



**THE FLORIDA SENATE**  
**SENATOR ANDY GARDINER**  
*President*

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All Senators  
**FROM:** Andy Gardiner, President  
**SUBJECT:** Committee Assignments  
**DATE:** December 3, 2014

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It is with growing excitement for the upcoming 2015 Regular Session that I would like to share the committee assignments for the 2014-2016 term.

With the exception of a vacancy in District 6, we have the same Senate as the previous term. We have many Senators who have a great deal of institutional knowledge that has been a great benefit to the Senate. For this reason, some Senators are assigned to familiar policy or budget areas. Other Senators are being called upon to utilize their talents in new areas for the best interest of the Senate.

Within the constraints of a block calendar, I tried to give deference to your stated preferences and areas of interest. As I mentioned during the Organization Session, my goal is to keep committees smaller in order to provide Senators more time to meet with constituents and to delve into the important issues of the day. To achieve this objective, our five appropriations subcommittees will meet during the same block. Each Senator will serve on one Appropriations Subcommittee and will be expected to pay particular attention to the development of that budget area.

As we head toward the new year, I encourage all Senators to utilize our professional staff in order to ensure you are up to speed in your assigned areas.

The vast majority office and parking assignments will remain unchanged. If you have any questions regarding your office or parking assignment, please contact Debbie Brown.

**SENATE PRESIDENT ANDY GARDINER  
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
2014 - 2016**

**President Pro Tempore:** Garrett Richter

**Majority Leader:** Bill Galvano  
**Minority Leader:** Arthenia Joyner

**Agriculture**

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Bill Montford, Chair	Rene Garcia
Charlie Dean, Vice Chair	Denise Grimsley
Dwight Bullard	Eleanor Sobel
Bill Galvano	

**Appropriations**

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Tom Lee, Chair	Arthenia Joyner
Lizbeth Benacquisto, Vice Chair	Jack Latvala
Thad Altman	Gwen Margolis
Anitere Flores	Bill Montford
Don Gaetz	Joe Negron
Bill Galvano	Garrett Richter
Rene Garcia	Jeremy Ring
Denise Grimsley	David Simmons
Alan Hays	Christopher Smith
Dorothy Hukill	

**Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice**

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Joe Negron, Chair	Greg Evers
Arthenia Joyner, Vice Chair	Anitere Flores
Rob Bradley	Darren Soto

**Appropriations Subcommittee on Education**

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Don Gaetz, Chair	John Legg
Bill Montford, Vice Chair	Jeremy Ring
Dwight Bullard	David Simmons
Bill Galvano	Kelli Stargel

## **Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government**

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Alan Hays, Chair	Tom Lee
Oscar Braynon, Vice Chair	Gwen Margolis
Thad Altman	Wilton Simpson
Charlie Dean	

## **Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services**

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Rene Garcia, Chair	Lizbeth Benacquisto
Christopher Smith, Vice Chair	Denise Grimsley
Joseph Abruzzo	Garrett Richter
Aaron Bean	Eleanor Sobel

## **Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development**

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Jack Latvala, Chair	Audrey Gibson
Jeff Clemens, Vice Chair	Dorothy Hukill
Jeff Brandes	Maria Sachs
Nancy Detert	Geri Thompson
Miguel Diaz de la Portilla	

## **Banking and Insurance**

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Lizbeth Benacquisto, Chair	Gwen Margolis
Garrett Richter, Vice Chair	Bill Montford
Jeff Clemens	Joe Negron
Nancy Detert	David Simmons
Dorothy Hukill	Christopher Smith
Tom Lee	

## **Children, Families, and Elder Affairs**

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Eleanor Sobel, Chair  
Thad Altman, Vice Chair  
Charlie Dean

Nancy Detert  
Rene Garcia  
Jeremy Ring

## **Commerce and Tourism**

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Nancy Detert, Chair  
Geri Thompson, Vice Chair  
Aaron Bean

Jack Latvala  
Garrett Richter  
Jeremy Ring

## **Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities**

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Denise Grimsley, Chair  
Dorothy Hukill, Vice Chair  
Joseph Abruzzo  
Rob Bradley

Greg Evers  
Rene Garcia  
Audrey Gibson  
Maria Sachs

## **Community Affairs**

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Wilton Simpson, Chair  
Jeff Brandes, Vice Chair  
Joseph Abruzzo  
Rob Bradley

Charlie Dean  
Miguel Diaz de la Portilla  
Geri Thompson

## **Criminal Justice**

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Greg Evers, Chair  
Audrey Gibson, Vice Chair  
Rob Bradley

Jeff Brandes  
Jeff Clemens

## **Education Pre-K - 12**

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John Legg, Chair  
Nancy Detert, Vice Chair  
Lizbeth Benacquisto  
Jeff Brandes  
Dwight Bullard  
Jeff Clemens

Don Gaetz  
Bill Galvano  
Rene Garcia  
Bill Montford  
Eleanor Sobel

## **Environmental Preservation and Conservation**

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Charlie Dean, Chair  
Wilton Simpson, Vice Chair  
Thad Altman  
Alan Hays

David Simmons  
Christopher Smith  
Darren Soto

## **Ethics and Elections**

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Garrett Richter, Chair  
John Legg, Vice Chair  
Oscar Braynon  
Jeff Clemens  
Charlie Dean  
Anitere Flores

Don Gaetz  
Alan Hays  
Joe Negron  
Christopher Smith  
Geri Thompson

## **Finance and Tax**

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Dorothy Hukill, Chair  
Joseph Abruzzo, Vice Chair  
Thad Altman  
Miguel Diaz de la Portilla

Anitere Flores  
Gwen Margolis  
Wilton Simpson  
Darren Soto

## **Fiscal Policy**

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Anitere Flores, Chair	Dorothy Hukill
Rob Bradley, Vice Chair	John Legg
Joseph Abruzzo	Gwen Margolis
Aaron Bean	Maria Sachs
Jeff Clemens	Kelli Stargel
Alan Hays	

## **Governmental Oversight and Accountability**

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Jeremy Ring, Chair	Jack Latvala
Alan Hays, Vice Chair	John Legg
Dwight Bullard	

## **Health Policy**

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Aaron Bean, Chair	Bill Galvano
Eleanor Sobel, Vice Chair	Rene Garcia
Oscar Braynon	Denise Grimsley
Anitere Flores	Arthenia Joyner
Don Gaetz	

## **Higher Education**

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Kelli Stargel, Chair	Arthenia Joyner
Maria Sachs, Vice Chair	John Legg
Lizbeth Benacquisto	Joe Negron
Oscar Braynon	David Simmons
Don Gaetz	

## **Judiciary**

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Miguel Diaz de la Portilla, Chair	Arthenia Joyner
Jeremy Ring, Vice Chair	David Simmons
Aaron Bean	Wilton Simpson
Lizbeth Benacquisto	Darren Soto
Jeff Brandes	Kelli Stargel

## **Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security**

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Thad Altman, Chair  
Audrey Gibson, Vice Chair  
Greg Evers

Maria Sachs  
Kelli Stargel

## **Regulated Industries**

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Rob Bradley, Chair  
Gwen Margolis, Vice Chair  
Joseph Abruzzo  
Aaron Bean  
Oscar Braynon  
Miguel Diaz de la Portilla

Anitere Flores  
Jack Latvala  
Joe Negron  
Garrett Richter  
Maria Sachs  
Kelli Stargel

## **Rules**

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David Simmons, Chair  
Darren Soto, Vice Chair  
Lizbeth Benacquisto  
Miguel Diaz de la Portilla  
Don Gaetz  
Bill Galvano  
Audrey Gibson

Arthenia Joyner  
Jack Latvala  
Tom Lee  
Bill Montford  
Joe Negron  
Garrett Richter

## **Transportation**

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Jeff Brandes, Chair  
Dwight Bullard, Vice Chair  
Oscar Braynon  
Greg Evers

Denise Grimsley  
Wilton Simpson  
Geri Thompson

### **Joint Legislative Budget Commission**

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Tom Lee, Alt. Chair  
Oscar Braynon  
Bill Galvano  
Rene Garcia

Denise Grimsley  
Arthenia Joyner  
David Simmons

### **Joint Administrative Procedures Committee**

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Denise Grimsley, Alt. Chair  
Aaron Bean  
Dwight Bullard

Nancy Detert  
Geri Thompson

### **Joint Legislative Auditing Committee**

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Joseph Abruzzo, Alt. Chair  
Lizbeth Benacquisto  
Rob Bradley

Audrey Gibson  
Wilton Simpson

### **Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight**

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Christopher Smith, Alt. Chair  
Jeff Brandes  
Dorothy Hukill

Darren Soto  
Kelli Stargel

### **Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining**

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Alan Hays, Alt. Chair  
Lizbeth Benacquisto  
Rob Bradley

Dwight Bullard  
Jeremy Ring

**SENATE PRESIDENT ANDY GARDINER  
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS BY SENATOR  
2014 - 2016**

**President Pro Tempore:** Garrett Richter

**Majority Leader:** Bill Galvano  
**Minority Leader:** Arthenia Joyner

**Joseph Abruzzo**

Finance and Tax	Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services	
Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities	
Community Affairs	
Fiscal Policy	
Regulated Industries	
Joint Legislative Auditing Committee	Alt. Chair

**Thad Altman**

Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security	Chair
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs	Vice Chair
Appropriations	
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government	
Environmental Preservation and Conservation	
Finance and Tax	

**Aaron Bean**

Health Policy	Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services	
Commerce and Tourism	
Fiscal Policy	
Judiciary	
Regulated Industries	
Joint Administrative Procedures Committee	

**Lizbeth Benacquisto**

Banking and Insurance	Chair
Appropriations	Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services	
Education Pre-K - 12	
Higher Education	
Judiciary	
Rules	
Joint Legislative Auditing Committee	
Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining	

**Rob Bradley**

Regulated Industries	Chair
Fiscal Policy	Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice	
Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities	
Community Affairs	
Criminal Justice	
Joint Legislative Auditing Committee	
Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining	

**Jeff Brandes**

Transportation	Chair
Community Affairs	Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development	
Criminal Justice	
Education Pre-K - 12	
Judiciary	
Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight	

**Oscar Braynon**

Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government Vice Chair  
Ethics and Elections  
Health Policy  
Higher Education  
Regulated Industries  
Transportation  
Joint Legislative Budget Commission

**Dwight Bullard**

Transportation Vice Chair  
Agriculture  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education  
Education Pre-K - 12  
Governmental Oversight and Accountability  
Joint Administrative Procedures Committee  
Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining

**Jeff Clemens**

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Vice Chair  
Banking and Insurance  
Criminal Justice  
Education Pre-K - 12  
Ethics and Elections  
Fiscal Policy

**Charlie Dean**

Environmental Preservation and Conservation Chair  
Agriculture Vice Chair  
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government  
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs  
Community Affairs  
Ethics and Elections

**Nancy Detert**

Commerce and Tourism	Chair
Education Pre-K - 12	Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development	
Banking and Insurance	
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs	
Joint Administrative Procedures Committee	

**Miguel Diaz de la Portilla**

Judiciary	Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development	
Community Affairs	
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Rules	

**Greg Evers**

Criminal Justice	Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice	
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**Anitere Flores**

Fiscal Policy	Chair
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**Don Gaetz**

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Appropriations  
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**Bill Galvano**

Agriculture  
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**Rene Garcia**

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**Audrey Gibson**

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Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security      Vice Chair  
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    Economic Development  
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**Denise Grimsley**

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**Arthenia Joyner**

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**Jack Latvala**

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**John Legg**

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Ethics and Elections Vice Chair  
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Regulated Industries Vice Chair  
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Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government  
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**Bill Montford**

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Banking and Insurance	
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**Joe Negron**

Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice	Chair
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**Garrett Richter**

Ethics and Elections	Chair
Banking and Insurance	Vice Chair
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**Jeremy Ring**

Governmental Oversight and Accountability	Chair
Judiciary	Vice Chair
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Children, Families, and Elder Affairs	
Commerce and Tourism	
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**Maria Sachs**

Higher Education	Vice Chair
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**David Simmons**

Rules	Chair
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**Wilton Simpson**

Community Affairs	Chair
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**Christopher Smith**

Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services	Vice Chair
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Banking and Insurance	
Environmental Preservation and Conservation	
Ethics and Elections	
Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight	Alt. Chair

**Eleanor Sobel**

Children, Families, and Elder Affairs	Chair
Health Policy	Vice Chair
Agriculture	
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services	
Education Pre-K - 12	

**Darren Soto**

Rules	Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice	
Environmental Preservation and Conservation	
Finance and Tax	
Judiciary	
Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight	

**Kelli Stargel**

Higher Education	Chair
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Regulated Industries	
Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight	

**Geri Thompson**

Commerce and Tourism	Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development	
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Ethics and Elections	
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