

THE FLORIDA SENATE SENATOR BEN ALBRITTON

President

For Immediate Release March 12, 2025 **Contact: Katie Betta**

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Key Government Oversight and Accountability Legislation Advances to the Senate Floor SB 108 creates consistent process for review and repeal of administrative rules

Tallahassee—The Senate Committee on Rules, chaired by Senator Kathleen Passidomo (R-Naples), today passed Senate Bill (SB) 108, Administrative Procedures, by Senator Erin Grall (R-Vero Beach). The bill improves government oversight and accountability, creating a clear, consistent, annual process for review and repeal of administrative rules.

"Improved oversight of administrative rules will go a long way towards keeping government more accountable to Floridians. One of the reasons DOGE has become so popular at the federal level is that Americans have a problem with the idea that unelected federal bureaucrats have so much unchecked authority. We are a state and nation of laws created by elected officials accountable to the people, not an administrative state controlled by appointed professional staff. Florida government is not, and should not, be immune to this kind of scrutiny. This legislation modernizes Florida's rulemaking process to better serve our state," said Senate President Ben Albritton (R-Wauchula).

"Under this bill our state agencies will complete a five-year rule review process. The agencies will review twenty percent of their rules each year, which is a reasonable and consistent timeline to ensure full and complete review every five years. This new process improves oversight and accountability for everyone involved, including the Legislature. It is our responsibility to make sure the bills we pass are being implemented properly, so we can make changes if needed. Creating consistent mechanisms for review, updates, and changes allows the Legislature to more meaningfully monitor the rulemaking process," said Senator Grall.

SB 108 amends the Administrative Procedures Act (APA), which provides a uniform set of procedures agencies must follow when exercising rulemaking authority delegated by the Legislature. This bill amends the APA rulemaking process and requires an agency review of existing rules.

The bill requires each agency, in coordination with the Legislature's Joint Administrative Procedures Committee, to review administrative rules for consistency with the powers and duties granted by the agency's enabling statutes and for any general need for update. The bill requires agency annual regulatory plans to include an outline of the agency's proposed five-year schedule

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of rule review, with approximately 20 percent of the agency's total existing rules to be reviewed annually.

To improve and ensure transparency, the bill establishes a 90-day timeframe for an agency to publish a notice of proposed rule from the effective date of legislation. All rules being adopted and reviewed must be published electronically with any changes coded in a strike-through and underlined format, so Floridians can easily identify changes being proposed.

For more information, please visit www.FLSenate.gov.