

THE FLORIDA SENATE SENATOR BEN ALBRITTON

President

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators and Senate Staff

FROM: Ben Albritton

SUBJECT: Winter Weather – Committee Meetings Cancelled

DATE: January 20, 2025

After consulting with Speaker Perez and our colleagues in the House, I have made the decision to cancel committee meetings scheduled for Wednesday, January 22nd, and Thursday, January 23rd. Pursuant to the Governor's Proclamation, Senators should plan to be in Tallahassee Monday morning, January 27th.

Weather forecasts predicting snow and ice in Tallahassee on Tuesday night and into Wednesday have not improved over the weekend, and schools in Tallahassee are closed on Wednesday in anticipation of severe winter weather. I am concerned with Senators, staff, and visitors being out on the roads traveling to and around the Tallahassee area in these conditions. Out of an abundance of caution, Senate offices in Tallahassee will be closed on Wednesday, January 22nd.

As I mentioned Friday, while I am always hesitant to cancel noticed committee meetings, the reality is that our transportation infrastructure is not built to accommodate accumulated snow and ice. Safety of Senators, staff and visitors is my top concern.

Secretary Cantella will issue a new calendar to reflect the schedule updates mentioned above. As such, Committee Staff Directors do not need to publish updated notices. Additionally, I am moving the deadline for requests for drafts of general bills, memorials, and joint resolutions, including requests for companion bills from Friday, January 24th to Wednesday, January 29th, at 5:00 p.m.

Please stay safe, cautious, and adhere to guidance provided in local weather advisories during this time. I look forward to seeing everyone back in Tallahassee on Monday the 27th.