters Pension Fund

The bill amends the special act that establishes the West Palm Beach Firefighter Pension Fund. House Bill 931 provides for the use of Chapter 175, Florida Statutes, premium tax funds to lower the actual employee contribution rate in fiscal year 2013-14 from 25 percent to 13.1 percent, and to lower the required employee contribution rate to 13.1 percent effective Oct. 1, 2014. The bill clarifies that after Sept. 30, 2014, premium tax funds will be allocated to the employee shared funds. It authorizes members with over 10 years of credited service to take a full refund of all contributions, without interest, in exchange for forfeiting all future benefits, including share benefits, of which the member would be entitled. It specifies that members may designate a beneficiary to receive their remaining benefits in the event that they die under certain circumstances and leave no spouse, children or parents. The bill shortens the amount of time that transferred leave obtained post retirement remains in the fund from one year to no more than six months, with grandfather provisions for certain members. It lowers the actuarial assumed rate of investment return from 8.25 percent to 8 percent.

Effective Date: May 12, 2014

HB 949 (Hudson) Relating to East Naples Fire Control Rescue District, Collier County

The bill authorizes the annexation of the area currently serviced by Isles of Capri Municipal Rescue and Fire Services Capital Improvement District municipal services taxing unit (Isles of Capri MSTU) into the East Naples Fire Control and Rescue District, both in Collier County.

Effective Date: Sections 2 and 3 became effective May 12, 2014. Section 1 will become effective only upon approval of a majority of the qualified electors of the Isles of Capri MSTU at the referendum to be conducted on Aug. 26, 2014.

HB 951 (Hudson) Relating to Collier County

The bill merges two independent special fire control and rescue districts in Collier County, the East Naples Fire Control and Rescue District (ENFD) and the Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue District (GGFD), into a single, new independent fire control and rescue district named the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District.

Effective Date: Sections 11 and 14 became effective on May 12, 2014. The remainder of the bill will become effective only upon approval by separate majorities of the qualified voters within ENFD and GGFD, respectively, at the referendum to be conducted on Nov. 4, 2014.

HB 1145 (Kerner) Relating to West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund

The bill requires the city to use chapter 185, Florida Statutes, tax (premium tax) funds to lower the actual employee contribution rate in fiscal year 2013-14 from 20 percent to 11 percent, and requires the city to provide additional funding if the tax funds are not enough to lower the actual rate to 11 percent. The bill specifies that contributions from premium tax funds are not employee contributions for contribution refund purposes. These changes are necessary to reflect a collective bargaining agreement between the City of West Palm Beach and the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association.

Effective Date: May 12, 2014

[HB 5005 \(Appropriations Committee\)](#) **Relating to State-Administered Retirement Systems**

The bill conforms the law to HB 5001, the 2014-15 General Appropriations Act (GAA), as retirement and retiree HIS contributions are included in the GAA. The bill establishes the employer contribution rates for the normal costs and the UAL of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) as determined by the July 1, 2014 Annual Valuation, necessary to adequately fund the program. The normal and UAL rates were blended with the investment plan allocations and salaries to establish employer contribution rates. In addition, the bill increases the employer-paid contributions for the HIS from 1.26 percent to 1.66 percent of salaries.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

