Journal of the Senate

Number 17—Regular Session **Friday, March 6, 2026**

CONTENTS

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 10:00 a.m. A quorum present—34:

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Excused: Senators Avila, Davis, Polsky, and Sharief; Senator Martin until 3:30 p.m.; Senator Gruters at 3:45 p.m.

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Reverend Louis M. Murphy, Sr., Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, St. Petersburg:

Heavenly Father, Creator of the heavens and the earth, Creator of all mankind. What a privilege it is to come before your glorious throne—first to give praises to your holy and righteous name—to acknowledge your presence, your authority, and your dominion over the entire universe. Truly, thine is the power, the glory, and the majesty!

We thank you for the privilege of living in a land where voices may be heard, laws may be debated, and leaders may serve the people entrusted to their care.

Today we lift before you the members of this Senate. Grant them wisdom beyond their own understanding, courage beyond their own strength, and integrity that will guide every decision they make. Help them remember that leadership is not about power, but about service. Give them humility to listen, the patience to deliberate carefully, and the discernment to pursue what is right and just for all people. Where there is division, grant them a spirit of cooperation. Where there is confusion, grant them clarity. Where there is pressure, grant them steadfast character.

May the laws considered in this chamber promote justice, protect the vulnerable, strengthen communities, and uphold the dignity of every citizen.

Father, we thank you for the service of your son, our brother, Senator Darryl Ervin Rouson, for eight years in the House and ten years in the Senate. Let him know his work has not been in vain. Give him clarity, give him direction and protection in the next chapter of his life. And others, serving as well, when their work here is done, may it be said that they too have governed with fairness, compassion, and sincere commitment to the common good of all mankind.

In your holy and righteous name we pray, Amen.

PLEDGE

Senate Pages, Ayla Leng of Eglin Air Force Base; Bryce Stewart of Tallahassee; and Alexandria Whitaker, daughter of Senate staffer Ronnie Whitaker, of Tallahassee, led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

DOCTOR OF THE DAY

The President recognized Dr. Chet Anthony of Astor, sponsored by Senator Wright, as the doctor of the day. Dr. Anthony specializes in family medicine.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

At the request of Senators Gaetz and Berman—

By Senators Gaetz and Berman—

SR 1810—A resolution designating August 9, 2026, as "Bob Graham Day" in the State of Florida.

WHEREAS, born on November 9, 1936, Daniel Robert "Bob" Graham was raised on a cattle and dairy farm deep in the Florida Everglades, attended Miami Senior High School, earned his bachelor's degree in political science at the University of Florida in 1959, and earned his Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School in 1962, and

WHEREAS, after serving in both the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate, Bob Graham was elected as Florida's 38th Governor in 1978, and his career in state politics enabled him personally to witness Florida's rise from a rural Southern backwater to an economic and political juggernaut, and

WHEREAS, in Governor Graham's first term, led by First Lady Adele Graham, Florida became a national leader in providing in-home services to seniors, creating a statewide network of services, assuring access to assistance for needy elders in metropolitan areas and to those in the most rural of Florida's counties, and allowing more families to live out their days at home, and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Governor Graham instituted the Conservation and Recreation Act, the premier land acquisition program in the country, which led to the Preservation 2000 Program and the current Florida Forever Program, and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Governor Graham established the Save Our Rivers program, which raised $320 million over 10 years and enabled the water management districts to acquire 1.7 million acres of land for water conservation; established the Save Our Coast program, which resulted in the purchase of 73 miles of coastline, protecting natural Florida beauty for future generations; and, with singer Jimmy Buffett, founded Save the Manatee, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation and recovery of the manatee species as defined by the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Governor Graham, together with renowned environmental champion Marjory Stoneman Douglas and others, developed what became the Save Our Everglades program to restore Everglades National Park, which was announced on August 9, 1983, and

WHEREAS, in 1984, Governor Graham signed into law the Warren Henderson Wetlands Protection Act, Florida's first law directed specifically at preservation and protection of wetlands, and

WHEREAS, at the end of his governorship in 1987, Bob Graham was sworn in to the United States Senate, where he was known not only for his grasp of domestic issues such as Everglades restoration, immigration, and off-shore drilling but also for his expertise in foreign policy and intelligence, serving as chair of the Intelligence Committee and co-chair of the Joint Inquiry into Intelligence Community Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001, and

WHEREAS, ever mindful of his undergraduate alma mater, where he was president of the Epsilon Zeta chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity, served as chancellor of the student honor court, and was inducted into Blue Key and the University Hall of Fame, Bob Graham established the Bob Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida in 2006 to continue his legacy of leadership and public service as well as to train the next generations of Florida leaders, and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Bob Graham established the Florida Conservation Coalition, composed of concerned Floridians representing various organizations, for the purpose of advocating for positive environmental initiatives and opposing adverse proposals, and

WHEREAS, throughout his 38 consecutive years in public office and nearly 20 years thereafter as an author, a speaker, and an advocate, Bob Graham worked tirelessly to further environmental preservation, economic opportunity, public education, national security, and civil rights, and his outstanding record of service has established Bob Graham as one of the most accomplished public figures in the history of this state, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

That, in recognition of the date on which the Save Our Everglades program was founded, August 9, 2026, is designated as "Bob Graham Day" in the State of Florida.

—was introduced, read, and adopted by publication.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

At the request of Senator Boyd, the Senate observed a moment of silence in memory of Roger "Timmy" Miley, a firefighter with the East Manatee Fire Rescue District, who passed away on February 6, 2026. Senator Boyd also recognized the men and women who protect us on a daily basis and the weight of their responsibility.

By direction of the President, the Senate proceeded to—

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING

CS for SB 7048—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Internal Revenue Code; amending s. 220.03, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "Internal Revenue Code"; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing for retroactive application; requiring the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 7048**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 7031** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Gaetz, the rules were waived and—

HB 7031—A bill to be entitled An act relating to taxation; amending s. 163.387, F.S.; providing that certain special districts are exempt from specified appropriation requirements; amending s. 193.155, F.S.; conforming provisions to align with the State Constitution; providing applicability; creating s. 193.626, F.S.; defining the terms "mobile home park" and "mobile home lot"; requiring certain property be assessed in a specified manner; providing applicability; amending s. 196.011, F.S.; requiring a notice of disapproval to be served before a specified event in certain circumstances; amending s. 196.012, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "governmental purpose"; providing applicability; amending s. 196.061, F.S; providing that the prohibition on rental of a homestead does not apply to specified individuals; requiring such individuals to provide certain documentation; providing applicability; amending ss. 196.151 and 196.193, F.S.; requiring a notice of disapproval to be served before a specified event in certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 196.19781, F.S.; authorizing property to continue receiving a specified property tax exemption under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 200.065, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a specified millage rate may be adopted; providing applicability; amending s. 212.03, F.S.; defining the terms "advertising platform" and "vacation rental"; requiring advertising platforms to collect and remit specified taxes for certain vacation rental transactions; requiring certain entities to allow advertising platforms to register, collect, and remit such taxes; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; revising the types of portable gas cans eligible for a certain sales tax exemption; revising the exemption period for a specified sales tax holiday; providing definitions; providing a sales tax exemption for certain home hardening products; requiring such exemption be in the form of a specified refund; providing requirements for such refund; providing requirements for the Department of Revenue in issuing such refunds; authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules; specifying the timeframe such rules are effective; providing for future repeal; amending s. 212.1832, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "motor vehicle"; providing for future repeal; amending s. 220.02, F.S.; revising the order in which certain credits are intended to be applied to incorporate changes made by the act; amending s. 220.03, F.S.; amending the definition of "Internal Revenue Code"; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; providing for retroactive application; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; requiring the addition of the amount taken for a specified credit to taxable income; creating s. 220.1856, F.S.; providing a credit against the corporate income tax for certain contributions beginning on a specified date; authorizing the credit on a consolidated return basis under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 220.1915, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "qualifying railroad"; amending s. 402.261, F.S.; revising fiscal years subject to a specified maximum tax credit; prohibiting tax credits for specified fiscal years from being approved; amending s. 402.62, F.S.; providing that a taxpayer may not apply for a Strong Families Tax Credit greater than a specified amount; providing the maximum tax credits authorized to be allocated to a single charity during a specified time period; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; creating part VII of ch. 420, F.S.; creating s. 420.951, F.S.; providing definitions; creating s. 420.952, F.S., authorizing certain taxpayers to receive a tax credit for specified contributions; providing requirements for the use of such credit; requiring a taxpayer to submit a certain application beginning on a specified date; requiring the application include specified information and documentation; authorizing the tax credit to be used against certain taxes; requiring the Department of Revenue to approve applications in a specified manner; providing the maximum amount of credits authorized for specified fiscal years; authorizing unused credits to carryforward for a specified period of time in certain circumstances; prohibiting the sale or transfer of certain tax credits; authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing for future repeal; providing construction; amending s. 551.106, F.S.; providing that certain permitholders are exempt from a specified license

fee; revising downward the tax rate on certain slot machine revenues; amending s. 563.01, F.S.; defining the terms "American brewery" and "foreign import malt beverage"; amending s. 563.05, F.S.; revising excise taxes paid on certain malt beverages; providing for future repeal; amending s. 624.509, F.S.; revising the order in which certain credits are intended to be applied to incorporate changes made by the act; creating s. 624.51065, F.S.; providing a credit against insurance premium taxes for certain contributions beginning on a specified date; providing construction; providing applicability; amending s. 626.932, F.S.; creating an exemption from a specified tax for certain insurance coverage; defining the term "flood"; providing for future repeal; amending s. 689.261, F.S.; defining the terms "listing platform" and "property"; requiring certain listings to include estimated ad valorem taxes; prohibiting the current owner's ad valorem taxes from being displayed or used for certain purposes; providing an exception; providing requirements for listing platforms, the Department of Revenue, and property appraisers; providing protection from liability for specified parties who take certain actions; prohibiting certain materials from including specified information; requiring, beginning on a specified date, the department to annually publish a formula, countywide aggregate millage rate, and certain information on its website; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 849.086, F.S.; revising downward a certain tax paid by cardroom operators on certain receipts; creating a sales tax exemption for sales of certain items during a specified time period; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules for specified purposes; providing for future repeal; providing a sales tax exemption for certain property leased to private entities by Space Florida; providing emergency rulemaking authority; creating a sales tax exemption for certain firearm accessories; defining the term "firearm"; creating a sales tax exemption for specified hunting, fishing, and camping products; providing definitions; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; specifying the timeframe such rules are effective; amending chapter 2024-159, Laws of Florida, extending by 3 years an exemption from excise taxes for certain notes and written obligations; providing effective dates.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 7048** and read the second time by title.

Senator Gaetz moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (611560) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (n) of subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 220.03, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

220.03 Definitions.—

(1) SPECIFIC TERMS.—When used in this code, and when not otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible with the intent thereof, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(n) "Internal Revenue Code" means the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and in effect on January 1, *2026* ~~2025~~, except*:*

1. As provided in subsection (3)*;*

2. Sections 168(k), 174(a), 163(j), 274, and 179 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are included as amended and in effect on January 1, 2025; and

3. Sections 168(n) and 174A are not included.

(2) DEFINITIONAL RULES.—When used in this code and neither otherwise distinctly expressed nor manifestly incompatible with the intent thereof:

(c) Any term used in this code has the same meaning as when used in a comparable context in the Internal Revenue Code and other statutes of the United States relating to federal income taxes, as such code and statutes are in effect on January 1, *2026, except as provided in paragraph (1)(n)* ~~2025~~. However, if subsection (3) is implemented, the meaning of a term shall be taken at the time the term is applied under this code.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 220.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

220.13 "Adjusted federal income" defined.—

(2) For purposes of this section, a taxpayer's taxable income for the taxable year means taxable income as defined in s. 63 of the Internal Revenue Code and properly reportable for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, *except as provided in s. 220.03(1)(n) and (2)(c),* but subject to the limitations set forth in paragraph (1)(b) with respect to the deductions provided by ss. 172 (relating to net operating losses), 170(d)(2) (relating to excess charitable contributions), 404(a)(1)(D) (relating to excess pension trust contributions), 404(a)(3)(A) and (B) (to the extent relating to excess stock bonus and profit-sharing trust contributions), and 1212 (relating to capital losses) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that, subject to the same limitations, the term:

(a) "Taxable income," in the case of a life insurance company subject to the tax imposed by s. 801 of the Internal Revenue Code, means life insurance company taxable income; however, for purposes of this code, the total of any amounts subject to tax under s. 815(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code pursuant to s. 801(c) of the Internal Revenue Code shall not exceed, cumulatively, the total of any amounts determined under s. 815(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, from January 1, 1972, to December 31, 1983;

(b) "Taxable income," in the case of an insurance company subject to the tax imposed by s. 831(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, means taxable investment income;

(c) "Taxable income," in the case of an insurance company subject to the tax imposed by s. 831(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, means insurance company taxable income;

(d) "Taxable income," in the case of a regulated investment company subject to the tax imposed by s. 852 of the Internal Revenue Code, means investment company taxable income;

(e) "Taxable income," in the case of a real estate investment trust subject to the tax imposed by s. 857 of the Internal Revenue Code, means the income subject to tax, computed as provided in s. 857 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(f) "Taxable income," in the case of a corporation which is a member of an affiliated group of corporations filing a consolidated income tax return for the taxable year for federal income tax purposes, means taxable income of such corporation for federal income tax purposes as if such corporation had filed a separate federal income tax return for the taxable year and each preceding taxable year for which it was a member of an affiliated group, unless a consolidated return for the taxpayer and others is required or elected under s. 220.131;

(g) "Taxable income," in the case of a cooperative corporation or association, means the taxable income of such organization determined in accordance with the provisions of ss. 1381-1388 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(h) "Taxable income," in the case of an organization which is exempt from the federal income tax by reason of s. 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, means its unrelated business taxable income as determined under s. 512 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(i) "Taxable income," in the case of a corporation for which there is in effect for the taxable year an election under s. 1362(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, means the amounts subject to tax under s. 1374 or s. 1375 of the Internal Revenue Code for each taxable year;

(j) "Taxable income," in the case of a limited liability company, other than a limited liability company classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, as defined in and organized pursuant to chapter 605 or qualified to do business in this state as a foreign limited liability company or other than a similar limited liability company classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and created as an artificial entity pursuant to the statutes of the United States or any other state, territory, possession, or jurisdiction, if such limited liability company or similar entity is taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, means taxable income determined as if such limited liability company were required to file or had filed a federal corporate income tax return under the Internal Revenue Code;

(k) "Taxable income," in the case of a taxpayer liable for the alternative minimum tax as defined in s. 55 of the Internal Revenue Code, means the alternative minimum taxable income as defined in s. 55(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, less the exemption amount computed under s. 55(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. A taxpayer is not liable for the alternative minimum tax unless the taxpayer's federal tax return, or related federal consolidated tax return, if included in a consolidated return for federal tax purposes, reflect a liability on the return filed for the alternative minimum tax as defined in s. 55(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(l) "Taxable income," in the case of a taxpayer whose taxable income is not otherwise defined in this subsection, means the sum of amounts to which a tax rate specified in s. 11 of the Internal Revenue Code plus the amount to which a tax rate specified in s. 1201(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code are applied for federal income tax purposes.

Section 3. *(1) The amendments made by this act to ss. 220.03(1)(n) and (2)(c) and 220.13(2), Florida Statutes, operate retroactively to January 1, 2026.*

(2) Pursuant to the rulemaking authority in s. 213.06, Florida Statutes, and the specific authority in s. 213.05, Florida Statutes, for the Department of Revenue to regulate, control, and administer all revenue laws therein, including all portions of chapter 220, Florida Statutes, the Department of Revenue shall adopt rules to implement this act.

(3) The Department of Revenue is authorized, and all conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules under s. 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing this act. Notwithstanding any other law, emergency rules adopted under this section are effective for 6 months after adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Internal Revenue Code; amending s. 220.03, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "Internal Revenue Code"; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing for retroactive application; requiring the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Gaetz, by two-thirds vote, **HB 7031**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

Consideration of **CS for CS for SB 1760** was deferred.

On motion by Senator Gaetz—

CS for CS for SB 1758—A bill to be entitled An act relating to public assistance; amending s. 409.904, F.S.; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to conduct retrospective reviews and audits of certain claims under the state Medicaid program for a specified purpose; creating s. 409.9041, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring the agency to seek federal approval to implement mandatory work and community engagement requirements for able-bodied adults as a condition of obtaining and maintaining Medicaid coverage; prohibiting the agency from implementing such requirements until certain conditions are met; requiring the agency, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to develop a business plan to implement specified provisions; specifying requirements for the plan; requiring the agency to submit the plan to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; specifying populations that are subject to such work and community engagement requirements; providing exceptions; defining the term "family caregiver"; specifying the types of activities which may satisfy the work and community engagement requirements; providing that a certain population is required to engage in work or community engagement activities only during standard school hours; requiring persons eligible for Medicaid to demonstrate compliance with the work and community engagement requirements at specified times as a condition of maintaining Medicaid coverage; requiring the agency to develop a process for ensuring compliance with the work and community engagement requirements; requiring that such process align, to the extent possible, with certain existing processes; requiring the department to verify compliance with the work and community engagement requirements at specified intervals; requiring the agency, in coordination with the department, to conduct outreach regarding implementation of the work and community engagement requirements; specifying requirements for such outreach; specifying procedures in the event of noncompliance; requiring the agency, in coordination with the department, to notify a Medicaid recipient of a finding of noncompliance and the impact to eligibility for continued receipt of services; specifying requirements for such notice; amending s. 409.905, F.S.; deleting a requirement that the agency discontinue its hospital retrospective review program under certain circumstances; revising construction; requiring the agency to maintain cost-effective purchasing practices in its coverage of hospital inpatient services rendered to Medicaid recipients; amending s. 409.906, F.S.; requiring the agency to seek federal approval to implement a program for expanded coverage of home- and community-based behavioral health services for a specified population; specifying the goal of the program; requiring the agency to work in coordination with the department to develop the program; requiring the agency and the department to develop certain estimates and submit them to the Legislature in a specified manner before the program may be implemented; amending s. 409.91195, F.S.; revising the purpose of the Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee to include creation of a Medicaid preferred physician-administered drug list, a Medicaid preferred product list, and a high-cost drug list; requiring the agency to adopt such lists upon recommendation of the committee; specifying the frequency with which the committee must review such lists for any recommended additions or deletions; specifying parameters for such recommended additions and deletions; providing that reimbursement for drugs not included on such lists is subject to prior authorization, with an exception; requiring the agency to publish and disseminate such lists to all Medicaid providers in the state by posting on the agency's website or in other media; providing requirements for public testimony related to proposed inclusions on or exclusions from certain lists; requiring the committee to consider certain factors when developing such recommended additions and deletions; amending s. 409.912, F.S.; revising the components of the Medicaid prescribed-drug spending-control program to include the preferred physician-administered drug list, the preferred product list, and the high-cost drug list; providing requirements for such lists; providing that the agency does not need to follow rulemaking procedures of ch. 120, F.S., when posting updates to such lists; requiring the agency to establish certain procedures relating to prior authorization requests for drugs on the high-cost drug list; establishing an alternative reimbursement methodology for long-acting injectables administered for severe mental illness in a hospital facility setting; requiring the agency to contract with a vendor to perform a fiscal impact study of the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program; providing requirements for the study; requiring specified entities to submit certain data to the agency for purposes of the study; providing that noncompliance with such requirement may result in sanctions

from the agency or the Board of Pharmacy, as applicable; requiring the agency to submit the results of the study to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; providing construction; amending s. 409.913, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "overpayment"; providing that determinations of an overpayment under the Medicaid program may be based upon retrospective reviews, investigations, analyses, or audits conducted by the agency to determine possible fraud, abuse, overpayment, or recipient neglect; providing that certain notices may be provided using other common carriers, as well as through the United States Postal Service; creating s. 414.321, F.S.; requiring the department to limit eligibility for food assistance to individuals meeting specified criteria; requiring that food assistance recipients provide certain documentation for purposes of eligibility redeterminations; prohibiting the department from relying solely on an individual's self-attestations to determine certain expenses; authorizing the department to adopt policies and procedures to accommodate certain applicants and recipients; creating s. 414.332, F.S.; requiring the department to develop and implement a food assistance payment accuracy improvement plan for a specified purpose; requiring the department to reduce the payment error rate to below a specified percentage; providing requirements for the plan; requiring the department to submit the plan to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; requiring the department, by a specified date, to submit quarterly progress reports of specified information to the Governor and the Legislature; providing for future repeal; amending s. 414.39, F.S.; requiring the department to require photographic identification on the front of electronic benefits transfer (EBT) cards, to the extent allowable under federal law; amending s. 414.455, F.S.; revising criteria for individuals required to participate in an employment and training program to receive food assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; requiring the department to apply and comply with certain work requirements in accordance with federal law for food assistance; amending s. 409.91196, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Berman moved the following amendment which failed:

Amendment 1 (122906) (with title amendment)—Between lines 307 and 308 insert:

(7) The agency may not implement the work and community engagement requirements specified under this section until the state has expanded Medicaid eligibility for the state Medicaid program to include coverage of individuals as specified under s. 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the Social Security Act, as amended, and such expansion has been approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

And the title is amended as follows:

Between lines 45 and 46 insert: prohibiting the agency from implementing the work and community engagement requirements until a certain expansion of the state Medicaid program has occurred and is federally approved;

Pursuant to Rule 7.1, there being no objection, consideration of the following late-filed amendment was allowed:

Senator Osgood moved the following amendment which failed:

Amendment 2 (821406) (with title amendment)—Delete lines 1089-1097 and insert:
However, the department must adopt rules ensuring that all authorized users and members of a household are able to use an EBT card pursuant to 7 U.S.C. s. 2016(h)(9), and the department may not require the use of photographic identification for individuals who are 60 years of age or older, blind, disabled, or victims of domestic violence.

Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 414.455, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

414.455 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; legislative authorization; mandatory participation in employment and training programs.—

(2) Unless prohibited by the Federal Government, the department must require a person who is receiving food assistance; who is 18 to 59 years of age, inclusive; who does not have children under the age of 18 in his or her home; who

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 137-141 and insert: to the extent allowable under federal law; requiring the department to adopt certain rules; prohibiting the department from requiring the use of photographic identification for certain individuals; amending s. 414.455, F.S.; requiring

Pursuant to Rule 4.19, **CS for CS for SB 1758** was placed on the calendar of Bills on Third Reading.

Consideration of **SB 1708** was deferred.

CS for SB 1694—A bill to be entitled An act relating to technology education; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; providing requirements for general education core courses with a technology component; amending s. 1007.2616, F.S.; requiring high school computer science courses to include instruction on artificial intelligence; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1694**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 1503** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Burgess, the rules were waived and—

CS for CS for HB 1503—A bill to be entitled An act relating to computer science education and certification; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; providing requirements for general education core courses with a technology component; amending s. 1007.2616, F.S.; requiring high school computer science courses to include instruction on artificial intelligence; requiring the State Board of Education to establish separate computer science subject area coverages for specified grades and to continue the comprehensive K–12 coverage; requiring the Department of Education to present recommended competencies for certain subject area coverages to the state board by a specified date; requiring the department to coordinate examinations for such subject area coverages by a specified date; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1694** and read the second time by title.

Senator Avila offered the following amendment which was moved by Senator Burgess and adopted:

Amendment 1 (593280) (with title amendment)—Delete lines 46-83 and insert:

Section 2. Subsection (6) of section 1007.2616, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.2616 Computer science and technology instruction.—

(6) High school students must be provided opportunities to take computer science courses and earn technology-related industry certifications to satisfy high school graduation requirements as provided in s. 1003.4282(3). Computer science courses and technology-related industry certifications that are identified as eligible for meeting mathematics or science requirements for high school graduation must be included in the Course Code Directory. *Computer science courses that include instruction in artificial intelligence should provide students with a foundational understanding of artificial intelligence to critically evaluate how artificial intelligence systems use data to present information; recognize the benefits, limitations, and potential risks of artificial intelligence; and apply ethical reasoning to the responsible use of artificial intelligence in academic and personal contexts.*

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 2-15 and insert: An act relating to technology education; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; providing requirements for general education core courses with a technology component; amending s. 1007.2616, F.S.; providing that high school computer science courses that include instruction on artificial intelligence should contain certain content;

On motion by Senator Burgess, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 1503**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—33

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Berman	Garcia	Pizzo
Bernard	Grall	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Jones	Smith
Brodeur	Leek	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for SB 1686—A bill to be entitled An act relating to public records; amending s. 1004.4352, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for certain records and personal identifying information submitted to the Parkinson's Disease Registry; providing for future legislative review and repeal; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1686**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 1445** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Calatayud—

CS for HB 1445—A bill to be entitled An act relating to public records; creating s. 1004.43521, F.S.; providing a public records exemption for specified patient information for the Parkinson's disease registry; authorizing certain information to be disclosed under certain circumstances; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1686** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 1445** was read the third time by title, passed by the required constitutional two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Massullo	Trumbull
Burgess	Mayfield	Wright
Burton	McClain	Yarborough
Calatayud	Osgood	

Nays—1

Gaetz

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Gruters

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for SB 1684—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Parkinson's disease registry; creating ss. 458.352, 459.075, and 464.0124, F.S.; requiring physicians, osteopathic physicians, and advanced practice registered nurses, respectively, to report certain information to the Parkinson's disease registry; providing limited liability for physicians and advanced practice registered nurses under certain circumstances; amending s. 1004.4352, F.S.; revising the membership of the Parkinson's Disease Research Board; requiring that annual reports of the board include specified information beginning on a specified date; requiring the Institute for Parkinson's Disease at the University of South Florida, subject to appropriation, to establish and maintain a statewide Parkinson's disease registry for specified purposes; providing requirements for the registry; requiring certain physicians and advanced practice registered nurses to report specified information to the registry regularly; requiring the institute, beginning on a specified date, to create and maintain a public website dedicated solely to the registry; specifying requirements for the website; requiring that the website be updated by a specified date and annually thereafter; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1684**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for CS for HB 1443** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Calatayud—

CS for CS for CS for HB 1443—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Parkinson's disease registry; creating ss. 458.352, 459.075, and 464.0124 F.S.; requiring physicians and advanced practice registered nurses to report certain information to the Parkinson's disease registry; providing limited liability for physicians and advanced practice registered nurses under certain circumstances; amending s. 1004.4352, F.S.; requiring the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to each appoint one member to the Parkinson's Disease Research Board; revising membership qualifications and terms; revising report requirements; requiring the Institute for Parkinson's Disease within the University of South Florida, subject to appropriation, to establish and maintain a statewide Parkinson's disease registry; providing requirements for such registry; requiring the institute to create and maintain a Parkinson's disease registry-specific website; providing requirements for such website; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1684** and read the second time by title.

Senator Calatayud moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (376440)—Delete line 65 and insert:
other relief may not arise or be enforced against an advanced practice registered nurse by

On motion by Senator Calatayud, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for CS for HB 1443**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

Mr. President	Brodeur	Harrell
Arrington	Burgess	Hooper
Berman	Burton	Jones
Bernard	Calatayud	Leek
Boyd	DiCeglie	Massullo
Bracy Davis	Garcia	Mayfield
Bradley	Grall	McClain

Osgood	Rouson	Trumbull
Passidomo	Simon	Wright
Pizzo	Smith	Yarborough
Rodriguez	Truenow	

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Gruters

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

SB 1656—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the designation of the official state flagship; amending s. 15.0465, F.S.; redesignating the official state flagship as the S.S. American Victory; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 1656**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 249** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Burgess—

CS for HB 249—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the designation of the official state flagship; amending s. 15.0465, F.S.; redesignating the official state flagship as the S.S. American Victory; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 1656** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Burgess, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 249** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for SB 1612—A bill to be entitled An act relating to electronic payments made to units of local governments; amending s. 215.322, F.S.; revising legislative intent; requiring units of local government to accept certain forms of payments; providing an exception; requiring such local governments to accept payments online; providing a finding and declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

SENATOR ROUSON PRESIDING

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1612**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 967** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie—

CS for HB 967—A bill to be entitled An act relating to electronic payments made to units of local governments; amending s. 215.322, F.S.; revising legislative intent; requiring units of local government to accept certain forms of payments; providing an exception; requiring such local governments to accept payments online; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1612** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 967** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—33

Mr. President	DiCeglie	McClain
Arrington	Gaetz	Osgood
Berman	Garcia	Passidomo
Bernard	Grall	Pizzo
Boyd	Gruters	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Harrell	Simon
Bradley	Hooper	Smith
Brodeur	Jones	Truenow
Burgess	Leek	Trumbull
Burton	Massullo	Wright
Calatayud	Mayfield	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for SB 1588—A bill to be entitled An act relating to legal tender; ratifying specified rules relating to legal tender for the sole and exclusive purpose of satisfying any condition on effectiveness pursuant to chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; repealing s. 18 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, which repeals specified provisions relating to legal tender; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1588**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 1311** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Gruters—

CS for CS for HB 1311—A bill to be entitled An act relating to legal tender; ratifying specified rules relating to legal tender for the sole and exclusive purpose of satisfying any condition on effectiveness pursuant to chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; repealing s. 18 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, which repeals specified provisions relating to legal tender; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1588** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Gruters, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 1311** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

Mr. President	Burgess	Harrell
Arrington	Burton	Hooper
Berman	Calatayud	Jones
Bernard	DiCeglie	Leek
Boyd	Gaetz	Massullo
Bracy Davis	Garcia	Mayfield
Bradley	Grall	McClain
Brodeur	Gruters	Osgood

Pizzo	Simon	Trumbull
Rodriguez	Smith	Wright
Rouson	Truenow	

Nays—1

Passidomo

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Yarborough

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

SB 7044—A bill to be entitled An act relating to public records; reenacting and amending s. 560.129, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for certain information obtained by the Office of Financial Regulation concerning or during the course of an investigation or examination conducted by the office, including customer and consumer complaints, to incorporate the inclusion of money transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin as authorized by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; reenacting and amending s. 560.312, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for payment instrument transactions to incorporate the inclusion of money transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin as authorized by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; amending s. 560.4041, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for deferred presentment transactions to incorporate the inclusion of money transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin as authorized by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; reenacting and amending s. 655.057, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for certain information obtained by the office concerning an investigation or examination conducted by the office, including reports or papers of examinations, operations, or condition and trade secrets, to incorporate the inclusion of financial institutions acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin as authorized by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; reenacting and amending s. 655.50, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for reports and records filed with the office to incorporate the inclusion of financial institutions acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin as authorized by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING

Pending further consideration of **SB 7044**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 1087** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Gruters, the rules were waived and—

CS for CS for HB 1087—A bill to be entitled An act relating to public records; reenacting and amending s. 560.129, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for certain information obtained by the Office of Financial Regulation concerning or during the course of an investigation or examination conducted by the office, including customer and consumer complaints, to incorporate the inclusion of documents relating to virtual currency businesses and qualified payment stablecoin issuers; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemptions; providing a statement of public necessity; reenacting and amending s. 655.057, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for certain information obtained by the office concerning an investigation or examination conducted by the office, including reports or papers of examinations, operations, or condition, and trade secrets to incorporate the inclusion of trust companies that are qualified payment stablecoin issuers; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; reenacting and amending s. 655.50, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for reports and records filed with the office to incorporate the inclusion of financial institutions that are trust companies that are qualified payment stablecoin issuers; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 7044** and read the second time by title.

Senator Gruters moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (736548) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Effective on the same date that HB 175 or SB 198, 2026 Regular Session, or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law, or sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect, present subsection (7) of section 560.129, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (8), a new subsection (7) is added to that section, and subsections (1), (2), and (4) of that section are reenacted, to read:

560.129 Confidentiality.—

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, all information concerning an investigation or examination conducted by the office pursuant to this chapter, including any customer complaint received by the office or the Department of Financial Services, is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution until the investigation or examination ceases to be active. For purposes of this section, an investigation or examination is considered "active" so long as the office or any other administrative, regulatory, or law enforcement agency of any jurisdiction is proceeding with reasonable dispatch and has a reasonable good faith belief that action may be initiated by the office or other administrative, regulatory, or law enforcement agency.

(2) All information obtained by the office in the course of its investigation or examination which is a trade secret, as defined in s. 688.002, or which is personal financial information shall remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. If any administrative, civil, or criminal proceeding against a money services business, its authorized vendor, or an affiliated party is initiated and the office seeks to use matter that a licensee believes to be a trade secret or personal financial information, such records shall be subject to an in camera review by the administrative law judge, if the matter is before the Division of Administrative Hearings, or a judge of any court of this state, any other state, or the United States, as appropriate, for the purpose of determining if the matter is a trade secret or is personal financial information. If it is determined that the matter is a trade secret, the matter shall remain confidential. If it is determined that the matter is personal financial information, the matter shall remain confidential unless the administrative law judge or judge determines that, in the interests of justice, the matter should become public.

(4) Except as necessary for the office or any other administrative, regulatory, or law enforcement agency of any jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this chapter or the law of any other state or the United States, a consumer complaint and other information concerning an investigation or examination shall remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution after the investigation or examination ceases to be active to the extent that disclosure would:

(a) Jeopardize the integrity of another active investigation;

(b) Reveal personal financial information;

(c) Reveal the identity of a confidential source; or

(d) Reveal investigative techniques or procedures.

(7) Subsections (1), (2), and (4) are subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. *(1) The Legislature finds all of the following:*

(a) It is a public necessity that all information concerning an investigation or examination of a money services business conducted by the Office of Financial Regulation pursuant to chapter 560, Florida Statutes, including a consumer complaint, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution until the investigation or examination ceases to be active. The Legislature further finds that such information should remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution after the investigation or examination ceases to be active if its disclosure would jeopardize the office's investigations by revealing techniques or procedures or otherwise reveal information that is being used in another investigation, or if disclosure would reveal personal financial information or a confidential source.

(b) It is a public necessity that trade secrets or personal financial information obtained by the office in the course of an investigation or examination pursuant to chapter 560, Florida Statutes, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution, unless an administrative law judge or circuit judge determines that the release of personal financial information to the public is in the interest of justice.

(2) Information specified in subsection (1) is held by the office in conjunction with its investigations and examinations of money services businesses, which include virtual currency kiosk businesses, as defined in s. 560.103, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida. Virtual currency kiosk businesses are thus subject to investigation or examination by the office. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to such entities in conjunction with its duties under chapter 560, Florida Statutes. An exemption from public records requirements provides the same protections to virtual currency kiosk businesses as are afforded to other money services businesses, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as money services businesses. An exemption from public records requirements for reports of examinations, operations, or condition, including working papers, is necessary to ensure the office's ability to effectively and efficiently administer its examination and investigation duties. Examination and investigation are essential components of financial institutions regulation. They deter fraud and ensure the safety and soundness of the financial system. Examinations and investigations also provide a means of early detection of violations, allowing for corrective action to be taken before any harm can be done. Release of such information could compromise the office's examinations or investigations, reveal investigative techniques, or result in the disclosure of an individual's personal financial information. Such disclosure could also result in the release of inaccurate information, which could harm the subject of the examination or investigation, or otherwise impair commerce relating to money services businesses. The Legislature finds that there is little public benefit derived from access to such information during the office's examinations or investigations, and that the exemption is narrowly tailored to allow for release except where the public benefit is outweighed by harm to either the office's investigations or examinations or to individuals whose personal financial information may be disclosed.

(3) This section shall take effect on the same date that SB 198 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.

Section 3. *(1) The Legislature finds all of the following:*

(a) It is a public necessity that all information concerning an investigation or examination of a money services business conducted by the Office of Financial Regulation pursuant to chapter 560, Florida Statutes, including a consumer complaint, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution until the investigation or examination ceases to be active. The Legislature further finds that such information should remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution after the investigation or examination ceases to be active if its disclosure would jeopardize the office's investigations or examinations by revealing techniques or procedures or otherwise reveal information that is being used in another investigation or examinations, or if disclosure would reveal personal financial information or a confidential source.

(b) It is a public necessity that trade secrets or personal financial information obtained by the office in the course of an investigation or examination pursuant to chapter 560, Florida Statutes, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution, unless an administrative law judge or circuit judge determines that the release of personal financial information to the public is in the interest of justice.

(2) Information specified in subsection (1) is held by the office in conjunction with its investigations and examinations of money services businesses, which include qualified payment stablecoin issuers, as defined in s. 560.103, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida. Qualified payment stablecoin issuers are thus subject to investigation or examination by the office. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to such entities in conjunction with its duties under chapter 560, Florida Statutes. An exemption from public records requirements provides the same protections to qualified payment stablecoin issuers as are afforded to other money services businesses, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as money services businesses. An exemption from public records requirements for reports of examinations, operations, or condition, including working papers, is necessary to ensure the office's ability to effectively and efficiently administer its examination and investigation duties. Examination and investigation are essential components of financial institutions regulation. They deter fraud and ensure the safety and soundness of the financial system. Examinations and investigations also provide a means of early detection of violations, allowing for corrective action to be taken before any harm can be done. Release of such information could compromise the office's examinations or investigations, reveal investigative techniques, or result in the disclosure of an individual's personal financial information. Such disclosure could also result in the release of inaccurate information, which could harm the subject of the examination or investigation, or otherwise impair commerce relating to money services businesses. The Legislature finds that there is little public benefit derived from access to such information during the office's examinations or investigations, and that the exemption is narrowly tailored to allow for release except where the public benefit is outweighed by harm to either the office's investigations or examinations or to individuals whose personal financial information may be disclosed.

(3) This section shall take effect on the same date that SB 175 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.

Section 4. *(1) The Legislature finds all of the following:*

(a) It is a public necessity that all information concerning an investigation or examination of a money services business conducted by the Office of Financial Regulation pursuant to chapter 560, Florida Statutes, including a consumer complaint, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution until the investigation or examination ceases to be active. The Legislature further finds that such information should remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution after the investigation or examination ceases to be active if its disclosure would jeopardize the office's investigations or examinations by revealing techniques or procedures or otherwise reveal information that is being used in another investigation or examinations, or if disclosure would reveal personal financial information or a confidential source.

(b) It is a public necessity that trade secrets or personal financial information obtained by the office in the course of an investigation or examination pursuant to chapter 560, Florida Statutes, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution, unless an administrative law judge or circuit judge determines that the release of personal financial information to the public is in the interest of justice.

(2) Information specified in subsection (1) is held by the office in conjunction with its investigations and examinations of money transmitters, as defined in s. 560.103, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, to include custodians of gold coin or silver coin. Custodians of gold coin or silver coin are thus subject to investigation or examination by the office. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to such

entities in conjunction with its duties under chapter 560, Florida Statutes. An exemption from public records requirements provides the same protections to custodians of gold coin or silver coin as are afforded to other money services businesses, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as money services businesses. An exemption from public records requirements for reports of examinations, operations, or condition, including working papers, is necessary to ensure the office's ability to effectively and efficiently administer its examination and investigation duties. Examination and investigation are essential components of financial institutions regulation. They deter fraud and ensure the safety and soundness of the financial system. Examinations also provide a means of early detection of violations, allowing for corrective action to be taken before any harm can be done. Release of such information could compromise the office's investigations and examinations, reveal investigative techniques, or result in the disclosure of an individual's personal financial information. Such disclosure could also result in the release of inaccurate information, which could harm the subject of the examination or investigation, or otherwise impair commerce relating to money services businesses. The Legislature finds that there is little public benefit derived from access to such information during the office's investigation or examination, and that the exemption is narrowly tailored to allow for release except where the public benefit is outweighed by harm to either the office's investigations or to individuals whose personal financial information may be disclosed.

(3) This section shall take effect on the same date that sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect.

Section 5. Effective on the same date that sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect, subsection (4) is added to section 560.312, Florida Statutes, and subsection (1) of that section is reenacted, to read:

560.312 Database of payment instrument transactions; confidentiality.—

(1) Payment instrument transaction information held by the office pursuant to s. 560.310 which identifies a licensee, payor, payee, or conductor is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(4) Subsection (1) is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 6. Effective on the same date that sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect, section 560.4041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

560.4041 Database for deferred presentment providers; public records exemption.—

(1) Information that identifies a drawer or a deferred presentment provider contained in the database authorized under s. 560.404 is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. A deferred presentment provider may access information that it has entered into the database and may obtain an eligibility determination for a particular drawer based on information in the database.

(2) Subsection (1) is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 7. *(1) The Legislature finds all of the following:*

(a) That it is a public necessity that payment instrument transaction information held by the office pursuant to s. 560.310, Florida Statutes, which identifies a licensee, payor, payee, or conductor be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution.

(b) That it is a public necessity that deferred presentment transaction information held by the office pursuant to s. 560.404, Florida Statutes, which identifies a drawer or a deferred presentment provider be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution.

(2) Information specified in subsection (1) held by the office in its database of payment instrument transactions pursuant to s. 560.312, Florida Statutes, and deferred presentment transactions pursuant to s. 560.404, Florida Statutes, may include information that identifies money transmitters, as defined in s. 560.103, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, to include custodians of gold coin or silver coin. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to custodians of gold coin or silver coin that cash a payment instrument exceeding $1,000 or deferred presentment transactions for a particular person. An exemption from public records requirements for custodians of gold coin and silver coin provides the same protections to custodians of gold coin or silver coin as are afforded to other money services businesses, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as money services businesses. An exemption from public records requirements for payment instrument transactions is necessary to deter money laundering and identity theft and related crimes through such custodians. The availability of this information to the office will help increase premium collection, lower costs to insurance carriers, and alleviate premium avoidance, as well as reduce the cost of administering these public programs. However, the public availability of payment instrument transaction or deferred presentment transaction information would reveal sensitive, personal financial information about payees and conductors who use check-cashing and deferred presentment programs, including paycheck amounts, salaries, and business activities, as well as information regarding the financial stability of these custodians. Such information is traditionally private and sensitive. Protecting the confidentiality of such information that would identify these payees and custodians would provide adequate protection for these persons while still providing public oversight of the check-cashing and deferred presentment programs. The public release of payment instrument transaction and deferred presentment transaction information would also identify licensees or payors and reveal business transaction information that is traditionally private and could be used by competitors to harm other licensees or payors in the marketplace. If such information were publicly available, competitors could determine the amount of business conducted by other licensees or payors.

(3) This section shall take effect on the same date that sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect.

Section 8. Effective on the same date that HB 175 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law, or sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect, subsection (15) is added to section 655.057, Florida Statutes, and subsections (1) through (4), (6), and (10) of that section are reenacted, to read:

655.057 Records; limited restrictions upon public access.—

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section and except for such portions thereof which are otherwise public record, all records and information relating to an investigation by the office are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution until such investigation is completed or ceases to be active. For purposes of this subsection, an investigation is considered "active" while such investigation is being conducted by the office with a reasonable, good faith belief that it may lead to the filing of administrative, civil, or criminal proceedings. An investigation does not cease to be active if the office is proceeding with reasonable dispatch, and there is a good faith belief that action may be initiated by the office or other administrative or law enforcement agency. After an investigation is completed or ceases to be active, portions of the records relating to the investigation are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution to the extent that disclosure would:

(a) Jeopardize the integrity of another active investigation;

(b) Impair the safety and soundness of the financial institution;

(c) Reveal personal financial information;

(d) Reveal the identity of a confidential source;

(e) Defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of an individual; or

(f) Reveal investigative techniques or procedures.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section and except for such portions thereof which are public record, reports of examinations, operations, or condition, including working papers, or portions thereof, prepared by, or for the use of, the office or any state or federal agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions in this state are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. However, such reports or papers or portions thereof may be released to:

(a) The financial institution under examination;

(b) Any holding company of which the financial institution is a subsidiary;

(c) Proposed purchasers if necessary to protect the continued financial viability of the financial institution, upon prior approval by the board of directors of such institution;

(d) Persons proposing in good faith to acquire a controlling interest in or to merge with the financial institution, upon prior approval by the board of directors of such financial institution;

(e) Any officer, director, committee member, employee, attorney, auditor, or independent auditor officially connected with the financial institution, holding company, proposed purchaser, or person seeking to acquire a controlling interest in or merge with the financial institution; or

(f) A fidelity insurance company, upon approval of the financial institution's board of directors. However, a fidelity insurance company may receive only that portion of an examination report relating to a claim or investigation being conducted by such fidelity insurance company.

(g) Examination, operation, or condition reports of a financial institution shall be released by the office within 1 year after the appointment of a liquidator, receiver, or conservator to the financial institution. However, any portion of such reports which discloses the identities of depositors, bondholders, members, borrowers, or stockholders, other than directors, officers, or controlling stockholders of the institution, shall remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

Any confidential information or records obtained from the office pursuant to this subsection shall be maintained as confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this section and except for those portions that are otherwise public record, after an investigation relating to an informal enforcement action is completed or ceases to be active, informal enforcement actions are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution to the extent that disclosure would:

(a) Jeopardize the integrity of another active investigation.

(b) Impair the safety and soundness of the financial institution.

(c) Reveal personal financial information.

(d) Reveal the identity of a confidential source.

(e) Defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of an individual.

(f) Reveal investigative techniques or procedures.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this section and except for those portions that are otherwise public record, trade secrets as defined in s. 688.002 which comply with s. 655.0591 and which are held by the office in accordance with its statutory duties with respect to the financial institutions codes are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(6) This section does not prevent or restrict:

(a) Publishing reports that are required to be submitted to the office pursuant to s. 655.045(2) or required by applicable federal statutes or regulations to be published.

(b) Furnishing records or information to any other state, federal, or foreign agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions.

(c) Disclosing or publishing summaries of the condition of financial institutions and general economic and similar statistics and data, provided that the identity of a particular financial institution is not disclosed.

(d) Reporting any suspected criminal activity, with supporting documents and information, to appropriate law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies.

(e) Furnishing information upon request to the Chief Financial Officer or the Division of Treasury of the Department of Financial Services regarding the financial condition of any financial institution that is, or has applied to be, designated as a qualified public depository pursuant to chapter 280.

(f) Furnishing information to Federal Home Loan Banks regarding its member institutions pursuant to an information sharing agreement between the Federal Home Loan Banks and the office.

Any confidential information or records obtained from the office pursuant to this subsection shall be maintained as confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(10) Materials supplied to the office or to employees of any financial institution by other state or federal governmental agencies remain the property of the submitting agency or the corporation, and any document request must be made to the appropriate agency. Any confidential documents supplied to the office or to employees of any financial institution by other state or federal governmental agencies are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Such information shall be made public only with the consent of such agency or the corporation.

(15) Subsections (1)-(4), (6), and (10) are subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and are repealed October 2, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 9. *(1) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that all records and information relating to an investigation by the Office of Financial Regulation undertaken pursuant to chapter 655, Florida Statutes, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution until the investigation ceases to be active. The Legislature further finds that such information should remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution after the investigation ceases to be active if its disclosure would jeopardize the office's investigations by revealing techniques or procedures, or otherwise reveal information that is being used in another investigation; reveal personal financial information or a confidential source; or defame or cause unwarranted damage to an individual's reputation or jeopardize his or her safety.*

(2) Information specified in s. 655.057(1)-(4), (6), and (10), Florida Statutes, is held by the office in conjunction with examinations and investigations of trust companies which may include records concerning payment stablecoin issuer products or services offered by such trust companies, as authorized in s. 658.997, Florida Statutes. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to such trust companies in conjunction with its duties under chapter 655, Florida Statutes. An exemption from public records requirements provides the same protections to trust companies that are qualified payment stablecoin issuers as are afforded to other financial institutions, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as financial institutions. An exemption from public records requirements for reports of examinations, operations, or condition, including working papers, is necessary to ensure the office's ability to effectively and efficiently administer its ex-

amination and investigation duties. Examination and investigation are essential components of financial institutions regulation. They deter fraud and ensure the safety and soundness of the financial system. Examinations and investigations also provide a means of early detection of violations, allowing for corrective action to be taken before any harm can be done.

(3) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity to make confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution records and information relating to an examination or investigation by the Office of Financial Regulation; portions of records relating to a completed or inactive examination or investigation by the office which would jeopardize the integrity of another active examination or investigation, impair the safety and soundness of the financial institution, reveal personal financial information, reveal the identity of a confidential source, defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of an individual, or reveal investigative techniques or procedures; reports of examinations, operations, or conditions, including working papers, or portions thereof, prepared by, or for the use of, the office or any state or federal agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions in this state, until 1 year after the appointment of a liquidator; any portion of such reports which discloses the identities of depositors, bondholders, members, borrowers, or stockholders, other than directors, officers, or controlling stockholders of the institution; trade secrets held by the office in accordance with its statutory duties under chapter 655, Florida Statutes, unless an administrative law judge or circuit judge determines that the release of personal financial information to the public is in the interest of justice; and materials supplied to the office or to employees of any financial institution by other state or federal governmental agencies.

(4) Release of information specified in s. 655.057(1)-(4), (6), and (10), Florida Statutes, could compromise the office's examinations and investigations, reveal investigative techniques, result in the disclosure of an individual's personal financial information, or defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or entity or jeopardize his or her safety. Such disclosure could also result in the spread of inaccurate information, which could harm the subject of the examination or investigation, or otherwise impair commerce conducted by financial institutions in this state. Any portion of a record or information relating to an examination or investigation which reveals personal financial information or the identity of a confidential source may defame, or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of, those individuals, or jeopardize their safety.

(5) A trade secret derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not readily ascertainable by, other persons who can obtain economic value from the disclosure or use of the trade secret. Without an exemption for a trade secret held by the office in accordance with its duties prescribed by chapter 655, Florida Statutes, that trade secret becomes a public record when received and must be divulged upon request. Divulging a trade secret under the public records law would give business competitors an unfair advantage and destroy the value of that property, causing a financial loss to the person or entity submitting the trade secret and weakening the position of that person or entity in the marketplace.

(6) The Legislature finds that there is little public benefit derived from access to such information during the office's examinations or investigations, and that the exemption is narrowly tailored to allow for release except where the public benefit is outweighed by harm to individuals or institutions, when the disclosure would jeopardize other examinations or investigations, reveal the office's investigative techniques or procedures, or expose personal financial information or a confidential source.

(7) This section shall take effect on the same date that HB 175 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.

Section 10. *(1) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that all records and information relating to an investigation by the Office of Financial Regulation undertaken pursuant to chapter 655, Florida Statutes, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution until the investigation ceases to be active. The Legislature further finds that such information should remain confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution after the investigation ceases to be active if its disclosure would jeopardize the office's investigations by revealing techniques or procedures, or otherwise reveal information that is being used in another investigation; reveal personal financial information or a confidential source; or defame or cause unwarranted damage to an individual's reputation or jeopardize his or her safety.*

(2) Information specified in s. 655.057(1)-(4), (6), and (10) is held by the office in conjunction with investigations of financial institutions which may include records concerning gold coin or silver coin products or services offered by such institutions, as authorized in s. 215.986(2)(e), Florida Statutes, enacted in chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to such institutions in conjunction with its duties under chapter 655, Florida Statutes. An exemption from public records requirements provides the same protections to custodians of gold coin or silver coin as are afforded to other financial institutions, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as financial institutions. An exemption from public records requirements for reports of examinations, operations, or condition, including working papers, is necessary to ensure the office's ability to effectively and efficiently administer its examination and investigation duties. Examination and investigation are essential components of financial institutions regulation. They deter fraud and ensure the safety and soundness of the financial system. Examinations also provide a means of early detection of violations, allowing for corrective action to be taken before any harm can be done.

(3) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity to make confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution records and information relating to an investigation by the Office of Financial Regulation; portions of records relating to a completed or inactive investigation by the office which would jeopardize the integrity of another active investigation, impair the safety and soundness of the financial institution, reveal personal financial information, reveal the identity of a confidential source, defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of an individual, or reveal investigative techniques or procedures; reports of examinations, operations, or condition, including working papers, or portions thereof, prepared by, or for the use of, the office or any state or federal agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions in this state, until 1 year after the appointment of a liquidator; any portion of such reports which discloses the identities of depositors, bondholders, members, borrowers, or stockholders, other than directors, officers, or controlling stockholders of the institution; trade secrets held by the office in accordance with its statutory duties under chapter 655, Florida Statutes, unless an administrative law judge or circuit judge determines that the release of personal financial information to the public is in the interest of justice; and materials supplied to the office or to employees of any financial institution by other state or federal governmental agencies.

(4) Release of information specified in s. 655.057(1)-(4), (6), and (10) could compromise the office's investigations and examinations, reveal investigative techniques, result in the disclosure of an individual's personal financial information, or defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or entity or jeopardize his or her safety. Such disclosure could also result in the spread of inaccurate information, which could harm the subject of the examination or investigation, or otherwise impair commerce conducted by financial institutions in this state. Any portion of a record or information relating to an investigation or examination which reveals personal financial information or the identity of a confidential source may defame, or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of, those individuals, or jeopardize their safety.

(5) A trade secret derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not readily ascertainable by, other persons who can obtain economic value from the disclosure or use of the trade secret. Without an exemption for a trade secret held by the office in accordance with its duties prescribed by chapter 655, Florida Statutes, that trade secret becomes a public record when received and must be divulged upon request. Divulging a trade secret under the public records law would give business competitors an unfair advantage and destroy the value of that property, causing a financial loss to the person or entity submitting the trade secret and weakening the position of that person or entity in the marketplace.

(6) The Legislature finds that there is little public benefit derived from access to such information during the office's investigation, and that the exemption is narrowly tailored to allow for release except when the public benefit is outweighed by harm to individuals or institutions, when the disclosure would jeopardize other investigations, reveal the office's investigative techniques or procedures, or expose personal financial information or a confidential source.

(7) This section shall take effect on the same date that sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect.

Section 11. Effective on the same date that HB 175 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law, or sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect, subsection (7) of section 655.50, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of this section is reenacted, to read:

655.50 Florida Control of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in Financial Institutions Act.—

(5) A financial institution shall keep a record of each financial transaction occurring in this state known to it which involves currency or other monetary instrument, as the commission prescribes by rule, has a value greater than $10,000, and involves the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, or is designed to evade the reporting requirements of this section, chapter 896, or similar state or federal law, or which the financial institution reasonably believes is suspicious activity. Each financial institution shall maintain appropriate procedures to ensure compliance with this section, chapter 896, and other similar state or federal law. Any report of suspicious activity made pursuant to this subsection is entitled to the same confidentiality provided under 31 C.F.R. s. 1020.320, whether the report or information pertaining to or identifying the report is in the possession or control of the office or the reporting institution.

(d) Each financial institution shall file a report of the records required under this subsection with the office. Each report shall be filed at such time and must contain such information as the commission requires by rule.

(7) All reports and records filed with the office pursuant to this section are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) *and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution*. However, the office shall provide any report filed pursuant to this section, or information contained therein, to federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, and any federal or state agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions.

Section 12. *(1) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that all reports and records filed with the Office of Financial Regulation be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution unless disclosure is requested by a federal, state, or local law enforcement or prosecutorial agency or any federal or state agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions. Information regarding potential money laundering or terrorism must be safeguarded to prevent the potential offender from being tipped off or circumventing an investigation conducted by the office, and disclosure of such information could harm the office's investigations.*

(2) These reports and records are held by the office in conjunction with its duties pursuant to 31 U.S.C. s. 5313 and 31 C.F.R. part 1020 and its examinations or investigations of trust companies' transactions involving monetary instruments concerning payment stablecoin products or services offered by such companies, as authorized in s. 658.997, Florida Statutes, to include any transactions involving payment stablecoin products or services offered by such financial institutions. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to such entities in conjunction with its duties under chapter 655, Florida Statutes. An exemption from public records requirements provides the same protections to trust companies that hold a certificate of approval as a qualified payment stablecoin issuer as are afforded to other financial institutions, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as financial institutions. An exemption from public records requirements for reports and records submitted to the office is necessary to ensure the office's ability to effectively and efficiently administer its investigation duties. Examination and investigation are essential components of financial institutions regulation. They deter fraud and ensure the safety and soundness of the financial system. Examinations and investigations also provide a means of early detection of violations, allowing for corrective action to be taken before any harm can be done.

(3) This section shall take effect on the same date that HB 175 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.

Section 13. *(1) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that all reports and records filed with the Office of Financial Regulation be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution unless disclosure is requested by a federal, state, or local law enforcement or prosecutorial agency or any federal or state agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions. Information regarding potential money laundering or terrorism must be safeguarded to prevent the potential offender from being tipped off or circumventing an investigation conducted by the office, and disclosure of such information could harm the office's investigations.*

(2) These reports and records are held by the office in conjunction with its duties pursuant to 31 U.S.C. s. 5313 and 31 C.F.R. part 1020 and its investigations of financial institutions' transactions involving monetary instruments concerning gold coin or silver coin products or services offered by such institutions, as authorized in s. 215.986(2)(e), Florida Statutes, enacted in chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, to include any transactions involving gold coin or silver coin products or services offered by such financial institutions. As a result, the office may receive sensitive personal and financial information relating to such entities in conjunction with its duties under chapter 655, Florida Statutes. An exemption from public records requirements provides the same protections to custodians of gold coin or silver coin as are afforded to other financial institutions, thereby preventing any disadvantage to these similarly regulated entities in comparison to other entities currently classified as financial institutions. An exemption from public records requirements for reports and records submitted to the office is necessary to ensure the office's ability to effectively and efficiently administer its investigation duties. Examination and investigation are essential components of financial institutions regulation. They deter fraud and ensure the safety and soundness of the financial system. Examinations also provide a means of early detection of violations, allowing for corrective action to be taken before any harm can be done.

(3) This section shall take effect on the same date that sections 1 through 15 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, take effect.

Section 14. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to public records; reenacting and amending s. 560.129, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for certain information obtained by the Office of Financial Regulation concerning or during the course of an investigation or examination conducted by the office, including customer and consumer complaints, to incorporate the inclusion of documents relating to virtual currency businesses, qualified payment stablecoin issuers, and money transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemptions; providing statements of public necessity; amending s. 560.312, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for payment instrument transactions to incorporate the inclusion of money transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; amending s. 560.4041, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for deferred presentment transactions to incorporate the inclusion of money transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; reenacting and amending s. 655.057, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for certain information obtained by the office concerning an investigation or examination conducted by the office, including reports or papers of examinations, operations, or condition, and trade secrets to incorporate the inclusion of trust companies that are qualified payment stablecoin issuers and money

transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing statements of public necessity; reenacting and amending s. 655.50, F.S.; expanding a public records exemption for reports and records filed with the office to incorporate the inclusion of financial institutions that are trust companies that are qualified payment stablecoin issuers and money transmitters acting as custodians of gold coin and silver coin; providing statements of public necessity; providing contingent effective dates.

On motion by Senator Gruters, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 1087**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed by the required constitutional two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—31

Mr. President	Garcia	Pizzo
Arrington	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—3

Berman	Gaetz	Passidomo

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for CS for SB 1568—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Florida Stablecoin Pilot Program; creating s. 17.72, F.S.; establishing the Florida Stablecoin Pilot Program within the Department of Financial Services; providing legislative intent; defining terms; authorizing the department to engage in certain activities; authorizing the department to designate one or more payment stablecoins for certain activities; requiring that certain payment stablecoins meet specified criteria; authorizing the department to accept payment stablecoins; authorizing program participants to elect to voluntarily participate in the program and remit payment stablecoins to a compatible digital wallet address; requiring certain participants to provide the department with a compatible digital wallet address; requiring the department to comply with certain requirements; requiring the department to provide a compatible digital wallet address for a specified purpose; authorizing the department to conduct examinations, audits, and investigations of permitted payment stablecoin issuers; requiring the department to coordinate with the Office of Financial Regulation under certain circumstances; requiring the department to monitor and evaluate the pilot program and collect certain data; requiring the department to submit an annual report containing certain information to the Governor and the Legislature, beginning on a specified date and annually thereafter; providing construction; authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator DiCeglie moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (548372) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 17.72, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

17.72 Florida Stablecoin Pilot Program.—There is established within the department the Florida Stablecoin Pilot Program. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Florida Stablecoin Pilot Program yield benefits from the acceptance of payment stablecoins as a form of payment for governmental fees through this voluntary pilot program.

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Blockchain" means a mathematically secured, chronological, decentralized, distributed, and digital ledger or database that consists of records of transactions that cannot be altered retroactively.

(b) "Compatible digital wallet address" means the address of a software application that securely stores private keys for accessing and completing transactions with payment stablecoins.

(c) "Digital asset" means any digital representation of value that is recorded on a cryptographically secured digital ledger.

(d) "Exchange platform" means a company licensed and regulated by the Federal Government or a state government which provides trading, custody, or money transmission services of payment stablecoins or other digital assets.

(e) "Exchange platform fee" means a fee charged by an exchange platform for the trading, custody, or money transmission services of payment stablecoins or other digital assets.

(f) "Federal qualified payment stablecoin issuer" means any of the following:

1. A nonbank entity, other than a state qualified payment stablecoin issuer, approved by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency to issue payment stablecoins.

2. An uninsured national bank that is chartered by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency pursuant to title LXII of the Revised Statutes and is approved to issue payment stablecoins. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "national bank" has the same meaning as in the GENIUS Act, Pub. L. No. 119-27.

3. A federal branch that is approved by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency to issue payment stablecoins. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "federal branch" has the same meaning as in s. 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 U.S.C. s. 1813.

(g) "Network fee" means the cost paid by a user to have a transaction processed and confirmed on a blockchain network.

(h)1. "Payment stablecoin" means a digital asset that meets all of the following requirements:

a. Is, or is designed to be, used as a means of payment or settlement.

b. The issuer of which:

(I) Is obligated to convert, redeem, or repurchase the digital asset for a fixed amount of monetary value, not including a digital asset denominated in a fixed amount of monetary value.

(II) Represents that such issuer will maintain, or create the reasonable expectation that it will maintain, a stable value relative to the value of a fixed amount of monetary value.

2. The term does not include a digital asset that is any of the following:

a. A national currency as defined in the GENIUS Act, Pub. L. No. 119-27.

b. A deposit as defined in s. 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 U.S.C. s. 1813, including a deposit recorded using distributed ledger technology. For purposes of this sub-subparagraph, the term "distributed ledger" has the same meaning as in the GENIUS Act, Pub. L. No. 119-27.

c. A security as defined in s. 517.021, s. 2 of the Securities Act of 1933, 15 U.S.C. s. 77b, s. 3 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. s. 78c, or s. 2 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, 15 U.S.C. s. 80a-2.

(i) "Permitted payment stablecoin issuer" means a person formed in the United States which is one of the following:

1. A subsidiary of an insured depository institution that has been approved to issue payment stablecoins under the GENIUS Act, Pub. L. No. 119-27. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "insured de-

pository institution" has the same meaning as in the GENIUS Act, Pub. L. No. 119-27.

2. A federal qualified payment stablecoin issuer.

3. A state qualified payment stablecoin issuer.

(j) "State payment stablecoin regulator" means the Office of Financial Regulation. The term also includes a state agency in another state that has primary regulatory and supervisory authority in such state over entities that issue payment stablecoins.

(k) "State qualified payment stablecoin issuer" means an entity legally established under the laws of a state and approved to issue payment stablecoins by a state payment stablecoin regulator.

(2) PROGRAM PARTICIPATION.—

(a) The department may engage in any of the following activities that meet the requirements of this section:

1. Accept payment stablecoin for the payment of authorized fees as provided in paragraph (c).

2. Issue refunds, reimbursements, or other similar disbursements in the form of payment stablecoins to any participant who elects to receive a payment in such form. The department may purchase payment stablecoins in an amount that is necessary to support such activity.

3. Hold payment stablecoin. If such payment stablecoin does not earn any interest or yields, the department may hold payment stablecoin only in the amount that is estimated to be required to issue refunds, reimbursements, or other similar disbursements during a revolving 30-day period. Any direct or indirect yields earned with respect to payment stablecoins shall be credited to the benefit of the state.

(b) The department may designate one or more payment stablecoins for activities authorized in paragraph (a). Any payment stablecoin that is accepted, purchased, held, or disbursed by the department pursuant to this section must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Have an average market capitalization of at least $1 billion during the preceding 12-month period.

2. Be fully backed by reserve assets on a one-to-one basis limited to United States currency, demand deposits at insured depository institutions, United States Treasury bills having a remaining maturity of 93 days or less, or reverse repurchase agreements collateralized by such treasury bills.

3. Be redeemable at all times at a one-to-one ratio for United States dollars through the permitted payment stablecoin issuer or its agent.

4. Be issued by a permitted payment stablecoin issuer.

5. Be purchased by the department directly from a permitted payment stablecoin issuer through a blockchain network or indirectly through an exchange platform, or received by the department from a program participant.

6. Be subject, if network fees or exchange platform fees are paid by the department, only to reasonable fees that do not exceed the fees that would be charged to the department if payment were accepted by similar mediums of exchange.

7. Except as otherwise provided in this section, be issued by an issuer that meets any additional criteria for a permitted payment stablecoin issuer under any applicable federal or state law including, but not limited to, the GENIUS Act, Pub. L. No. 119-27.

(c) The department may accept payment stablecoins as a form of payment for fees that include, but are not limited to, licensing fees, registration fees, certification fees, assessment fees, application fees, renewal fees, other regulatory fees administered by the department, or any other fee owed to the department.

(d) An applicant, a licensee, or other program participant may elect to voluntarily participate in the pilot program and remit payment stablecoins to a compatible digital wallet address designated by the department as a valid form of payment for any fee authorized in paragraph (c).

(e) A participant that elects to receive from the department a refund, reimbursement, or other similar disbursement in the form of payment stablecoin must provide the department with a compatible digital wallet address where such payment may be sent.

(3) DEPARTMENT DUTIES.—

(a) The department must comply with all of the following requirements:

1. Ensure that any payment stablecoin issuer designated for use in the pilot program is a permitted payment stablecoin issuer. If the Federal Government has not approved any federal qualified payment stablecoin issuers and no state payment stablecoin regulator has approved any state qualified payment stablecoin issuers, the department may not engage in any of the activities authorized in subsection (2).

2. Provide a compatible digital wallet address to any participant that elects to participate in the voluntary pilot program for the payment of any fees authorized in paragraph (2)(c) to be paid in the form of payment stablecoins.

3. Within a reasonable time after receiving a payment stablecoin from any program participant, convert the payment stablecoin into United States currency and credit the applicable account where the funds would be held in a qualified public depository, unless an exception applies pursuant to s. 280.03, in the same manner as a payment made by any other authorized means. The department must attempt to minimize the amount of potential fees, if applicable, when determining the date and time to convert the payment stablecoin.

(b) The department may conduct examinations, audits, or investigations of a permitted payment stablecoin issuer of a payment stablecoin designated for use in the pilot program to verify asset backing, redeemability, and adherence to consumer protection standards, including standards related to fraud prevention and dispute resolution. To the extent that the department intends to engage in such conduct as to a state qualified payment stablecoin issuer, the department must coordinate with the Office of Financial Regulation to avoid duplicated efforts and to efficiently regulate such issuer.

(4) REPORTING.—

(a) The department shall monitor and evaluate the pilot program and collect data on transaction volume, cost savings, security incidents, regulatory compliance, and economic impacts, as well as any instances of fraud or disputes.

(b) Beginning February 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the department must submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which must include all of the following:

1. A summary of the data collected pursuant to paragraph (a).

2. Any findings the department makes with respect to the pilot program which include, but are not limited to, findings regarding any trends or patterns relating to financial matters, such as fiscal impacts, or nonfinancial matters, such as utilization analysis.

3. Any recommendations for expansion or termination of the pilot program.

4. Any proposed statutory changes, if appropriate.

(5) CONSTRUCTION.—This section:

(a) Does not alter or supersede any existing statutory fee obligations, licensing requirements, or enforcement authority of the department.

(b) Authorizes the acceptance of payment stablecoins as an optional payment method and does not require or authorize the acceptance of any other digital asset.

(c) May not be construed to relieve the Chief Financial Officer or the department of any obligation to secure public funds, including any

payment stablecoins, in a qualified public depository unless an exemption applies pursuant to s. 280.03 or, with respect to payment stablecoins, to hold such stablecoins in a manner similar to how direct United States Treasury obligations are held pursuant to s. 17.57(2)(a).

(d) Authorizes the department to give preference to, when designating payment stablecoins for use in the pilot program pursuant to paragraph (2)(b), state qualified payment stablecoin issuers approved by the Office of Financial Regulation.

(6) RULEMAKING.—The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to the use of digital currency by the Department of Financial Services; creating s. 17.72, F.S.; establishing the Florida Stablecoin Pilot Program within the Department of Financial Services; providing legislative intent; providing definitions; authorizing the department to engage in certain activities; authorizing the department to designate one or more payment stablecoins for certain activities; requiring that certain payment stablecoins meet specified criteria; authorizing the department to accept payment stablecoins; authorizing program participants to elect to voluntarily participate in the program and remit payment stablecoins to a compatible digital wallet address; requiring certain participants to provide the department with a compatible digital wallet address; requiring the department to comply with certain requirements; requiring the department to provide a compatible digital wallet address for a specified purpose; authorizing the department to conduct examinations, audits, and investigations of permitted payment stablecoin issuers; requiring the department to coordinate with the Office of Financial Regulation under certain circumstances; requiring the department to monitor and evaluate the pilot program and collect certain data; requiring the department to submit an annual report containing certain information to the Governor and Legislature, beginning on a specified date and annually thereafter; providing construction; authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for SB 1568**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, ordered engrossed, and then certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for CS for CS for SB 1566—A bill to be entitled An act relating to local government finances; providing a short title; amending s. 129.03, F.S.; revising the timeframe during which tentative budgets, and the length of time for which final budgets, must be posted on county websites; requiring the county to hold a budget workshop for a specified purpose by a certain date; requiring the county to post a certain budget reduction exercise or link on its website; requiring that tentative, adopted tentative, and final budgets be posted on a county's website; specifying requirements for such posted budgets; deleting obsolete language; requiring counties to prepare certain quarterly compensation summaries; requiring that such summaries be posted on a county website in a certain format; requiring counties to publish budget development calendars; specifying requirements for such calendars; providing that such publication may not serve as a basis for certain actions; amending s. 129.06, F.S.; revising the length of time for which a public hearing for an amendment to a county budget must be advertised; requiring that proposed amendments be posted on the county's website on a certain date; revising the length of time for which adopted amendments must remain on such website; amending s. 163.3164, F.S.; defining the terms "impact fee" and "plan-based methodology"; amending s. 163.3180, F.S.; authorizing a local government to adopt an alternative transportation system that is mobility-plan and fee-based or that is not mobility-plan and fee-based, including impact fees, under certain circumstances; providing construction; prohibiting certain interlocal agreements from extending beyond a specified date; deleting an exception to an applicability provision relating to concurrency; amending s. 163.31801, F.S.; defining the term "extraordinary circumstances"; specifying requirements applicable to local governments and special districts for impact fees adopted or increased after a specified date; requiring that a demonstrated-need study use a plan-based methodology for a certain purpose; requiring that certain capacity standards be specified in a certain impact fee study; requiring that a demonstrated-need study be accompanied by a certain declaration; requiring local governments, school districts, and special districts to use localized data for a certain purpose; prohibiting local governments, school districts, and special districts from using certain data for a specified purpose; prohibiting local governments, school districts, and special districts from including certain deductions in certain impact fee increases and from increasing impact fee rates beyond certain phase-in limitations by more than a specified percentage within a certain timeframe; providing procedures relating to impact fee payor refunds and credits of impact fee overpayments; providing legislative intent; prohibiting the use of certain provisions as an admission against interest; amending s. 166.241, F.S.; revising the timeframe during which tentative budgets, and the length of time for which final budgets, must be posted on municipal or county websites, as applicable; requiring the municipality to hold a budget workshop for a specified purpose by a certain date; requiring the municipality to post a certain budget reduction exercise or link on its website or the county's website, as applicable; requiring that tentative, adopted tentative, and final budgets be posted on a municipality's website or the county's website, as applicable; specifying requirements for such posted budgets; deleting obsolete language; requiring that proposed amendments be posted on a certain website on a certain date; revising the length of time for which adopted amendments must remain on such website; requiring municipalities to prepare certain quarterly compensation summaries; requiring that such summaries be posted in a specified manner; requiring municipalities to publish budget development calendars in a specified manner; specifying requirements for such calendars; providing that such publication may not serve as a basis for certain actions; amending s. 212.055, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; declaring that the act fulfills an important state interest; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for CS for SB 1566**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 1329** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie, the rules were waived and—

CS for CS for HB 1329—A bill to be entitled An act relating to local government spending; providing a short title; amending s. 129.03, F.S.; revising the length of time tentative budgets and final budgets must be posted on county websites; requiring the posting of such budgets to allow members of the public to download and review certain information and data in specified formats; requiring the county budget officer to perform a certain exercise within a specified time period before final adoption of a budget; requiring that such exercise be posted on the county's website; providing an exception for counties that meet certain requirements; requiring counties that meet such exception to provide information in a form and manner prescribed by the Department of Financial Services; defining the term "population"; providing a deadline for the submission of such information; authorizing counties to apply for certain hardship waivers; requiring the department to review such waivers and make a final determination; amending s. 129.06, F.S.; revising the length of time a public hearing for an amendment to a county

budget must be advertised; revising the length of time an adopted amendment must be posted on the county's website; requiring the posting of a proposed amendment to meet certain requirements; amending s. 166.241, F.S.; revising the length of time tentative budgets and final budgets must be posted on municipality or county websites, as applicable; requiring the posting of such budgets to allow members of the public to download and review certain information and data in specified formats; requiring the governing body of a municipality to perform a certain exercise within a specified time period before final adoption of a budget; requiring that such exercise be posted on the county's or municipality's website; providing an exception for municipalities that meet certain requirements; requiring municipalities that meet such exception to provide information in a form and manner prescribed by the Department of Financial Services; defining the term "population"; providing a deadline for the submission of such information; authorizing municipalities to apply for certain hardship waivers; requiring the department to review such waivers and make a final determination; revising the length of time an adopted amendment must be posted on the municipality's or county's website; requiring the posting of a proposed amendment to meet certain requirements; amending s. 189.016, F.S.; revising the length of time a tentative budget and final budget must be posted on the special district's website; revising the length of time an adopted amendment must be posted on the special district's website; requiring the posting of a proposed amendment to meet certain requirements; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for CS for SB 1566** and read the second time by title.

Senator DiCeglie moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (399106) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *This act may be cited as the "Local Government Financial Transparency and Accountability Act."*

Section 2. Present paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 129.03, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (f) of that subsection, a new paragraph (d) and paragraphs (e), (g), and (h) are added to subsection (3) of that section, and paragraph (c) and present paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of that section are amended, to read:

129.03 Preparation and adoption of budget.—

(3) The county budget officer, after tentatively ascertaining the proposed fiscal policies of the board for the next fiscal year, shall prepare and present to the board a tentative budget for the next fiscal year for each of the funds provided in this chapter, including all estimated receipts, taxes to be levied, and balances expected to be brought forward and all estimated expenditures, reserves, and balances to be carried over at the end of the year.

(c) The board shall hold public hearings to adopt tentative and final budgets pursuant to s. 200.065. The hearings shall be primarily for the purpose of hearing requests and complaints from the public regarding the budgets and the proposed tax levies and for explaining the budget and any proposed or adopted amendments. The tentative budget must be posted on the county's official website at least *5* ~~2~~ days before the public hearing to consider such budget and must remain on the website for at least 45 days. The final budget must be posted on the website within 30 days after adoption and must remain on the website for at least *5* ~~2~~ years. The tentative budgets, adopted tentative budgets, and final budgets shall be filed in the office of the county auditor as a public record. Sufficient reference in words and figures to identify the particular transactions must be made in the minutes of the board to record its actions with reference to the budgets.

(d) The county shall hold a budget workshop at which the board shall perform a budget reduction exercise, identifying strategies to potentially reduce the ensuing fiscal year budget by 10 percent in comparison to the current year budget without compromising essential public services, such as law enforcement or fire services, or legal obligations. The county shall post such exercise on the county's official website in a portable document format or a similar electronically accessible form that can be downloaded and is independent of the original software and hardware used to create the document, or a link to a recording of the budget workshop. The budget reduction exercise must occur at least 14 days before final budget adoption.

(e) Each tentative budget, adopted tentative budget, and final budget must be posted on the county's official website. The budget must be posted in a portable document format or a similar electronically accessible form that can be downloaded and may be independent of the original software and hardware used to create the document. At a minimum, the posted budgets must include all of the following information for the proposed fiscal year, the current fiscal year, and the preceding 4 fiscal years:

1. Budget overview and summary, including a narrative analysis that also utilizes graphical illustrations to highlight major points of emphasis and trends.

2. An overall countywide summary of revenue and expenditures.

3. A summary of revenue and expenditures by fund.

4. A summary of expenses by department and division.

5. A summary of expenses by program or function.

6. A summary of expenses related to debt obligations.

7. A summary of expenses related to capital projects.

8. An organizational chart or staffing summary.

9. A summary and analysis of county reserves and fund balances.

(f)~~(d)~~ By each October 15, the county budget officer shall electronically submit the following information regarding the final budget and the county's economic status to the Office of Economic and Demographic Research in the format specified by the office:

1. Government spending per resident, including, at a minimum, the spending per resident for the previous 5 fiscal years.

2. Government debt per resident, including, at a minimum, the debt per resident for the previous 5 fiscal years.

3. Median income within the county.

4. The average county employee salary.

5. Percent of budget spent on salaries and benefits for county employees.

6. Number of special taxing districts, wholly or partially, within the county.

7. Annual county expenditures providing for the financing, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of housing that is affordable, as that term is defined in s. 420.0004. The reported expenditures must indicate the source of such funds as "federal," "state," "local," or "other," as applicable. ~~The information required by this subparagraph must be included in the submission due by October 15, 2020, and each annual submission thereafter.~~

(g) Each county shall prepare a quarterly summary of compensation for all employees funded with appropriations from the county. The summary must include job titles, names, and salaries for each employee. The summary must be posted on the county's official website in a portable document format or a similar electronically accessible form that can be downloaded and may be independent of the original software and hardware used to create the document.

(h)1. Each county shall publish a budget development calendar for the ensuing fiscal year. The calendar must list, to the extent practicable, all of the following budget-related events:

a. The expected timeframe for county agencies to submit their proposed budget requests, including the name of the county agency or county budget officer to whom such requests must be submitted.

b. The expected timeframe for constitutional county officers listed in s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution to submit their tentative budgets to the board of county commissioners under subsection (2).

c. The expected timeframe in which the county property appraiser is expected to submit to the county budget officer his or her estimate of total valuations against which taxes may be levied as described in subsection (1).

d. An expected timeframe for holding any budget workshops at which the board of county commissioners may discuss the ensuing county budget, county agency funding requests, or the budgets of constitutional county officers.

e. The expected timeframe in which the budget public hearings required under s. 200.065 may be held.

f. The expected timeframe by which the county will hold a budget workshop at which the board of county commissioners will perform the budget reduction exercise required by paragraph (d).

2. The budget development calendar must be published on the county's website on or before January 30 of each calendar year. However, the publication of the budget development calendar may not serve as a basis for bringing any civil or equitable action challenging the adoption of a county's tentative or final budgets pursuant to s. 129.01 or s. 200.065.

Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 129.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

129.06 Execution and amendment of budget.—

(2) The board at any time within a fiscal year may amend a budget for that year, and may within the first 60 days of a fiscal year amend the budget for the prior fiscal year, as follows:

(f) Unless otherwise prohibited by law, if an amendment to a budget is required for a purpose not specifically authorized in paragraphs (a)-(e), the amendment may be authorized by resolution or ordinance of the board of county commissioners adopted following a public hearing.

1. The public hearing must be advertised at least ~~2 days, but not more than~~ 5 days~~,~~ before the date of the hearing. The advertisement must appear in a newspaper of paid general circulation and must identify the name of the taxing authority, the date, place, and time of the hearing, and the purpose of the hearing. The advertisement must also identify each budgetary fund to be amended, the source of the funds, the use of the funds, and the total amount of each fund's appropriations.

2. *The proposed amendment must be posted on the county's official website 5 days before the adoption of the amendment.* If the board amends the budget pursuant to this paragraph, the adopted amendment ~~must be posted on the county's official website within 5 days after adoption and~~ must remain on the website for at least *5* ~~2~~ years.

Section 4. Present subsections (22) through (38) and (39) through (54) of section 163.3164, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (23) through (39) and (41) through (56), respectively, and new subsections (22) and (40) are added to that section, to read:

163.3164 Community Planning Act; definitions.—As used in this act:

(22) "Impact fee" means a one-time charge imposed by a local government on new development to fund the capital costs of public infrastructure needed to serve that development.

(40) "Plan-based methodology" means a study methodology that uses the most recent and localized data to project growth within a jurisdiction over a 10-year period, anticipate capacity impacts on relevant systems which will be created by the projected growth, and establish a list of capital projects to be constructed or purchased in a defined time period to mitigate the anticipated capacity impacts as part of a new or updated impact fee study. The capital projects identified in a county or municipal impact fee study and any necessary interlocal agreement must comport with the requirements of s. 163.3177(6)(h).

Section 5. Paragraphs (i) and (j) of subsection (5) of section 163.3180, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.3180 Concurrency.—

(5)

(i) If a local government elects to repeal transportation concurrency, the local government may adopt an alternative transportation system that is mobility-plan and fee-based or an alternative transportation system that is not mobility-plan and fee-based*, including impact fees*. The local government may not use an alternative transportation system to deny, time, or phase an application for site plan approval, plat approval, final subdivision approval, building permits, or the functional equivalent of such approvals provided that the developer agrees to pay for the development's identified transportation impacts via the funding mechanism implemented by the local government. The revenue from the funding mechanism used in the alternative transportation system must be used to implement the needs of the local government's plan which serves as the basis for the fee imposed. An alternative transportation system must comply with s. 163.31801 governing impact fees. An alternative transportation system may not impose upon new development any responsibility for funding an existing transportation deficiency as defined in paragraph (h). *This section does not require a local government to adopt a mobility fee in lieu of an impact fee for transportation.*

(j)1. If a county and municipality charge the developer of a new development or redevelopment a fee for transportation capacity impacts, the county and municipality must create and execute an interlocal agreement to coordinate the mitigation of their respective transportation capacity impacts.

2. The interlocal agreement must, at a minimum:

a. Ensure that any new development or redevelopment is not charged twice for the same transportation capacity impacts.

b. Establish a plan-based methodology for determining the legally permissible fee to be charged to a new development or redevelopment.

c. Require the county or municipality issuing the building permit to collect the fee, unless agreed to otherwise.

d. Provide a method for the proportionate distribution of the revenue collected by the county or municipality to address the transportation capacity impacts of a new development or redevelopment, or provide a method of assigning responsibility for the mitigation of the transportation capacity impacts belonging to the county and the municipality.

3. By October 1, 2025, if an interlocal agreement is not executed pursuant to this paragraph:

a. The fee charged to a new development or redevelopment shall be based on the transportation capacity impacts apportioned to the county and municipality as identified in the developer's traffic impact study or the mobility plan adopted by the county or municipality.

b. The developer shall receive a 10 percent reduction in the total fee calculated pursuant to sub-subparagraph a.

c. The county or municipality issuing the building permit must collect the fee charged pursuant to sub-subparagraphs a. and b. and distribute the proceeds of such fee to the county and municipality within 60 days after the developer's payment.

4. This paragraph does not apply to:

a. A county as defined in s. 125.011(1).

b. A county or municipality that has entered into, or otherwise updated, an existing interlocal agreement, as of October 1, 2024, to coordinate the mitigation of transportation impacts. However, if such existing interlocal agreement is terminated, the affected county and municipality that have entered into the agreement *are* ~~shall be~~ subject to the requirements of this paragraph*. An interlocal agreement entered into before October 1, 2024, may not extend beyond October 1, 2031* ~~unless the county and municipality mutually agree to extend the existing interlocal agreement before the expiration of the agreement~~.

Section 6. Present paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of section 163.31801, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (b) and (c), respectively, a new paragraph (a) is added to that subsection, subsection

(15) is added to that section, and subsection (4) and paragraph (g) of subsection (6) of that section are amended, to read:

163.31801 Impact fees; short title; intent; minimum requirements; audits; challenges.—

(3) For purposes of this section, the term:

(a) "Extraordinary circumstances" means measurable effects of development which will require mitigation by the affected local government, school district, or special district and which exceed the total of the current adopted impact fee amount and any increase as provided in paragraphs (6)(c), (d), and (e) in less than 4 years.

(4) *For impact fees adopted or increased after July 1, 2026,* at a minimum, each local government that adopts and collects an impact fee by ordinance and each special district that adopts, collects, and administers an impact fee by resolution must:

(a) Ensure that the calculation of the impact fee is based on a *demonstrated-need* study *that is plan-based and uses* ~~using~~ the most recent and localized data available within 4 years of the current impact fee update. The new study must be adopted by the local government within 12 months of the initiation of the new impact fee study if the local government increases the impact fee.

(b) Provide for accounting and reporting of impact fee collections and expenditures and account for the revenues and expenditures of such impact fee in a separate accounting fund.

(c) Limit administrative charges for the collection of impact fees to actual costs.

(d) Provide notice at least 90 days before the effective date of an ordinance or resolution imposing a new or increased impact fee. A local government is not required to wait 90 days to decrease, suspend, or eliminate an impact fee. Unless the result is to reduce the total mitigation costs or impact fees imposed on an applicant, new or increased impact fees may not apply to current or pending permit applications submitted before the effective date of a new or increased impact fee.

(e) Ensure that collection of the impact fee may not be required to occur earlier than the date of issuance of the building permit for the property that is subject to the fee.

(f) Ensure that the impact fee is proportional and reasonably connected to, or has a rational nexus with, the need for additional capital facilities and the increased impact generated by the new residential or commercial construction.

(g) Ensure that the impact fee is proportional and reasonably connected to, or has a rational nexus with, the expenditures of the funds collected and the benefits accruing to the new residential or nonresidential construction.

(h) Specifically earmark funds collected under the impact fee for use in acquiring, constructing, or improving capital facilities to benefit new users.

(i) Ensure that revenues generated by the impact fee are not used, in whole or in part, to pay existing debt or for previously approved projects unless the expenditure is reasonably connected to, or has a rational nexus with, the increased impact generated by the new residential or nonresidential construction.

(6) A local government, school district, or special district may increase an impact fee only as provided in this subsection.

(g)1. A local government, school district, or special district may increase an impact fee rate beyond the phase-in limitations established under paragraph (b), paragraph (c), paragraph (d), or paragraph (e) by establishing the need for such increase in full compliance with the requirements of subsection (4), provided the following criteria are met:

a. A demonstrated-need study *using a plan-based methodology which justifies* ~~justifying~~ any increase in excess of those authorized in paragraph (b), paragraph (c), paragraph (d), or paragraph (e) has been completed within the 12 months before the adoption of the impact fee increase and expressly demonstrates the extraordinary circumstances necessitating the need to exceed the phase-in limitations. *The capacity standards used to support the existence of such extraordinary circumstances must be specified in the impact fee study adopted under paragraph (4)(a). The demonstrated-need study must be accompanied by a declaration stating how and the timeframe during which the proposed impact fee increase will be used to construct or purchase the improvements necessary to increase capacity. The local government, school district, or special district must use localized data reflecting differences in costs and modality of projects between urban, emerging urban, and rural areas, as applicable within the study area, to project the anticipated growth or capacity impacts that underlie the extraordinary circumstances necessitating the impact fee increase.*

b. The local government jurisdiction has held at least two publicly noticed workshops dedicated to the extraordinary circumstances necessitating the need to exceed the phase-in limitations set forth in paragraph (b), paragraph (c), paragraph (d), or paragraph (e).

c. The impact fee increase ordinance is approved by a unanimous vote of the governing body.

2. An impact fee increase approved under this paragraph must be implemented in at least two but not more than four equal annual increments beginning with the date on which the impact fee increase ordinance is adopted.

3. A local government*, school district, or special district* may not*:*

a. Increase an impact fee rate beyond the phase-in limitations under this paragraph if the local government*, school district, or special district* has not increased the impact fee within the past 5 years. Any year in which the local government*, school district, or special district* is prohibited from increasing an impact fee because the jurisdiction is in a hurricane disaster area is not included in the 5-year period.

b. Use data that is more than 4 years old to demonstrate extraordinary circumstances.

c. Include in the impact fee increase any deduction authorized by a previous or existing impact fee.

d. Increase an impact fee rate beyond the phase-in limitations under this paragraph by more than 100 percent divided equally over a 4-year period.

(15) When an impact fee payor submits a written request to the chief administrative officer of a local government, school district, or special district for a refund or credit from alleged overpayment of an impact fee, the local government, school district, or special district that levied the impact fee shall provide a written approval or denial to the payor within 30 days after receiving the written request. If the local government, school district, or special district approves the payor's request, the impact fee payor may, at the payor's discretion, elect to receive either a refund or a credit. The impact fee payor has 30 days after receipt of the written response from the local government, school district, or special district to provide written notice to the chief administrator of the local government, school district, or special district of the payor's election. It is the intent of the Legislature that the impact fee payor elect a credit if the payor has the reasonable opportunity to use the credit, in accordance with law. A full refund or credit of the impact fee must be provided to the payor within 30 days after the chief administrator receives the payor's written election. A request or response provided in accordance with this subsection may not be used as an admission against interest of either party in any subsequent action challenging the impact fee.

Section 7. Present subsections (4) through (9) of section 166.241, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5) through (10), respectively, a new subsection (4) and subsections (11) and (12) are added to that section, and subsection (3) and present subsection (7), paragraph (c) of present subsection (8), and present subsection (9) of that section are amended, to read:

166.241 Fiscal years, budgets, appeal of municipal law enforcement agency budget, and budget amendments.—

(3)*(a)* The tentative budget must be posted on the municipality's official website at least *5* ~~2~~ days before the budget hearing, held pursuant to s. 200.065 or other law, to consider such budget and must remain on the website for at least 45 days. The final adopted budget

must be posted on the municipality's official website within 30 days after adoption and must remain on the website for at least *5* ~~2~~ years. If the municipality does not operate an official website, the municipality must, within a reasonable period of time as established by the county or counties in which the municipality is located, transmit the tentative budget and final budget to the manager or administrator of such county or counties who shall post the budgets on the county's website.

(b) The municipality shall hold a budget workshop at which the governing body of the municipality shall perform a budget reduction exercise, identifying strategies to potentially reduce the ensuing fiscal year budget by 10 percent in comparison to the current year budget without compromising essential public services, such as law enforcement or fire services, or legal obligations. The municipality shall post such exercise on the municipality's official website or the county's official website, as applicable, in a portable document format or a similar electronically accessible form that can be downloaded and is independent of the original software and hardware used to create the document, or a link to a recording of the budget workshop. The budget reduction exercise must occur at least 14 days before final budget adoption.

(4) Each tentative budget, adopted tentative budget, or final budget must be posted on the municipality's official website or the county's official website, as applicable. The budget must be posted in a portable document format or a similar electronically accessible form that can be downloaded and may be independent of the original software and hardware used to create the document. At a minimum, the posted budgets must include all of the following information for the proposed fiscal year, the current fiscal year, and the preceding 4 fiscal years:

(a) Budget overview and summary, including a narrative analysis that also utilizes graphical illustrations to highlight major points of emphasis and trends.

(b) An overall municipal summary of revenue and expenditures.

(c) A summary of revenue and expenditures by fund.

(d) A summary of expenses by department and division.

(e) A summary of expenses by program or function.

(f) A summary of expenses related to debt obligations.

(g) A summary of expenses related to capital projects.

(h) An organizational chart or staffing summary.

(i) A summary and analysis of municipal reserves and fund balances.

(8)~~(7)~~ By each October 15, the municipal budget officer shall electronically submit the following information regarding the final budget and the municipality's economic status to the Office of Economic and Demographic Research in the format specified by the office:

(a) Government spending per resident, including, at a minimum, the spending per resident for the previous 5 fiscal years.

(b) Government debt per resident, including, at a minimum, the debt per resident for the previous 5 fiscal years.

(c) Average municipal employee salary.

(d) Median income within the municipality.

(e) Number of special taxing districts wholly or partially within the municipality.

(f) Percent of budget spent on salaries and benefits for municipal employees.

(g) Annual municipal expenditures providing for the financing, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of housing that is affordable, as that term is defined in s. 420.0004. The reported expenditures must indicate the source of such funds as "federal," "state," "local," or "other," as applicable. ~~This information must be included in the submission due by October 15, 2020, and each annual submission thereafter.~~

(9)~~(8)~~ The governing body of each municipality at any time within a fiscal year or within 60 days following the end of the fiscal year may amend a budget for that year as follows:

(c) If a budget amendment is required for a purpose not specifically authorized in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), the budget amendment must be adopted in the same manner as the original budget unless otherwise specified in the municipality's charter. *The proposed amendment must be posted on the municipality's official website 5 days before the adoption of the amendment. If the municipality does not operate an official website, the municipality must, within a reasonable period of time as established by the county or counties in which the municipality is located, transmit the proposed amendment to the manager or administrator of such county or counties who shall post the proposed amendment on the county's website 5 days before the adoption of the amendment.*

(10)~~(9)~~ If the governing body of a municipality amends the budget pursuant to paragraph *(9)(c)* ~~(8)(c)~~, the adopted amendment must ~~be posted on the official website of the municipality within 5 days after adoption and must~~ remain on the *municipality's* website *or the county's website, as applicable,* for at least *5* ~~2~~ years. ~~If the municipality does not operate an official website, the municipality must, within a reasonable period of time as established by the county or counties in which the municipality is located, transmit the adopted amendment to the manager or administrator of such county or counties who shall post the adopted amendment on the county's website.~~

(11) Each municipality shall prepare a quarterly summary of compensation for all employees funded with appropriations from the municipality. The summary must include job titles, names, and salaries for each employee. The summary must be posted on the municipality's official website or the county's official website, as applicable, in a portable document format or a similar electronically accessible form that can be downloaded and may be independent of the original software and hardware used to create the document. If the municipality does not operate an official website, the municipality must, within a reasonable period of time as established by the county or counties in which the municipality is located, transmit the summary to the manager or administrator of such county or counties who shall post the summary on the county's website.

(12)(a) Each municipality shall publish a budget development calendar for the ensuing fiscal year. The calendar must list, to the extent practicable, all of the following budget related events:

1. The expected timeframe for municipal agencies to submit their proposed budget requests, including the name of the municipal agency or budget officer to whom such requests must be submitted.

2. The expected timeframe by which the county property appraiser is expected to submit to the municipality the taxable value within the jurisdiction of the municipality under s. 200.065.

3. An expected timeframe for holding any budget workshops at which the municipality's governing body may discuss the ensuing fiscal year budget or the funding requests of the municipality's agencies or governmental units.

4. The expected timeframe in which the budget public hearings required under s. 200.065 may be held.

5. The expected timeframe by which the municipality will hold a budget workshop at which the council or commission will perform the budget reduction exercise required by paragraph (3)(b).

(b) The budget development calendar must be published on the municipality's official website or the county's official website, as applicable, on or before January 30 of each calendar year. If the municipality does not operate an official website, the municipality must, within a reasonable period of time as established by the county or counties in which the municipality is located, transmit the budget development calendar to the manager or administrator of such county or counties who shall post the municipality's budget development calendar on the county's website. However, the publication of the budget development calendar may not

serve as a basis for bringing any civil or equitable action challenging the adoption of the municipality's tentative or final budget pursuant to this section or s. 200.065.

Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 212.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.055 Discretionary sales surtaxes; legislative intent; authorization and use of proceeds.—It is the legislative intent that any authorization for imposition of a discretionary sales surtax shall be published in the Florida Statutes as a subsection of this section, irrespective of the duration of the levy. Each enactment shall specify the types of counties authorized to levy; the rate or rates which may be imposed; the maximum length of time the surtax may be imposed, if any; the procedure which must be followed to secure voter approval, if required; the purpose for which the proceeds may be expended; and such other requirements as the Legislature may provide. Taxable transactions and administrative procedures shall be as provided in s. 212.054.

(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE SURTAX.—

(d) The proceeds of the surtax authorized by this subsection and any accrued interest shall be expended by the school district, within the county and municipalities within the county, or, in the case of a negotiated joint county agreement, within another county, to finance, plan, and construct infrastructure; to acquire any interest in land for public recreation, conservation, or protection of natural resources or to prevent or satisfy private property rights claims resulting from limitations imposed by the designation of an area of critical state concern; to provide loans, grants, or rebates to residential or commercial property owners who make energy efficiency improvements to their residential or commercial property, if a local government ordinance authorizing such use is approved by referendum; or to finance the closure of county-owned or municipally owned solid waste landfills that have been closed or are required to be closed by order of the Department of Environmental Protection. Any use of the proceeds or interest for purposes of landfill closure before July 1, 1993, is ratified. The proceeds and any interest may not be used for the operational expenses of infrastructure, except that a county that has a population of fewer than 75,000 and that is required to close a landfill may use the proceeds or interest for long-term maintenance costs associated with landfill closure. Counties, as defined in s. 125.011, and charter counties may, in addition, use the proceeds or interest to retire or service indebtedness incurred for bonds issued before July 1, 1987, for infrastructure purposes, and for bonds subsequently issued to refund such bonds. Any use of the proceeds or interest for purposes of retiring or servicing indebtedness incurred for refunding bonds before July 1, 1999, is ratified.

1. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "infrastructure" means:

a. Any fixed capital expenditure or fixed capital outlay associated with the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of public facilities that have a life expectancy of 5 or more years, any related land acquisition, land improvement, design, and engineering costs, and all other professional and related costs required to bring the public facilities into service. For purposes of this sub-subparagraph, the term "public facilities" means facilities as defined in *s. 163.3164(43)* ~~s. 163.3164(41)~~, s. 163.3221(13), or s. 189.012(5), and includes facilities that are necessary to carry out governmental purposes, including, but not limited to, fire stations, general governmental office buildings, and animal shelters, regardless of whether the facilities are owned by the local taxing authority or another governmental entity.

b. A fire department vehicle, an emergency medical service vehicle, a sheriff's office vehicle, a police department vehicle, or any other vehicle, and the equipment necessary to outfit the vehicle for its official use or equipment that has a life expectancy of at least 5 years.

c. Any expenditure for the construction, lease, or maintenance of, or provision of utilities or security for, facilities, as defined in s. 29.008.

d. Any fixed capital expenditure or fixed capital outlay associated with the improvement of private facilities that have a life expectancy of 5 or more years and that the owner agrees to make available for use on a temporary basis as needed by a local government as a public emergency shelter or a staging area for emergency response equipment during an emergency officially declared by the state or by the local government under s. 252.38. Such improvements are limited to those necessary to comply with current standards for public emergency evacuation shelters. The owner must enter into a written contract with the local government providing the improvement funding to make the private facility available to the public for purposes of emergency shelter at no cost to the local government for a minimum of 10 years after completion of the improvement, with the provision that the obligation will transfer to any subsequent owner until the end of the minimum period.

e. Any land acquisition expenditure for a residential housing project in which at least 30 percent of the units are affordable to individuals or families whose total annual household income does not exceed 120 percent of the area median income adjusted for household size, if the land is owned by a local government or by a special district that enters into a written agreement with the local government to provide such housing. The local government or special district may enter into a ground lease with a public or private person or entity for nominal or other consideration for the construction of the residential housing project on land acquired pursuant to this sub-subparagraph.

f. Instructional technology used solely in a school district's classrooms. As used in this sub-subparagraph, the term "instructional technology" means an interactive device that assists a teacher in instructing a class or a group of students and includes the necessary hardware and software to operate the interactive device. The term also includes support systems in which an interactive device may mount and is not required to be affixed to the facilities.

2. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "energy efficiency improvement" means any energy conservation and efficiency improvement that reduces consumption through conservation or a more efficient use of electricity, natural gas, propane, or other forms of energy on the property, including, but not limited to, air sealing; installation of insulation; installation of energy-efficient heating, cooling, or ventilation systems; installation of solar panels; building modifications to increase the use of daylight or shade; replacement of windows; installation of energy controls or energy recovery systems; installation of electric vehicle charging equipment; installation of systems for natural gas fuel as defined in s. 206.9951; and installation of efficient lighting equipment.

3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a local government infrastructure surtax imposed or extended after July 1, 1998, may allocate up to 15 percent of the surtax proceeds for deposit into a trust fund within the county's accounts created for the purpose of funding economic development projects having a general public purpose of improving local economies, including the funding of operational costs and incentives related to economic development. The ballot statement must indicate the intention to make an allocation under the authority of this subparagraph.

4. Surtax revenues that are shared with eligible charter schools pursuant to paragraph (c) shall be allocated among such schools based on each school's proportionate share of total school district capital outlay full-time equivalent enrollment as adopted by the education estimating conference established in s. 216.136. Surtax revenues must be expended by the charter school in a manner consistent with the allowable uses provided in s. 1013.62(4). All revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a charter school's monthly or quarterly financial statement pursuant to s. 1002.33(9). If a school's charter is not renewed or is terminated and the school is dissolved under the provisions of law under which the school was organized, any unencumbered funds received under this paragraph shall revert to the sponsor.

Section 9. *The Legislature finds and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.*

Section 10. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to local government finances; providing a short title; amending s. 129.03, F.S.; revising the timeframe during which tentative budgets, and the length of time for which final budgets, must be posted on county websites; requiring the county to hold a budget workshop for a specified purpose by a certain date; requiring the county to post a certain budget reduction exercise or link on its website; requiring that tentative, adopted tentative, and final budgets be posted on

a county's website; specifying requirements for such posted budgets; deleting obsolete language; requiring counties to prepare certain quarterly compensation summaries; requiring that such summaries be posted on a county website in a certain format; requiring counties to publish budget development calendars; specifying requirements for such calendars; providing that such publication may not serve as a basis for certain actions; amending s. 129.06, F.S.; revising the length of time for which a public hearing for an amendment to a county budget must be advertised; requiring that proposed amendments be posted on the county's website on a certain date; revising the length of time for which adopted amendments must remain on such website; amending s. 163.3164, F.S.; defining the terms "impact fee" and "plan-based methodology"; amending s. 163.3180, F.S.; authorizing a local government to adopt an alternative transportation system that is mobility-plan and fee-based or that is not mobility-plan and fee-based, including impact fees, under certain circumstances; providing construction; prohibiting certain interlocal agreements from extending beyond a specified date; deleting an exception to an applicability provision relating to concurrency; amending s. 163.31801, F.S.; defining the term "extraordinary circumstances"; specifying requirements applicable to local governments and special districts for impact fees adopted or increased after a specified date; requiring that a demonstrated-need study use a plan-based methodology for a certain purpose; requiring that certain capacity standards be specified in a certain impact fee study; requiring that a demonstrated-need study be accompanied by a certain declaration; requiring local governments, school districts, and special districts to use localized data for a certain purpose; prohibiting local governments, school districts, and special districts from using certain data for a specified purpose; prohibiting local governments, school districts, and special districts from including certain deductions in certain impact fee increases and from increasing impact fee rates beyond certain phase-in limitations by more than a specified percentage within a certain timeframe; providing procedures relating to impact fee payor refunds and credits of impact fee overpayments; providing legislative intent; prohibiting the use of certain provisions as an admission against interest; amending s. 166.241, F.S.; revising the timeframe during which tentative budgets, and the length of time for which final budgets, must be posted on municipal or county websites, as applicable; requiring the municipality to hold a budget workshop for a specified purpose by a certain date; requiring the municipality to post a certain budget reduction exercise or link on its website or the county's website, as applicable; requiring that tentative, adopted tentative, and final budgets be posted on a municipality's website or the county's website, as applicable; specifying requirements for such posted budgets; deleting obsolete language; requiring that proposed amendments be posted on a certain website on a certain date; revising the length of time for which adopted amendments must remain on such website; requiring municipalities to prepare certain quarterly compensation summaries; requiring that such summaries be posted in a specified manner; requiring municipalities to publish budget development calendars in a specified manner; specifying requirements for such calendars; providing that such publication may not serve as a basis for certain actions; amending s. 212.055, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; declaring that the act fulfills an important state interest; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 1329**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

Consideration of **SB 1548** was deferred.

SB 1536—A bill to be entitled An act relating to digital voyeurism; amending s. 810.145, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "reasonable expectation of privacy" for purposes relating to the offense of digital voyeurism; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Pizzo, by two-thirds vote, **SB 1536** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for SB 1504—A bill to be entitled An act relating to insurance customer representative licensing qualifications; amending s. 626.7351, F.S.; revising the qualifications for applicants for a license as an insurance customer representative; creating s. 1003.4207, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Financial Services, to develop a specified insurance and personal finance course no later than a specified date; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1504**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 1343** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Calatayud—

CS for HB 1343—A bill to be entitled An act relating to insurance customer representative licensing qualifications; amending s. 626.7351, F.S.; revising the methods by which applicants can qualify for the customer representative license; creating s. 1003.4207, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Financial Services, to develop a specified insurance and personal finance course beginning in a specified school year; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1504** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 1343** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Boyd	Burgess
Arrington	Bracy Davis	Burton
Berman	Bradley	Calatayud
Bernard	Brodeur	DiCeglie

Gaetz	Massullo	Simon
Garcia	Mayfield	Smith
Grall	McClain	Truenow
Gruters	Osgood	Trumbull
Harrell	Passidomo	Wright
Hooper	Pizzo	Yarborough
Jones	Rodriguez	
Leek	Rouson	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

On motion by Senator Yarborough—

CS for CS for SB 1756—A bill to be entitled An act relating to medical freedom; providing a short title; repealing s. 9 of chapter 2023-43, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2025-114, Laws of Florida, relating to the future repeal of the definition of the term "messenger ribonucleic acid vaccine"; amending s. 381.00315, F.S.; providing construction; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring certain health care practitioners and paramedics to, before administering one or more vaccines to a minor child, provide the parent or legal guardian with specified materials; requiring such practitioners and paramedics to obtain the signature of a minor child's parent or guardian acknowledging receipt of such information; requiring health care practitioners to discuss certain information with a minor child's parent or guardian when more than one vaccine is to be administered; authorizing a health care practitioner, at the request of the parent or guardian, to administer the vaccines to the minor child over multiple encounters; providing that specified amendments made by the act to s. 456.0575, F.S., take effect on a specified date or within a specified timeframe after the Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine adopt certain materials by joint rule, whichever occurs later; requiring the boards to adopt the joint rule within a specified timeframe and immediately notify the Division of Law Revision of their adoption of the joint rule; creating ss. 458.3351, 459.0156, and 464.0181, F.S.; providing certain health care practitioners immunity from civil and criminal liability and disciplinary action for prescribing or administering ivermectin to adults under certain circumstances; creating s. 465.1897, F.S.; authorizing pharmacists to provide ivermectin to adults without a prescription as a behind-the-counter medication until the United States Food and Drug Administration approves it for over-the-counter sale; requiring pharmacists to provide specified information before providing the ivermectin; providing pharmacists acting in good faith with immunity from civil and criminal liability and disciplinary action for providing ivermectin to adults; authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules; amending s. 1003.22, F.S.; revising exemptions from school-entry immunization requirements; requiring the Department of Health to make the immunization exemption form for religious or conscience-based exemptions publicly available on its website; specifying procedures and requirements for receiving such exemptions; requiring the department to ensure that when a certain exemption form is downloaded from its website, the download includes the form and specified materials as a single document; providing that the requirement takes effect upon adoption of a specified rule; requiring that the web page containing the download link also include and prominently display certain other links; revising requirements and procedures for declarations of a communicable disease emergency; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Yarborough moved the following amendments which were adopted:

Amendment 1 (978470) (with title amendment)—Between lines 135 and 136 insert:

Section 4. Present subsection (4) of section 456.054, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5) and amended, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

456.054 Kickbacks prohibited.—

(4) It is unlawful for a vaccine manufacturer to offer or pay, a commission, bonus, kickback, or rebate, directly or indirectly, overtly or covertly, in cash or in kind, for the administration of a vaccine. It is unlawful for a health care practitioner to receive such a commission, bonus, kickback, or rebate from a vaccine manufacturer for the administration of a vaccine.

(5)~~(4)~~ Violations of this section *are* ~~shall be~~ considered patient brokering and *are* ~~shall be~~ punishable as provided in s. 817.505.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 8 and insert: construction; amending s. 456.054, F.S.; prohibiting a vaccine manufacturer from offering or paying, and a health care practitioner from receiving, specified financial incentives for the administration of a vaccine; providing a penalty; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring

Amendment 2 (861452)—Delete line 157 and insert:
to the role of immunizations in communicable disease prevention, including risks, benefits, safety, and efficacy.

Delete line 306 and insert: *immunizations in communicable disease prevention, including risks, benefits, safety, and efficacy. This*

Pursuant to Rule 4.19, **CS for CS for SB 1756**, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then placed on the calendar of Bills on Third Reading.

CS for SB 1480—A bill to be entitled An act relating to temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need; amending ss. 458.315, 459.0076, and 464.0121, F.S.; revising the conditions under which the Board of Medicine, the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Board of Nursing, respectively, are authorized to issue temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need; authorizing certificateholders to continue primary care services after such areas lose their critical need designation under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1480**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 809** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Burton—

CS for HB 809—A bill to be entitled An act relating to temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need; amending ss. 458.315, 459.0076, and 464.0121, F.S.; revising the conditions under which the Board of Medicine, the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Board of Nursing, respectively, may issue temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need; authorizing certificateholders to continue primary care services after such areas lose their critical need designation under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1480** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Burton, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 809** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

Consideration of **CS for CS for CS for SB 1452** was deferred.

SB 1340—A bill to be entitled An act relating to coordinated screening and progress monitoring; amending s. 1008.25, F.S.; specifying requirements for a school district if a student exhibits characteristics of dyslexia or dyscalculia; providing circumstances under which a student is required to undergo further screening for dyslexia or dyscalculia; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Harrell, by two-thirds vote, **SB 1340** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

INTRODUCTION OF FORMER SENATORS

Senator Brodeur recognized former Senator Kevin Rader who was present in the chamber.

Consideration of **CS for CS for SB 1260** was deferred.

CS for CS for SB 1224—A bill to be entitled An act relating to fraudulent entry of residential dwellings; amending s. 83.56, F.S.; providing that fraudulent entry of a residential dwelling unit is an act of noncompliance for which a landlord may terminate a rental agreement; creating s. 817.537, F.S.; defining terms; creating the crime of fraudulent entry of a residential dwelling unit; prohibiting a person from entering into and taking possession of a residential dwelling unit under specified circumstances; providing a criminal penalty; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 1224**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 1293** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Rodriguez—

CS for HB 1293—A bill to be entitled An act relating to fraudulent entry of residential dwellings; creating s. 817.537, F.S.; providing definitions; creating the crime of fraudulent entry of a residential dwelling unit; prohibiting a person from entering into and taking possession of a residential dwelling unit under specified circumstances; providing a criminal penalty; amending s. 83.56, F.S.; providing that fraudulent entry of a residential dwelling unit is an act of noncompliance for which a landlord may terminate a rental agreement; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 1224** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Rodriguez, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 1293** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

SB 1112—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Labor Pool Act; amending s. 448.24, F.S.; prohibiting a labor pool from charging a certain fee to a third-party user if such user directly employs a laborer for work; requiring a labor pool to register annually with the Department of Commerce; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 448.25, F.S.; revising the remedies, damages, and costs a court may award the prevailing party in certain actions; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, **SB 1112** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

CS for SB 1110—A bill to be entitled An act relating to coverage for orthotics and prosthetics services; amending s. 409.906, F.S.; defining the term "eligible individual"; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to authorize and pay for specified orthotics and prosthetics services for Medicaid recipients who are eligible individuals; providing construction; requiring the agency to seek federal approval and amend contracts as necessary to implement the act; creating ss. 627.64085, 627.6614, and 641.31079, F.S.; defining the term "eligible

individual"; requiring individual health insurance policies; group, blanket, and franchise health insurance policies; and health maintenance contracts, respectively, to provide coverage for specified orthotics and prosthetics services for eligible individuals; authorizing health insurers and health maintenance organizations to require certain supporting documentation; prohibiting health insurers and health maintenance organizations from denying claims under certain circumstances; requiring health insurers and health maintenance organizations to submit annual reports of specified information to the Office of Insurance Regulation; providing construction; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Truenow, by two-thirds vote, **CS for SB 1110** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—33

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Berman	Grall	Pizzo
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Jones	Smith
Brodeur	Leek	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Garcia

Vote preference:

March 9, 2026: Yea—Martin

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 12:14 p.m. to reconvene at 1:00 p.m. or upon call of the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 1:00 p.m. A quorum present—34:

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SENATOR ROUSON

At the direction of the President, the Senate proceeded to the recognition of Senator Darryl Rouson, honoring his years of service to the Senate as he approaches the completion of his term for the 16th Senate District.

SPECIAL GUESTS

The President introduced Senator Rouson's wife, Angela; children, Danielle Ayodele, Giselle Battley, Daniel Rouson, Emanuel Rouson, Jared Rouson, and Aaron Rouson; father-in-law, Moses Holmes; nephew, Zendo Rouson; and neighbor, Malcolm Flakes, who were present in the chamber.

The President recognized Senator Rouson's second grade teacher and family friend, Annie Burney, who was at home watching on the Florida Channel.

The President introduced former Senator Kevin Rader who was present in the chamber.

The President introduced Senator Rouson's district staff, Nicholas Carper, Ella Coffee, and St. George Pink, who were present in the chamber.

The President introduced Senator Rouson's former legislative aides, Jason Holloway and Dan Bruno; interns, David Frazier and Jada Montgomery; guests, Leila Wilson, Barry Edwards, Kim Droge, Reverend Louis Murphy, Sr., Master Deputy Jeffery E. Merry, Jr., of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Darla Otey-Murphy, Natalie Kelly, Madison Lawler, and various members of Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, who were present in the gallery.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A video tribute was played for Senator Rouson.

REMARKS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, by two-thirds vote, the following remarks by Senator Rouson were ordered spread upon the Journal.

Senator Darryl Rouson: Thank you, Mr. President.

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried, he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it...
There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.

—Edgar Guest

See, I was projected not to win. I had been freshly home after being gone nine years in eight different drug treatment programs, until I woke up the morning of March 17, 1998, almost 28 years ago. And when I came home, the community suggested I run for President of the NAACP. I said, "What me, a recovering addict be president of a venerable civil rights organization like the NAACP?" They said, "Yeah, why not you?" So, I ran against a president that had been president for 21 straight years, had turned away all challenges. I won by 16 votes and for five years, I ran the NAACP in St. Pete. And thank you, Pastor, for letting my installation be at Mt. Zion, and for always supporting me, following me, and challenging me to be the best that I could be. I stepped down from the NAACP because I got tired of looking at the world in terms of racism. Black and white.

The next message that came to me was, "Why don't you run for the Florida House of Representatives?" Again, I said, "What me, a recovering addict be elected to the Florida House of Representatives?" And the question was asked, "But are you walking your clean time with integrity?" My response was, "Yes." So, they said, "So run." So, I ran. At the first debate at Tiger Bay, St. Pete Yacht Club, on beautiful Tampa Bay, my opponent stood up, and he said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I

served you well for seven years on the City Council of St. Petersburg. Never a blemish on my record. Before I tell you about me, let me tell you about Darryl Rouson. He's a crackhead. He's been arrested two times for DUI." He's this, he's that. He read my whole inventory. He came and sat down next to me at the head table, and what I whispered to him, I can't repeat publicly. It was my turn to get up. I stood up and I said, "Ladies and gentlemen, everything my opponent said about me is true. It is absolutely true. But this is a special election. It's not special because Governor Crist has elevated Frank Peterman to become the new secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice, vacating the seat to require a special election. That's not what makes it special. What makes it special is the election is March 25, 2008. For those of you who are believers, that is two days after Easter Sunday. So, we are campaigning, we are politicking, we are running through the season of Lent, the season of redemption, the season of resurrection that leads to new life. How dare a man stand up and suggest that another man can't become something because of what he used to be.

You see, they said that I couldn't become a Senator. But on May 1, 2016, when I gave my eight-minute farewell to the Florida House of Representatives, I was off to the races, both literally and figuratively. No St. Pete guy or Pinellas guy had ever held this seat. But with hard work, with a determination, and most of all, with the support of a community—my church community, the community of St. Petersburg, the neighborhoods of Tampa—I went to bed on August 30, 2016, primary night, ahead by 61 votes out of 37,000 cast. After two recounts, manual and machine, they found 14 more votes for me, and I won by 75 votes. For the last 10 years, I've been the Senator representing Tampa Bay.

As my time in the Florida Senate comes to a close, I find myself looking in the rear view mirror. If you had written the script of my journey from then to this day, I would never have believed it.

After arriving in St. Petersburg, trying to rebuild my life, the people of this community trusted me and elected me nine times to the legislature. I learned that every vote counts. I entered the Senate wanting to do good by the people who elected me. I've given it the best I know how to be effective for this district. Because at the end of the day, the people we represent expect three things from us: stop bad policy; create good policy; and if you can't stop bad policy or create good policy because you don't have the number of votes, then learn to budget. You can oftentimes speak policy through budgeting, by how a person spends their money.

I am very grateful to have served under five Senate Presidents. Each one has been particularly kind. President Galvano allowed me to create the Medical Marijuana Education Research Initiative (MMERI program) at Florida A&M University. It's been responsible for creating awareness of the benefits of medical marijuana and the consequences of unlawful use of marijuana.

President Simpson allowed me to add to my legislative experience a full chairmanship of the Agriculture Committee and allowed me to shepherd through the Urban Agriculture bill as well as SB 282 which created a pathway for peer specialists. In the program, they teach us that the therapeutic value of one addict helping another is without parallel. I'm grateful for that.

President Passidomo allowed me to serve as Vice Chair of Appropriations and have a front row seat to building the budget. She also appointed me to the statewide Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder which resulted in Senate Bill 1620 that you talked about, Senator.

President Albritton, with the Governor's assistance, came to my district at the University of South Florida to announce the naming of the new Substance Abuse and Mental Health Research Center in my honor because of the body of work I have been involved in. I look forward to this center at this preeminent institution doing cutting-edge research on the causes and treatment of addiction—research that will not just sit on a shelf in a journal but will produce transformative treatment opportunities.

I want to thank Leader Boyd for allowing me to co-introduce legislation creating the state's first teaching behavioral health hospital in partnership between Tampa General Hospital and the University of South Florida. This opportunity will also increase the workforce pipeline.

Each of my colleagues, my fellow Senators, has played a role in my success. I have learned how today's adversary in committee can become tomorrow's ally on the floor, and how important collaboration is—respecting each person's value and what they bring to the process. I've learned it's about building effective relationships where you can disagree on policy but do so without being disagreeable.

Never attack a man's heart but the impact of his policy is fair game. I've also learned you can make a point with passion, but less is many times more and, oftentimes, your debate can be your vote.

There were many who helped me along the way. It has been quite the winding road, and each person I encountered played a role.

I am grateful to Moses Holmes, my father-in-law, who spent 30 years in Washington, D.C. lobbying for the National Education Association. At 90 years young, he is watching today. As I've learned from most lobbyists, he's never had an opinion he didn't like. I've learned a lot from him. Thank you, Moses.

I would like to thank Ms. Annie Burney, my second grade teacher, 87 years young. She has followed me all throughout my life and throughout my elections. She has a circle of ladies, that includes Bessie Kearns and Helen Davis, that pray for me in my service up here. Thank you, Ms. Burney.

Rev. Murphy and the people of Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church—from the moment I returned home, they embraced me, encouraged me, and didn't condemn me.

I want to thank the staff of this institution and the staff from the Senate President's office who help make this chamber work every day. Kathy Mizereck, Allie Cleary, Jennifer Hrdlicka, Megan Ramba, Katie Betta, and of course, Reynold. I have worked with five Chiefs of Staff. Few have been more helpful and insightful than Kathy Mears and Andrew Mackintosh. To the various committee staff, Lisa Johnson with Banking and Insurance, Katherine Becker with Agriculture, and the Appropriations guru, Tim Sadberry, and the entire Appropriations team for educating me.

The legislative aides who make us look good—Andrew Pink, Nicholas Carper, and Ella Coffee. I particularly want to recognize my very first legislative aide, Daniel Bruno, who set the standard for all those who came after him. Thank you for being here today. Thank you for getting me out of the gate once I was elected in March of 2008. You know I take responsibility for you marrying up to Emily. If you hadn't left me and started law school, you never would have met her. Thanks for leaving me. You set a standard, and I thank you so much for that. It's been a pleasure to work with Emily from the Democratic Senate staff.

To the Democratic staff, that Leader Berman has worked with since she became Leader, I thank all of you. We have a small staff but it's a mighty staff. They work hard.

I am grateful to my former staffers—Jason Holloway, seven years, Tenielle Moore, ten years, Elise Minkoff, Barclay Harless, and Leila Wilson, my childhood friend.

I'm grateful to the community advocates who have worked with me on legislation like Kim Droge in Hillsborough County who brought me the kiosk bill; Natalie Kelly and the managing entities that arranged the tours for me to go see firsthand what our treatment facilities were doing statewide and how the funds we were appropriating were working; Regan Miller, the guru on education—she would give Tim Elwell a run for his money. I thank God for Ron Dock—he gave me permission to break his anonymity—he has been my sponsor in the program of recovery for the last 15 years. To Kevin Rader, former Senator, seatmate, roommate, thank you for your energy and your passion. I still miss your debates, getting all excited, jumping up and down. If you could jump on the desk, I'm sure you would, in the middle of selling beekeepers' insurance. You have bees in your coat, bees on your tie, bees everywhere.

To my daughters, Danielle, Giselle, and Sakeisha. Sakeisha couldn't be here today as she is working. Danielle, thank you for coming in from Chicago. Giselle, thank you for driving in from Baton Rouge. For the first nine years of your lives, I wasn't there because of my addiction—

but God found a way to bring us together, and it means the world to me that you are here.

To my sons, Jared, who just graduated from FAMU, Emanuel, who is in second year of law school at FAMU, and Aaron. Aaron, stand up. This is that three-year-old with a pacifier in his mouth when Marco Rubio asked me to approach the well to be sworn in. They grow up. Thank you.

To my lovely wife, thank you for being the glue holding things together, for making a house a home, a safe respite from the crazy world of politics. To my good neighbor of over 20 years, Malcolm Flake, thank you for driving up today. Malcolm just lost the love of his life. They were together for 50 years. They were married for 44 years. God called her home. It's times like this that remind us what's important, what's truly important. Malcolm, we've been good neighbors, good friends, good fraternity brothers for the only fraternity in the world. Alpha's claimed the beginning but we had to deal with the end.

So, in closing, I would have to thank each one of you for the role that you played.

> "It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat."
>
> —Theodore Roosevelt

I don't want to be a cold and timid soul.

As I close, for the second time, let me acknowledge Mt. Zion Christian Academy School of Performing Arts, who came in by bus today to be a part of these proceedings.

The lobbyists that are present, I can't start calling names because I will get in trouble and miss somebody. Each one of you know the value that you have brought to me, my constituents, and the entire Tampa Bay area. I'm very grateful.

That's all folks!

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

On behalf of the Senate, Senator Boyd and Senator Berman presented Senator Rouson with a framed ceremonial copy of CS for CS for SB 168 (2025) Mental Health, ch. 2025-180, Laws of Florida and CS for HB 21/CS for CS for SB 24 (2024) Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program, ch. 2024-254, Laws of Florida. Both bills were sponsored by Senator Rouson and became law during his legislative career. The first bill, from the 2025 Regular Session, strengthens Florida's Mental Health Act by codifying recommendations made by Florida's Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder. The second bill, from the 2024 Regular Session, formally recognizes the atrocities against children that occurred at the Dozier and Okeechobee Schools, the bill creates the "Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program," and appropriates $20 million to compensate survivors who were confined to those schools.

SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR, continued

CS for CS for SB 1080—A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; requiring the Department of Transportation and any impacted local government to increase the minimum perception-reaction time for steady yellow signals at certain intersections by a specified amount of time; amending s. 316.008, F.S.; authorizing enforcement of restrictive school zone speed limits through the use of speed detection systems under certain conditions; providing that certain evidence is not required for a certain timeframe for speed detection systems installed before a certain date; revising circumstances for which counties and municipalities may place or install or contract to place or install speed detection systems; providing requirements for the physical placement of such speed detection systems; amending s. 316.0083, F.S.; deleting a provision prohibiting the issuance of certain notices of violation and traffic citations for failure to stop before crossing over a stop line or other point at which a stop is required under certain circumstances; defining the term "careful and prudent manner"; providing that certain counties and municipalities are responsible for and must maintain certain data for a specified period; amending s. 316.0776, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the placement and installation of certain speed detection systems and components thereof; limiting the violations that may be captured by such speed detection systems; amending s. 316.0777, F.S.; authorizing a private property owner to install an automated license plate recognition system for use on certain property for a specified purpose or in connection with controlling or enforcement of access to property; prohibiting a private property owner that installs such a system from accessing certain data or sharing or selling certain images and data; providing exceptions; requiring such private property owners to contractually obligate certain third parties to protect certain images and data from disclosure; prohibiting such private property owners from offering or providing as payment or other consideration certain proceeds to a third party; providing an exception; providing noncriminal penalties for the unauthorized use or release of certain information; amending s. 316.173, F.S.; revising procedures for certain administrative hearings; revising a limitation on the use of videos and images recorded as part of a school bus infraction detection system; requiring certain school districts to submit specified reports to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles annually, rather than quarterly; requiring the department to publish such reports on its website; amending ss. 316.183 and 316.189, F.S.; authorizing counties and municipalities to set lower maximum speed limits in residence districts under certain circumstances; amending s. 316.1895, F.S.; requiring the use of flashing beacons under certain circumstances; providing that certain areas have until a specified date to place and install such beacons; amending s. 316.1896, F.S.; authorizing the enforcement of restrictive school zone speed limits through the use of speed detection systems only when flashing beacons are activated; providing that certain evidence is not required for a certain timeframe for speed detection systems installed before a certain date; providing that certain areas have until a specified date to place or install such beacons; revising the timeframe within which a person who receives a notice of violation is required to take certain action; revising the timeframe within which the registered owner of a vehicle must furnish a specified affidavit under certain circumstances; revising a limitation on the use of videos and images recorded as part of a speed detection system in a school zone; revising information that must be included in a specified report; deleting a provision authorizing the department to require the quarterly submission of certain data; requiring the department to publish such reports on its website; amending s. 316.1906, F.S.; providing that certain radar and LiDAR units are not required to be on certain lists; amending s. 316.650, F.S.; revising provisions relating to traffic citations; amending s. 318.15, F.S.; revising provisions relating to penalties for certain failures to comply; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; providing exceptions to requirements that certain civil penalties be remitted to school districts; revising costs which a local hearing officer may order payment of under certain circumstances; amending s. 320.02, F.S.; revising circumstances under which the department may withhold registration or reregistration of a motor vehicle; amending s. 320.061, F.S.; prohibiting a person from applying or attaching materials that interfere with the legibility, angular visibility, or detectability of, or that interfere with the ability to record, the primary features or details on a license plate; authorizing license plate frames that impinge upon information at certain locations under certain circumstances; amending s. 320.0848, F.S.; including certain pregnancy-related conditions in the list of disabilities that qualify a person for a disabled parking permit; repealing s. 320.0849, F.S., relating to expectant mother parking permits; amending s. 322.142, F.S.; authorizing the department to make and issue reproductions from certain files and digital records for identity verification purposes under certain circumstances; authorizing identity verification service providers to use department data for a specified purpose under certain conditions; prohibiting such providers from selling, sharing, or retaining certain information; prohibiting the department from allowing the use of digital imaged licenses for a private entity's business purposes; amending s. 332.007, F.S.; authorizing

the Department of Transportation to fund certain project costs at certain airports; prohibiting the department from requiring certain matching funds; authorizing the provision of certain funds as matching funds for certain eligible projects; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; authorizing the department to make direct payments to a first-tier subcontractor; providing construction; requiring the department to adopt rules establishing certain procedures; providing requirements for such procedures; requiring that amounts paid to a first-tier subcontractor be deducted from amounts otherwise due to the contractor; amending s. 337.18, F.S.; requiring that a takeover agreement between the department and a surety set forth certain procedures; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; requiring metropolitan planning organizations serving specified counties to submit a certain feasibility report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date, with certain goals; amending s. 339.85, F.S.; requiring the department to implement a Next-generation Traffic Signal Modernization Grant Program; providing the program's purpose; requiring the department to implement a state-local partnership through a cost-sharing arrangement; specifying requirements for such arrangement; authorizing the department to waive local match requirements for certain intersections; requiring the department to prioritize grant applications for certain intersections and use competitive procurement to find certain vendors; specifying program requirements; providing for an annual appropriation; amending s. 775.15, F.S.; extending the period of limitation for certain traffic violations upon receipt of specified affidavits; providing legislative findings and intent; defining terms; requiring the department to conduct a statewide study on advanced detection and monitoring systems at public railroad-highway crossings; providing requirements for the study; authorizing the department to consult with certain entities; requiring a report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date; reenacting s. 318.121, F.S., relating to preemption of additional fees, fines, surcharges, and costs, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 318.18, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 1080**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for CS for HB 543** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie—

CS for CS for CS for HB 543—A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; requiring the Department of Transportation and any impacted local government to increase the minimum perception-reaction time for steady yellow signals at certain intersections by a specified amount of time; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 311.10(4), F.S.; defining the terms "cargo purposes" and "commercial space launch industry"; requiring certain seaports to submit an annual report describing measures taken to support the commercial space launch industry to the chair of the Space Florida board of directors beginning on a specified date; requiring the seaport to post such report on its website; prohibiting certain seaports from converting planned or existing land, facilities, or infrastructure that supports cargo purposes unless specified conditions are met; requiring legislative approval for the use of state funds for specified projects; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "local hearing officer"; amending s. 316.008, F.S.; revising powers of local authorities; amending s. 316.0776, F.S.; revising provisions relating to speed detection systems in school zones; amending s. 316.0777, F.S.; authorizing a private entity to install an automated license plate recognition system for use on certain property for a specified purpose and providing requirements therefor; providing a penalty; amending s. 316.173, F.S.; defining the term "school district"; prohibiting a private school bus contractor from charging a certain fee; authorizing review of school bus infraction detection system information by certain persons; providing and revising procedures for an administrative hearing; requiring a certain report to be due annually instead of quarterly; providing a rebuttable presumption regarding certain specifications; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to publish certain reports on its website; authorizing charter schools and private schools to enter into contracts under specified circumstances; amending s. 316.183, F.S.; authorizing a county or municipality to set a lower maximum speed limit under certain conditions; amending s. 316.189, F.S.; authorizing a county to set a lower maximum speed limit under certain conditions; amending s. 316.1895, F.S.; requiring the use of flashing beacons in certain circumstances; amending s. 316.1896, F.S.; requiring flashing beacons to be activated during specified times to enforce the restricted school zone speed limit through a school zone speed detection system; providing applicability; revising provisions relating to roadways maintained as school zones; amending s. 316.1906, F.S.; specifying that certain radar and LiDAR units are not required to be on certain lists; amending s. 316.1955, F.S.; authorizing vehicles displaying disabled parking permits to occupy more than one parking space under specified conditions; prohibiting such vehicles from being cited, penalized, or towed under specified circumstances; providing requirements for property owners and towing operators; providing construction; amending s. 316.20655, F.S.; clarifying a provision; amending s. 316.212, F.S.; authorizing operation of a golf cart for the purpose of crossing certain streets and highways under certain conditions; providing penalties; repealing ss. 316.272 and 316.293, F.S., relating to the prevention of noise from exhaust systems and motor vehicle noise, respectively; amending s. 316.3045, F.S.; requiring certain motor vehicles to be equipped with and maintain an exhaust system to prevent excessive or unusual noise; prohibiting certain excessive or unusual noises; providing applicability; amending s. 316.650, F.S.; revising provisions relating to traffic citations; amending s. 318.15, F.S.; revising provisions relating to penalties for certain failures to comply; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; revising provisions relating to penalties; amending s. 319.1401, F.S.; authorizing certain golf carts to be titled and registered for operation on certain roads without an inspection by the Department of Transportation and providing requirements therefor; amending s. 320.02, F.S.; revising provisions relating to withholding motor vehicle registration; amending s. 320.262, F.S.; providing that the use of a license plate frame or decorative border device is not prohibited under specified conditions; amending s. 322.032, F.S.; providing and revising definitions; providing requirements for digital driver licenses and an electronic credentialing system; providing exceptions to certain prohibitions; providing for enforcement and penalties; amending s. 322.142, F.S.; authorizing digital imaged licenses to be used for a specified purpose with the licensee's consent; authorizing identity verification service providers to use Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles data under certain conditions; prohibiting such providers from selling, sharing, or retaining certain information; prohibiting the department from allowing the use of digital imaged licenses for a private entity's business purposes; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Transportation to make direct payments to certain subcontractors under specified conditions; requiring the department to adopt rules; amending s. 337.18, F.S.; providing requirements for a takeover agreement; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; requiring metropolitan planning organizations serving specified counties to submit a certain feasibility report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date, with certain goals; amending s. 775.15, F.S.; providing time limits for certain traffic violations; amending ss. 316.1995, 316.2125, 316.2126, 316.2128, 316.455, 322.059, 322.15, 403.061, and 403.415, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; reenacting s. 318.121, F.S., relating to preemption of additional fees, fines, surcharges, and costs, to incorporate the amendments made to s. 318.18, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing effective dates.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 1080** and read the second time by title.

Senator DiCeglie moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (389764) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *The Department of Transportation and any impacted local government shall increase the minimum perception-reaction time for each steady yellow signal located at an intersection equipped with a traffic infraction detector by 0.4 seconds.*

Section 2. Subsection (38) of section 316.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.003 Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context otherwise requires:

(38) LOCAL HEARING OFFICER.—The person, designated by a department, county, or municipality that elects to authorize traffic infraction enforcement officers to issue traffic citations under ss. 316.0083(1)(a) and 316.1896(1), who is authorized to conduct hearings related to a notice of violation issued pursuant to s. 316.0083 or s. 316.1896. *A* ~~The charter~~ county~~, noncharter county,~~ or municipality

may use its ~~currently~~ appointed code enforcement board or special magistrate to serve as the local hearing officer. *Pursuant to s. 316.173, a school district may appoint an attorney who is, and has been for the preceding 5 years, a member in good standing of The Florida Bar to serve as a local hearing officer, or the county in which a school district has entered into an interlocal agreement with a law enforcement agency to issue uniform traffic citations may designate by resolution existing staff to serve as the local hearing officer.* The department may enter into an interlocal agreement to use the local hearing officer of a county or municipality. *The local hearing officer must be located in this state.*

Section 3. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (9) of section 316.008, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.008 Powers of local authorities.—

(9)(a) A county or municipality may enforce the applicable speed limit on a roadway properly maintained as a school zone pursuant to s. 316.1895:

1. Within 30 minutes before through 30 minutes after the start of a regularly scheduled breakfast program;

2. Within 30 minutes before through 30 minutes after the start of a regularly scheduled school session;

3. During the entirety of a regularly scheduled school session; and

4. Within 30 minutes before through 30 minutes after the end of a regularly scheduled school session

through the use of a speed detection system for the detection of speed and capturing of photographs or videos for violations in excess of 10 miles per hour over the speed limit in force *in the school zone* at the time of the violation. A school zone's compliance with s. 316.1895 creates a rebuttable presumption that the school zone is properly maintained. *The restricted school zone speed limit may only be enforced through the use of a speed detection system when any flashing beacon used to provide the notice of the restricted school zone speed limit is activated. For speed detection systems installed before July 1, 2026, capturing the beacon status photographically, on video, or by other evidence is not required for proof of the beacon status until January 1, 2028. An area maintained as a school zone that has no beacon installed before July 1, 2026, has until January 1, 2028, to place and install a beacon and, until a beacon is installed, the county or municipality may provide proof of the restricted school zone speed limit in force at the time of violation without evidence of the beacon status.*

(b) A county or municipality may place or install, or contract with a vendor to place or install, a speed detection system within a roadway maintained as a school zone as provided in s. 316.1895 to enforce unlawful speed *limit* violations *in the school zone*, as specified in *s. 316.1895* ~~s. 316.1895(10)~~ or s. 316.183 *which are in excess of 10 miles per hour over the school zone speed limit in force at the time of violation*, on that roadway. *The physical placement of a speed detection system may be outside the boundaries of the school zone but within the roadway maintained as a school zone. Any notice of violation or uniform traffic citation issued using a speed detection system must be based solely on a violation occurring within the boundaries of the school zone and during the times authorized under this subsection.*

Section 4. Present paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 316.0083, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (d), a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of subsection (1), subsection (2), and paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of that section are amended, to read:

316.0083 Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Program; administration; report.—

(1)(a) For purposes of administering this section, the department, a county, or a municipality may authorize a traffic infraction enforcement officer under s. 316.640 to issue a traffic citation for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. ~~A notice of violation and a traffic citation may not be issued for failure to stop at a red light if the driver is making a right-hand turn in a careful and prudent manner at an intersection where right-hand turns are permissible. A notice of violation and a traffic citation may not be issued under this section if the driver of the vehicle came to a complete stop after crossing the stop line and before turning right if permissible at a red light, but failed to stop before crossing over the stop line or other point at which a stop is required.~~ This paragraph does not prohibit a review of information from a traffic infraction detector by an authorized employee or agent of the department, a county, or a municipality before issuance of the traffic citation by the traffic infraction enforcement officer. This paragraph does not prohibit the department, a county, or a municipality from issuing notification as provided in paragraph (b) to the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c) 1.

(2) A notice of violation and a traffic citation may not be issued for failure to stop at a red light if the driver is making a right-hand turn in a careful and prudent manner at an intersection where right-hand turns are permissible. *For purposes of this subsection, the term "careful and prudent manner" means that the driver made a right-hand turn after coming to a complete stop and, in the traffic enforcement officer's determination, yielded to any pedestrian or bicyclist and did not place a pedestrian or bicyclist in danger of injury as a result of the right-hand turn, yielded to any other vehicle, and substantially reduced the speed of the motor vehicle before making the right-hand turn.*

(4)

(b) Each county or municipality that operates a traffic infraction detector shall submit a report by October 1, annually, to the department which details the results of using the traffic infraction detector and the procedures for enforcement for the preceding state fiscal year. The information submitted by the counties and municipalities must include:

1. The number of notices of violation issued, the number that were contested, the number that were upheld, the number that were dismissed, the number that were issued as uniform traffic citations, the number that were paid, and the number in each of the preceding categories for which the notice of violation was issued for a right-hand turn violation.

2. A description of alternative safety countermeasures taken before and after the placement or installation of a traffic infraction detector.

3. Statistical data and information required by the department to complete the summary report required under paragraph *(d)* ~~(c)~~.

The department must publish each report submitted by a county or municipality pursuant to this paragraph on its website.

(c) Each county or municipality that operates a traffic infraction detector is responsible for and shall maintain its respective data for reporting purposes under this subsection for at least 2 years after such data is reported to the department.

Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 316.0776, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.0776 Traffic infraction detectors; speed detection systems; placement and installation.—

(3) A speed detection system authorized by s. 316.008(9) may be placed or installed *anywhere* in *an area maintained, as defined in s. 316.1895(3)(d), as* a school zone on a state road when permitted by the Department of Transportation and in accordance with placement and installation specifications developed by the Department of Transportation. The speed detection system may be placed or installed *anywhere* in *an area maintained, as defined in s. 316.1895(3)(d), as* a school zone on a street or highway under the jurisdiction of a county or a municipality in accordance with placement and installation specifications established by the Department of Transportation. *The placement and installation specifications must allow the placement of a speed detection system or components thereof outside the boundaries of the school zone but within the area maintained as a school zone. The speed detection system may only capture violations occurring within the school zone and during the times authorized under s. 316.008(9), regardless of the placement of the speed detection system or its components* ~~The Department of Transportation must establish such placement and installation specifications by December 31, 2023~~.

(a) If a county or municipality places or installs a speed detection system as authorized by s. 316.008(9), the county or municipality must notify the public that a speed detection system may be in use by posting

signage indicating photographic or video enforcement of the school zone speed limits. Such signage shall clearly designate the time period during which the school zone speed limits are enforced using a speed detection system and must meet the placement and installation specifications established by the Department of Transportation. For a speed detection system enforcing violations of s. 316.1895 or s. 316.183 on a roadway maintained as a school zone, this paragraph governs the signage notifying the public of the use of a speed detection system.

(b) If a county or municipality begins a school zone speed detection system program in a county or municipality that has never conducted such a program, the respective county or municipality must make a public announcement and conduct a public awareness campaign of the proposed use of speed detection systems at least 30 days before commencing enforcement under the speed detection system program and must notify the public of the specific date on which the program will commence. During the 30-day public awareness campaign, only a warning may be issued to the registered owner of a motor vehicle for a violation of s. 316.1895 or s. 316.183 enforced by a speed detection system, and liability may not be imposed for the civil penalty under s. 318.18(3)(d).

(c) A county or municipality that operates one or more school zone speed detection systems must annually report the results of all systems within the county's or municipality's jurisdiction by placing the report required under s. 316.1896(16)(a) as a single reporting item on the agenda of a regular or special meeting of the county's or municipality's governing body. Before a county or municipality contracts or renews a contract to place or install a speed detection system in a school zone pursuant to s. 316.008(9), the county or municipality must approve the contract or contract renewal at a regular or special meeting of the county's or municipality's governing body.

1. Interested members of the public must be allowed to comment regarding the report, contract, or contract renewal under the county's or municipality's public comment policies or formats, and the report, contract, or contract renewal may not be considered as part of a consent agenda.

2. The report required under this paragraph must include a written summary, which must be read aloud at the regular or special meeting, and the summary must contain, for the same time period pertaining to the annual report to the department under s. 316.1896(16)(a), the number of notices of violation issued, the number that were contested, the number that were upheld, the number that were dismissed, the number that were issued as uniform traffic citations, and the number that were paid and how collected funds were distributed and in what amounts. The county or municipality must report to the department that the county's or municipality's annual report was considered in accordance with this paragraph, including the date of the regular or special meeting at which the annual report was considered.

3. The compliance or sufficiency of compliance with this paragraph may not be raised in a proceeding challenging a violation of s. 316.1895 or s. 316.183 enforced by a speed detection system in a school zone.

Section 6. Effective October 1, 2026, present subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 316.0777, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4), (5), and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (3) and subsections (7) and (8) are added to that section, to read:

316.0777 Automated license plate recognition systems; installation within rights-of-way of State Highway System *and on and within property owned or controlled by private entity*; public records exemption.—

(3) A private property owner may install an automated license plate recognition system solely for use on and within the property owned or controlled by the property owner. A private property owner that installs or directs the installation of such a system:

(a) May not access vehicle registration or title data for vehicles identified by the system, unless the private property owner is acting to the extent permitted by the Driver's Privacy Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721-2725, or for the limited purpose of providing notice to a vehicle owner that he or she failed to pay for parking and that such failure has resulted in a parking charge pursuant to s. 715.075.

(b) May not share or sell images, personal identifying information, vehicle identification numbers or license plate numbers, or any data that could be reasonably connected to an individual which is collected or generated by the system, except:

1. To the extent required to respond to a lawful request from a criminal justice agency;

2. To the extent required to control or enforce access to the property or for parking enforcement;

3. To the extent sharing such information is necessary to report suspicious activity or suspected criminal activity to a criminal justice agency; or

4. To the extent permitted by the Driver's Privacy Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721-2725.

(c) Must contractually obligate any third party that installs, maintains, or operates the system or receives information pursuant to subparagraph (b)2. to protect the images or data collected or generated by the system from disclosure, including a prohibition on sharing or selling such images or data, except to the extent authorized under paragraph (b).

(d) Must implement, and must contractually obligate any third party that installs, maintains, or operates the system or receives information pursuant to subparagraph (b)2. to implement:

1. Industry-recognized encryption protocols to ensure that images and associated data collected or generated by the system are encrypted in transmission and at rest.

2. An auditable access control system that records access to images and associated data.

3. A data retention schedule that provides for deletion of images and data no later than 30 days after the images or data is collected or generated by the system, except to the extent needed to comply with a court order, subpoena, or the appeal process detailed in s. 715.075(1)(c) and (d) or to collect an unpaid invoice for parking enforcement. Records detailing disclosure logs or transaction information may be retained longer in accordance with federal law.

(e) May not offer or provide as payment or other consideration any portion of the proceeds derived from a fine or charge imposed based on images or data collected or generated by the system to any third party that installs, maintains, or operates the system, except to the extent the fine or violation is issued in connection with controlling or enforcing access to such property or for parking enforcement.

(7) A person who uses or releases information in violation of this section commits a noncriminal infraction, punishable by a fine not exceeding $2,000.

(8) This section does not apply to an authorized investigative partner. For purposes of this subsection, the term "authorized investigative partner" means a private entity, loss prevention organization, or licensed investigative firm which is operating under a written coordination agreement with, or at the documented direction of, a criminal justice agency for the purpose of investigating, identifying, or reporting suspected criminal activity.

Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (6), paragraph (a) of subsection (17), and paragraph (a) of subsection (18) of section 316.173, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.173 School bus infraction detection systems.—

(6)

(b) Procedures for an administrative hearing conducted under this subsection are as follows:

1. The department shall make available electronically to the school district or its designee or the county a Request for Hearing form to assist each district or county with administering this subsection.

2. *The school district shall assign existing staff or a designee to serve as the clerk to the local hearing officer.* A person, referred to in this

paragraph as the petitioner, who elects to request a hearing under this subsection shall be scheduled for a hearing *by the clerk to the local hearing officer*. The hearing may be conducted either virtually via live video conferencing or in person.

3. Within 120 days after receipt of a timely request for a hearing, the law enforcement agency or its designee shall provide a replica of the notice of violation data to the school district or county by manual or electronic transmission, and thereafter the school district or its designee or the county shall mail a notice of hearing, which shall include a hearing date and may at the discretion of the district or county include virtual and in-person hearing options, to the petitioner by first-class mail. Mailing of the notice of hearing constitutes notification. Upon receipt of the notice of hearing, the petitioner may reschedule the hearing *twice* ~~once~~ by submitting a written request to the local hearing officer at least 5 calendar days before the day of the ~~originally~~ scheduled hearing. The petitioner may cancel his or her hearing by paying the penalty assessed in the notice of violation.

4. All testimony at the hearing shall be under oath. The local hearing officer shall take testimony from *a representative of* the law enforcement agency and the petitioner, and may take testimony from others. The local hearing officer shall review the video and images recorded by a school bus infraction detection system. Formal rules of evidence do not apply, but due process shall be observed and govern the proceedings.

5. At the conclusion of the hearing, the local hearing officer shall determine by a preponderance of the evidence whether a violation has occurred and shall uphold or dismiss the violation. The local hearing officer shall issue a final administrative order including the determination and, if the notice of violation is upheld, require the petitioner to pay the civil penalty previously assessed in the notice of violation, and shall also require the petitioner to pay costs, not to exceed *$250* ~~those established in s. 316.0083(5)(c)~~, to be used by the county for operational costs relating to the hearing process or by the school district for technology and operational costs relating to the hearing process as well as school transportation safety-related initiatives. The final administrative order shall be mailed to the petitioner by first-class mail.

6. An aggrieved party may appeal a final administrative order consistent with the process provided in s. 162.11.

(17)(a)1. A school bus infraction detection system may not be used for remote surveillance. The collection of evidence by a school bus infraction detection system to enforce violations of s. 316.172 does not constitute remote surveillance.

2. *Notwithstanding any other provision of law,* video and images recorded as part of a school bus infraction detection system may only be used for traffic enforcement and for purposes of determining criminal or civil liability for incidents captured by the school bus infraction detection system incidental to the permissible use of the school bus infraction detection system.

3. To the extent practicable, a school bus infraction detection system must use necessary technology to ensure that personal identifying information contained in the video or still images recorded by the system which is not relevant to the alleged violation, including, but not limited to, the identity of the driver and any passenger of a motor vehicle, the interior or contents of a motor vehicle, the identity of an uninvolved person, a number identifying the address of a private residence, and the contents or interior of a private residence, is sufficiently obscured so as not to reveal such personal identifying information.

4. A notice of a violation or uniform traffic citation issued under this section may not be dismissed solely because a recorded video or still images reveal personal identifying information as provided in subparagraph 3. as long as a reasonable effort has been made to comply with this subsection.

(18)(a) By October 1, 2023, and *annually* ~~quarterly~~ thereafter, each school district operating a school bus infraction detection system must submit, in consultation with the law enforcement agencies with which it has interlocal agreements pursuant to this section, a report to the department which details the results of the school bus infraction detection systems in the school district in the preceding *state fiscal year* ~~quarter~~. *The department shall publish each report on its website.* The information from the school districts must be submitted in a form and manner determined by the department~~, which the department must make available to the school districts by August 1, 2023,~~ and must include at least the following:

1. The number of school buses that have a school bus infraction detection system installed, including the date of installation and, if applicable, the date the systems were removed.

2. The number of notices of violations issued, the number that were contested, the number that were upheld, the number that were dismissed, the number that were issued as uniform traffic citations, and the number that were paid.

3. Data for each infraction to determine locations in need of safety improvements. Such data may include, but is not limited to, global positioning system coordinates of the infraction, the date and time of the infraction, and the name of the school that the school bus was transporting students to or from.

4. Any other statistical data and information required by the department to complete the report required by paragraph (c).

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 316.183, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.183 Unlawful speed.—

(2) On all streets or highways, the maximum speed limits for all vehicles must be 30 miles per hour in business or residence districts, and 55 miles per hour at any time at all other locations. However, with respect to a residence district, a county or municipality may set a *lower* maximum speed limit ~~of 20 or 25 miles per hour~~ on local streets and highways after an investigation determines that such a limit is reasonable. It is not necessary to conduct a separate investigation for each residence district. The minimum speed limit on all highways that comprise a part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways and have not fewer than four lanes is 40 miles per hour, except that when the posted speed limit is 70 miles per hour, the minimum speed limit is 50 miles per hour.

Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 316.189, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.189 Establishment of municipal and county speed zones.—

(2) SPEED ON COUNTY ROADS.—The maximum speed on any county-maintained road is:

(a) In any business or residence district, 30 miles per hour in the daytime or nighttime; provided that with respect to residence districts a county may set a *lower* maximum speed limit ~~of 25 miles per hour~~ after an investigation determines that such a limit is reasonable; and it shall not be necessary to conduct a separate investigation in each residence district.

However, the board of county commissioners may set speed zones altering such speeds, both as to maximum and minimum, after investigation determines such a change is reasonable and in conformity to criteria promulgated by the Department of Transportation, except that no such speed zone shall permit a speed of more than 60 miles per hour.

Section 10. Subsection (6) of section 316.1895, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1895 Establishment of school speed zones, enforcement; designation.—

(6) Permanent signs designating school zones and school zone speed limits shall be uniform in size and color, and shall have the times during which the restrictive speed limit is enforced clearly designated thereon. Flashing beacons activated by a time clock, or other automatic device, or manually activated may be used as an alternative to posting the times during which the restrictive school speed limit is enforced. *However, if a restricted school zone speed limit is enforced through a speed detection system as provided in s. 316.1896, then the school zone and restricted school zone speed limit must be designated using flashing beacons. An area maintained as a school zone that has no flashing beacon installed before July 1, 2026, has until January 1, 2028, to place and install a*

beacon. Beginning July 1, 2008, for any newly established school zone or any school zone in which the signing has been replaced, a sign stating "Speeding Fines Doubled" shall be installed within the school zone. The Department of Transportation shall establish adequate standards for the signs and flashing beacons.

Section 11. Subsections (1), (2), (3), (6), and (8), paragraph (a) of subsection (15), and paragraph (a) of subsection (16) of section 316.1896, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.1896 Roadways maintained as school zones; speed detection system enforcement; penalties; appeal procedure; privacy; reports.—

(1) For purposes of administering this section, a county or municipality may authorize a traffic infraction enforcement officer under s. 316.640 to issue uniform traffic citations for violations of ss. 316.1895 and 316.183 as authorized by s. 316.008(9), as follows:

(a) For a violation of s. 316.1895 in excess of 10 miles per hour over the school zone speed limit which occurs within 30 minutes before through 30 minutes after the start of a regularly scheduled breakfast program.

(b) For a violation of s. 316.1895 in excess of 10 miles per hour over the school zone speed limit which occurs within 30 minutes before through 30 minutes after the start of a regularly scheduled school session.

(c) For a violation of s. 316.183 in excess of 10 miles per hour over the posted speed limit during the entirety of a regularly scheduled school session.

(d) For a violation of s. 316.1895 in excess of 10 miles per hour over the school zone speed limit which occurs within 30 minutes before through 30 minutes after the end of a regularly scheduled school session.

Such violation must be evidenced by a speed detection system described in ss. 316.008(9) and 316.0776(3). This subsection does not prohibit a review of information from a speed detection system by an authorized employee or agent of a county or municipality before issuance of the uniform traffic citation by the traffic infraction enforcement officer. This subsection does not prohibit a county or municipality from issuing notices as provided in subsection (2) to the registered owner of the motor vehicle for a violation of s. 316.1895 or s. 316.183. *The restricted school zone speed limit may only be enforced through the use of a speed detection system when any flashing beacon used to provide notice of the restricted school zone speed limit is activated. For speed detection systems installed before July 1, 2026, capturing the beacon status photographically, on video, or by other evidence is not required for proof of the beacon status until January 1, 2028. An area maintained as a school zone that has no beacon installed before July 1, 2026, has until January 1, 2028, to place and install a beacon and, until the beacon is installed, the county or municipality may provide proof of the restricted school zone speed limit in force at the time of violation without evidence of the beacon status.*

(2) Within 30 days after a violation, notice must be sent to the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation specifying the remedies available under s. 318.14 and that the violator must pay the penalty under s. 318.18(3)(d) to the county or municipality, or furnish an affidavit in accordance with subsection (8), within *60* ~~30~~ days after the date of the notice of violation in order to avoid court fees, costs, and the issuance of a uniform traffic citation. The notice of violation must:

(a) Be sent by first-class mail.

(b) Include a photograph or other recorded image showing the license plate of the motor vehicle; the date, time, and location of the violation; the maximum speed at which the motor vehicle was traveling within the school zone; and the speed limit within the school zone at the time of the violation.

(c) Include a notice that the owner has the right to review, in person or remotely, the photograph or video captured by the speed detection system and the evidence of the speed of the motor vehicle detected by the speed detection system which constitute a rebuttable presumption that the motor vehicle was used in violation of s. 316.1895 or s. 316.183.

(d) State the time when, and the place or website at which, the photograph or video captured and evidence of speed detected may be examined and observed.

(3) Notwithstanding any other law, a person who receives a notice of violation under this section may request a hearing within *60* ~~30~~ days after the notice of violation or may pay the penalty pursuant to the notice of violation, but a payment or fee may not be required before the hearing requested by the person. The notice of violation must be accompanied by, or direct the person to a website that provides, information on the person's right to request a hearing and on all costs related thereto and a form used for requesting a hearing. As used in this subsection, the term "person" includes a natural person, the registered owner or co-owner of a motor vehicle, or the person identified in an affidavit as having actual care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation.

(6) A uniform traffic citation must be issued by mailing the uniform traffic citation by certified mail to the address of the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation if payment has not been made within *60* ~~30~~ days after notification under subsection (2), if the registered owner has not requested a hearing as authorized under subsection (3), and if the registered owner has not submitted an affidavit in accordance with subsection (8).

(a) Delivery of the uniform traffic citation constitutes notification of a violation under this subsection. If the registered owner or co-owner of the motor vehicle; the person identified as having care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation; or a duly authorized representative of the owner, co-owner, or identified person initiates a proceeding to challenge the citation pursuant to this section, such person waives any challenge or dispute as to the delivery of the uniform traffic citation.

(b) In the case of joint ownership of a motor vehicle, the uniform traffic citation must be mailed to the first name appearing on the motor vehicle registration, unless the first name appearing on the registration is a business organization, in which case the second name appearing on the registration may be used.

(c) The uniform traffic citation mailed to the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the infraction must be accompanied by the information described in paragraphs (2)(b)-(d).

(8) To establish such facts under subsection (7), the registered owner of the motor vehicle must, within *60* ~~30~~ days after the date of issuance of the notice of violation or the uniform traffic citation, furnish to the appropriate governmental entity an affidavit setting forth information supporting an exception under subsection (7).

(a) An affidavit supporting the exception under paragraph (7)(a) must include the name, address, date of birth, and, if known, the driver license number of the person who leased, rented, or otherwise had care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of the alleged violation. If the motor vehicle was stolen at the time of the alleged violation, the affidavit must include the police report indicating that the motor vehicle was stolen.

(b) If a uniform traffic citation for a violation of s. 316.1895 or s. 316.183 was issued at the location of the violation by a law enforcement officer, the affidavit must include the serial number of the uniform traffic citation.

(c) If the motor vehicle's owner to whom a notice of violation or a uniform traffic citation has been issued is deceased, the affidavit must include a certified copy of the owner's death certificate showing that the date of death occurred on or before the date of the alleged violation and one of the following:

1. A bill of sale or other document showing that the deceased owner's motor vehicle was sold or transferred after his or her death but on or before the date of the alleged violation.

2. Documented proof that the registered license plate belonging to the deceased owner's motor vehicle was returned to the department or any branch office or authorized agent of the department after his or her death but on or before the date of the alleged violation.

3. A copy of the police report showing that the deceased owner's registered license plate or motor vehicle was stolen after his or her death but on or before the date of the alleged violation.

Upon receipt of the affidavit and documentation required under paragraphs (b) and (c), or *60* ~~30~~ days after the date of issuance of a notice of violation sent to a person identified as having care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation under paragraph (a), the county or municipality must dismiss the notice or citation and provide proof of such dismissal to the person who submitted the affidavit. If, within 30 days after the date of a notice of violation sent to a person under subsection (9), the county or municipality receives an affidavit under subsection (10) from the person sent a notice of violation affirming that the person did not have care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation, the county or municipality must notify the registered owner that the notice or citation will not be dismissed due to failure to establish that another person had care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation.

(15)(a) A speed detection system in a school zone may not be used for remote surveillance. The collection of evidence by a speed detection system to enforce violations of ss. 316.1895 and 316.183, or user-controlled pan or tilt adjustments of speed detection system components, do not constitute remote surveillance. *Notwithstanding any other provision of law,* recorded video or photographs collected as part of a speed detection system in a school zone may only be used to document violations of ss. 316.1895 and 316.183 and for purposes of determining criminal or civil liability ~~for incidents~~ captured by the speed detection system incidental to the permissible use of the speed detection system.

(16)(a) Each county or municipality that operates one or more speed detection systems *shall* ~~must~~ submit a report by October 1~~, 2024, and~~ annually ~~thereafter,~~ to the department which identifies the public safety objectives used to identify a school zone for enforcement under this section, reports compliance with s. 316.0776(3)(c), and details the results of the speed detection system in the school zone *during the preceding state fiscal year* and the procedures for enforcement. The information from counties and municipalities must be submitted in a form and manner determined by the department~~, which the department must make available to the counties and municipalities by August 1, 2023, and the department may require data components to be submitted quarterly~~. The report must include at least the following:

1. Information related to the location of each speed detection system, including the geocoordinates of the school zone, the directional approach of the speed detection system, the school name, the school level, the times the speed detection system was active, the restricted school zone speed limit enforced pursuant to s. 316.1895(5), the posted speed limit enforced at times other than those authorized by s. 316.1895(5), the date the systems were activated to enforce violations of ss. 316.1895 and 316.183, and, if applicable, the date the systems were deactivated.

2. The number of notices of violation issued, *the number, if any, that were issued outside of the enforcement periods authorized in subsection (1),* the number that were contested, the number that were upheld, the number that were dismissed, the number that were issued as uniform traffic citations, and the number that were paid.

3. Any other statistical data and information related to the procedures for enforcement which is required by the department to complete the report required under paragraph (c).

Section 12. Subsection (3) of section 316.1906, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1906 Radar speed-measuring devices; speed detection systems; evidence, admissibility.—

(3) A speed detection system is exempt from the design requirements for radar or LiDAR units established by the department*, and the radar or LiDAR units used in the speed detection system are not required to be on any approved list of the department*. A speed detection system must have the ability to perform self-tests as to its detection accuracy. The system must perform a self-test at least once every 30 days. The law enforcement agency, or an agent acting on behalf of the law enforcement agency, operating a speed detection system must maintain a log of the results of the system's self-tests. The law enforcement agency, or an agent acting on behalf of the law enforcement agency, operating a speed detection system must also perform an independent calibration test on the speed detection system at least once every 12 months. The self-test logs, as well as the results of the annual calibration test, are admissible in any court proceeding for a uniform traffic citation issued for a violation of s. 316.1895 or s. 316.183 enforced pursuant to s. 316.1896. Notwithstanding subsection (2), evidence of the speed of a motor vehicle detected by a speed detection system compliant with this subsection and the determination by a traffic enforcement officer that a motor vehicle is operating in excess of the applicable speed limit is admissible in any proceeding with respect to an alleged violation of law regulating the speed of motor vehicles in school zones.

Section 13. Present subsections (5) through (9) of section 316.212, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6) through (10), respectively, a new subsection (5) is added to that section, and paragraph (b) of present subsection (8) and present subsection (9) of that section are amended, to read:

316.212 Operation of golf carts on certain roadways.—The operation of a golf cart upon the public roads or streets of this state is prohibited except as provided herein:

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a golf cart may be operated for the purpose of crossing a street or highway at a signalized intersection, provided that:

(a) The intersection is located wholly within the boundaries of a single local governmental entity.

(b) The local governmental entity has designated, for the operation of golf carts, the street or road located on both sides of the intersection with the street or highway.

(c) The local governmental entity has approved the operation of golf carts for the purpose of crossing at the intersection and has posted appropriate signs at the intersection to indicate that such operation is authorized.

(9)~~(8)~~ A local governmental entity may enact an ordinance relating to:

(b) Golf cart operation on sidewalks adjacent to specific segments of municipal streets, county roads, or state highways within the jurisdictional territory of the local governmental entity if:

1. The local governmental entity determines, after considering the condition and current use of the sidewalks, the character of the surrounding community, and the locations of authorized golf cart crossings, that golf carts, bicycles, and pedestrians may safely share the sidewalk;

2. The local governmental entity consults with the Department of Transportation before adopting the ordinance;

3. The ordinance restricts golf carts to a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour and permits such use on sidewalks adjacent to state highways only if the sidewalks are at least 8 feet wide;

4. The ordinance requires the golf carts to meet the equipment requirements in subsection *(7)* ~~(6)~~. However, the ordinance may require additional equipment, including horns or other warning devices required by s. 316.271; and

5. The local governmental entity posts appropriate signs or otherwise informs residents that the ordinance exists and applies to such sidewalks.

(10)~~(9)~~ A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as a moving violation for infractions of subsections *(1)-(6)* ~~(1)-(5)~~ or a local ordinance corresponding thereto and enacted pursuant to subsection *(9)* ~~(8)~~, or punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as a nonmoving violation for infractions of subsection *(7)* ~~(6)~~, subsection *(8)* ~~(7)~~, or a local ordinance corresponding thereto and enacted pursuant to subsection *(9)* ~~(8)~~.

Section 14. *Sections 316.272 and 316.293, Florida Statutes, are repealed.*

Section 15. Present subsections (2) through (5) of section 316.3045, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (3) through (6), respectively, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

316.3045 Operation of radios or other mechanical or electronic soundmaking devices or instruments in vehicles; *exhaust systems; prevention of noise;* exemptions.—

(2) Every motor vehicle that is required by federal law or regulation to be equipped with an exhaust system shall at all times be equipped with and maintain an exhaust system in good working order including muffler, manifold pipe, and tailpiping to prevent excessive or unusual noise. It is a violation of this subsection to intentionally increase the revolutions per minute or unreasonably accelerate in a manner that would produce excessive or unusual noise. This subsection does not apply to a motorcycle or moped that does not exceed United States Environmental Protection Agency noise emissions standards in 40 C.F.R. s. 205.152.

Section 16. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 316.650, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.650 Traffic citations.—

(3)

(c) If a traffic citation is issued under s. 316.0083 or s. 316.1896, the traffic infraction enforcement officer*, or if the citation is issued under s. 316.173 the sworn law enforcement officer, must* ~~shall~~ provide by electronic transmission a replica of the traffic citation data to the court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense or its traffic violations bureau within 5 business days after the date of issuance of the traffic citation to the violator. If a hearing is requested, the traffic infraction enforcement officer *or sworn law enforcement officer, as applicable, must* ~~shall~~ provide a replica of the traffic notice of violation data to the clerk *to* ~~for~~ the local hearing officer having jurisdiction over the alleged offense within 14 days.

Section 17. Subsection (3) of section 318.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.15 Failure to comply with civil penalty or to appear; penalty.—

(3) The clerk *of the court or the clerk to the local hearing officer* shall notify the department of persons who were mailed a notice of violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. pursuant to s. 316.0083*, s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b) pursuant to s. 316.173, or s. 316.183 or s. 316.1895(10) pursuant to s. 316.1896* and who failed to enter into, or comply with the terms of, a penalty payment plan, or order with the clerk to the local hearing officer or failed to appear at a scheduled hearing within 10 days after such failure, and shall reference the person's driver license number, or in the case of a business entity, vehicle registration number.

(a) Upon receipt of such notice, the department, or authorized agent thereof, may not issue a license plate or revalidation sticker for any motor vehicle owned or co-owned by that person pursuant to s. 320.03(8) until the amounts assessed have been fully paid.

(b) After the issuance of the person's license plate or revalidation sticker is withheld pursuant to paragraph (a), the person may challenge the withholding of the license plate or revalidation sticker only on the basis that the outstanding fines and civil penalties have been paid pursuant to s. 320.03(8).

Section 18. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (5) and subsections (23) and (24) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:

(5)(a)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., $200 for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a), failure to stop for a school bus. If, at a hearing, the alleged offender is found to have committed this offense, the court shall impose a minimum civil penalty of $200. In addition to this penalty, for a second or subsequent offense within a period of 5 years, the department shall suspend the driver license of the person for not less than 180 days and not more than 1 year.

2. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) is enforced by a school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s. 316.173, the penalty of $200 shall be imposed. If, at an administrative hearing contesting a notice of violation or uniform traffic citation, the alleged offender is found to have committed this offense, a minimum civil penalty of $200 shall be imposed. Notwithstanding any other provision of law *except s. 28.37(6)*, the civil penalties assessed under this subparagraph resulting from a notice of violation or uniform traffic citation shall be remitted to the school district at least monthly and used pursuant to s. 316.173(8).

(b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., $400 for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(b), passing a school bus on the side that children enter and exit when the school bus displays a stop signal. If, at a hearing, the alleged offender is found to have committed this offense, the court shall impose a minimum civil penalty of $400.

2. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(b) is enforced by a school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s. 316.173, the penalty under this subparagraph is a minimum of $200. If, at a hearing contesting a notice of violation or uniform traffic citation, the alleged offender is found to have committed this offense, the court shall impose a minimum civil penalty of $200. Notwithstanding any other provision of law *except s. 28.37(6)*, the civil penalties assessed under this subparagraph resulting from notice of violation or uniform traffic citation shall be remitted to the school district at least monthly and used pursuant to s. 316.173(8).

3. In addition to this penalty, for a second or subsequent offense within a period of 5 years, the department shall suspend the driver license of the person for not less than 360 days and not more than 2 years.

(c)1. In addition to the penalty under subparagraph (a)2. or subparagraph (b)2., if, at an administrative hearing contesting a notice of violation, the alleged offender is found to have committed this offense, costs shall be imposed, not to exceed those established in s. 316.0083(5)(e), to be paid by the petitioner and to be used by the county for the operational costs related to the hearing or the school district for technology and operational costs relating to the hearing as well as school transportation safety-related initiatives. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a county's local hearing officer administers the administrative hearing process for a contested notice of violation, the costs imposed under this subparagraph resulting from notice of violation shall be remitted to the county at least monthly.

2. In addition to the penalty under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), $65 for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b). If the alleged offender is found to have committed the offense, the court shall impose the civil penalty under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) plus an additional $65. The additional $65 collected under this subparagraph shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund of the Department of Health to be used as provided in s. 395.4036. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b) is enforced by a school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s. 316.173, *an* ~~the~~ additional *civil penalty* ~~amount~~ imposed on a notice of violation, on a uniform traffic citation, or by the court under this paragraph must be $25, in lieu of the additional $65, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the *additional* civil penalties and ~~additional~~ costs must be remitted to the participating school district at least monthly and used pursuant to s. 316.173(8).

(23) In addition to the penalty prescribed under s. 316.0083*, s. 316.173, or s. 316.1896* for violations enforced under *those sections* ~~s. 316.0083~~ which are upheld *by the local hearing officer*, the local hearing officer may also order the payment of county*,* ~~or~~ municipal*, or school district* costs, not to exceed $250.

~~(24) In addition to any penalties imposed, a fine of $200 for a first offense and a fine of $500 for a second or subsequent offense for a violation of s. 316.293(5).~~

Section 19. Section 319.1401, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

319.1401 Titling and registering golf carts converted to low-speed vehicles.—A golf cart converted to a low-speed vehicle may be titled and registered for operation on certain roads. A motor vehicle dealer, a motor

vehicle repair shop, or the department shall affirm in writing that the low-speed vehicle complies with the requirements of chapter 316, and the vehicle shall be assigned an identification number by the department. The identification number shall be unique to the low-speed vehicle and used for the issuance of a title and registration for the vehicle.

Section 20. Subsection (12) of section 320.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for registration; forms.—

(12) The department is authorized to withhold registration or reregistration of any motor vehicle if the owner, or one of the co-owners of the vehicle:~~,~~

(a) Has a driver license which is under suspension for the failure to remit payment of any fines levied in this state pursuant to chapter 318 or chapter 322*; or*

(b) Received a traffic citation for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. as enforced by s. 316.0083, s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b) as enforced by s. 316.173, or s. 316.183 or s. 316.1895(10) as enforced by s. 316.1896 and did not request a hearing, submit an affidavit claiming an exception, or pay the traffic citation.

Section 21. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 320.0848, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of that section, as amended by section 5 of chapter 2025-125, Laws of Florida, is republished, to read:

320.0848 Persons who have disabilities; issuance of disabled parking permits; temporary permits; permits for certain providers of transportation services to persons who have disabilities.—

(1)(a) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or its authorized agents shall, upon application and receipt of the fee:

1. Issue a disabled parking permit for a period of up to 4 years, which period ends on the applicant's birthday, to any person who has long-term mobility impairment;

2. Issue a temporary disabled parking permit for up to 6 months to a person who has a temporary mobility impairment; or

3. Issue a lifetime disabled parking permit to a person who is certified as permanently disabled due to permanent dismemberment or an amputation and is in need of the disabled parking permit due to that permanent dismemberment or amputation. A lifetime disabled parking permit is valid from the date of issuance until the person's death and is not subject to renewal under paragraph (d).

A person is not required to pay a fee for a parking permit for disabled persons more than once in a 12-month period from the date of the prior fee payment.

(b)1. The person must be currently certified as being legally blind or as having any of the following disabilities that render him or her unable to walk 200 feet without stopping to rest:

a. Inability to walk without the use of or assistance from a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, or other assistive device, or without the assistance of another person. If the assistive device significantly restores the person's ability to walk to the extent that the person can walk without severe limitation, the person is not eligible for the exemption parking permit.

b. The need to permanently use a wheelchair.

c. Restriction by lung disease to the extent that the person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for 1 second, when measured by spirometry, is less than 1 liter, or the person's arterial oxygen is less than 60 mm/hg on room air at rest.

d. Use of portable oxygen.

e. Restriction by cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association.

f. Severe limitation in the person's ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition*, including any pregnancy-related condition*.

2. The certification of disability which is required under subparagraph 1. must be provided by a physician licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, or chapter 460, by a podiatric physician licensed under chapter 461, by an optometrist licensed under chapter 463, by an advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 464 under the protocol of a licensed physician as stated in this subparagraph, by a physician assistant licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, or by a similarly licensed physician from another state if the application is accompanied by documentation of the physician's licensure in the other state and a form signed by the out-of-state physician verifying his or her knowledge of this state's eligibility guidelines.

Section 22. *Section 320.0849, Florida Statutes, is repealed.*

Section 23. Subsection (5) is added to section 320.262, Florida Statutes, to read:

320.262 License plate obscuring device prohibited; penalties.—

(5) The use of a license plate frame or decorative border device is not an offense under this section, provided that the device does not obscure the visibility of the following:

(a) The alphanumeric designation or license plate number.

(b) The registration decal or validation sticker located in the upper right corner.

Section 24. Present paragraphs (c) through (n) of subsection (4) of section 322.142, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (d) through (o), respectively, a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, and subsections (5), (6), and (7) are added to that section, to read:

322.142 Color photographic or digital imaged licenses.—

(4) The department may maintain a film negative or print file. The department shall maintain a record of the digital image and signature of the licensees, together with other data required by the department for identification and retrieval. Reproductions from the file or digital record are exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and may be made and issued only:

(c) For identity verification by a state agency pursuant to an interagency agreement, subject to the licensee's consent.

(5) An identity verification service provider may use department data for the department's or another agency's internal identity verification purposes in a manner consistent with this section only if such data remains in the possession of the department.

(6) An identity verification service provider may not sell, share, or retain any information outside of the purposes of this section.

(7) The department may not allow the use of digital imaged licenses for a private entity's business purposes.

Section 25. Subsection (10) of section 332.007, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

332.007 Administration and financing of aviation and airport programs and projects; state plan.—

(10) ~~Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, and unless otherwise provided in the General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill implementing the General Appropriations Act,~~ The department may fund up to 100 percent of eligible project costs of *projects under this section* ~~all of the following~~ at a public-use airport located in a rural community as defined in s. 288.0656 which does not have any scheduled commercial service*. The department may not require matching funds for any eligible project at such airports located in rural areas of opportunity designated under s. 288.0656. Funds provided pursuant to this section may be provided as matching funds for eligible projects funded by the Federal Government or any state agency*~~:~~

~~(a) The capital cost of runway and taxiway projects that add capacity. Such projects must be prioritized based on the amount of available nonstate matching funds~~.

~~(b) Economic development transportation projects pursuant to s. 339.2821.~~

~~Any remaining funds must be allocated for projects specified in subsection (6).~~

Section 26. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (11) of section 337.11, Florida Statutes, to read:

337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids; emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders; combined design and construction contracts; progress payments; records; requirements of vehicle registration.—

(11)

(d)1. Without creating any enforceable third-party beneficiary rights, the department may make direct payments to first-tier subcontractors. The department shall adopt by rule procedures to implement this subsection. Such procedures shall establish the conditions under which such payments may be made and shall consider, at a minimum, whether:

a. The contractor has not requested payment from the department for at least 6 months.

b. There is a binding, written subcontract between the contractor and the subcontractor, and the department is in possession of a complete copy of the subcontract.

c. The subcontractor has performed work that is unpaid by the contractor, and the department has sufficient documentation of such unpaid work.

d. There is no legitimate dispute between the contractor and the subcontractor.

e. The department has provided written notice to the payment and performance bond surety at least 30 days before releasing any payment under this paragraph, and the surety has not objected in writing within that 30-day period based on a documented dispute or claim regarding the work or payment.

2. Any amounts paid by the department under this paragraph shall be deducted from amounts otherwise due the contractor.

Section 27. Present subsection (6) of section 337.18, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (7), and a new subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

337.18 Surety bonds for construction or maintenance contracts; requirement with respect to contract award; bond requirements; defaults; damage assessments.—

(6) If the department and the surety enter into a takeover agreement, the agreement shall set forth procedures regarding the surety's certification of disbursement of payment to subcontractors.

Section 28. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (6) of section 339.175, Florida Statutes, to read:

339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

(6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers, privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. be involved in the planning and programming of transportation facilities, including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the extent permitted by state or federal law. An M.P.O. may not perform project production or delivery for capital improvement projects on the State Highway System.

(j) By December 31, 2026, the M.P.O.'s serving Charlotte, Collier, and Lee Counties must submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a feasibility report exploring the benefits, costs, and process of consolidation into a single M.P.O. serving the contiguous urbanized area, the goal of which is to:

1. Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be regionally significant.

2. Review the impact of regionally significant land use decisions on the region.

3. Review all proposed regionally significant transportation projects in the transportation improvement programs.

Section 29. Paragraphs (a) and (i) of subsection (3) and paragraphs (b), (d), and (r) of subsection (7) of section 337.401, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

337.401 Use of right-of-way for utilities subject to regulation; permit; fees.—

(3)(a) Because of the unique circumstances applicable to providers of communications services, including, but not limited to, the circumstances described in paragraph (e) and the fact that federal and state law require the nondiscriminatory treatment of providers of telecommunications services, and because of the desire to promote competition among providers of communications services, it is the intent of the Legislature that municipalities and counties treat providers of communications services in a nondiscriminatory and competitively neutral manner when imposing rules or regulations governing the placement or maintenance of communications facilities in the public roads or rights-of-way. Rules or regulations imposed by a municipality or county relating to providers of communications services placing or maintaining communications facilities in its roads or rights-of-way must be generally applicable to all providers of communications services, taking into account the distinct engineering, construction, operation, maintenance, public works, and safety requirements of the provider's facilities, and, notwithstanding any other law, may not require a provider of communications services to apply for or enter into an individual license, franchise, or other agreement with the municipality or county as a condition of placing or maintaining communications facilities in its roads or rights-of-way. In addition to other reasonable rules or regulations that a municipality or county may adopt relating to the placement or maintenance of communications facilities in its roads or rights-of-way under this subsection or subsection (7), a municipality or county may require a provider of communications services that places or seeks to place facilities in its roads or rights-of-way to register with the municipality or county. To register, a provider of communications services may be required only to provide its name; the name, address, and telephone number of a contact person for the registrant; the number of the registrant's current certificate of authorization issued by the Florida Public Service Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, or the Department of State; a statement of whether the registrant is a pass-through provider as defined in subparagraph (6)(a)1.; the registrant's federal employer identification number; and any required proof of insurance or self-insuring status adequate to defend and cover claims. A municipality or county may not require a registrant to renew a registration more frequently than every 5 years but may require during this period that a registrant update the registration information provided under this subsection within 90 days after a change in such information. A municipality or county may not require the registrant to provide an inventory of communications facilities, maps, locations of such facilities, or other information by a registrant as a condition of registration, renewal, or for any other purpose; provided, however, that a municipality or county may require as part of a permit application that the applicant identify at-grade communications facilities within 50 feet of the proposed installation location for the placement of at-grade communications facilities. *A municipality or county may not require that a provider locate or perform a survey of any facilities except its own or any right-of-way boundary when requesting a permit consistent with chapter 556. If the owner of a facility fails to locate their facilities as required under chapter 556, a provider may proceed with the work but must use reasonable care and detection equipment or other acceptable means to avoid damaging existing underground facilities.* A municipality or county may not require a provider to pay any fee, cost, or other charge for registration or renewal thereof. *A municipality or county may*

not limit the number of permits in any way, including by project size or by limiting the number of open permits or applications, provided that the permit is closed out within 45 days after the provider's completion of work. A municipality or county may require the submission or maintenance of a bond or other financial instrument as set out in this section but may not require a cash deposit or other escrow, payment, or exaction as a condition of issuing a permit. It is the intent of the Legislature that the placement, operation, maintenance, upgrading, and extension of communications facilities not be unreasonably interrupted or delayed through the permitting or other local regulatory process. Except as provided in this chapter or otherwise expressly authorized by chapter 202, chapter 364, or chapter 610, a municipality or county may not adopt or enforce any ordinance, regulation, or requirement as to the placement or operation of communications facilities in a right-of-way by a communications services provider authorized by state or local law to operate in a right-of-way; regulate any communications services; or impose or collect any tax, fee, cost, charge, or exaction for *the placement of communications facilities or* the provision of communications services over the communications services provider's communications facilities in a right-of-way.

(i) Except as expressly provided in this section, this section does not modify the authority of municipalities and counties to levy the tax authorized in chapter 202 or the duties of providers of communications services under ss. 337.402-337.404. This section does not apply to ~~building permits,~~ pole attachments, ~~or~~ private roads, private easements, ~~and~~ private rights-of-way*, or building permits unrelated to the placement of communications facilities*.

(7)

(b) As used in *subsections (3)-(9)* ~~this subsection~~, the term:

1. "Antenna" means communications equipment that transmits or receives electromagnetic radio frequency signals used in providing wireless services.

2. "Applicable codes" means uniform building, fire, electrical, plumbing, or mechanical codes adopted by a recognized national code organization or local amendments to those codes enacted solely to address threats of destruction of property or injury to persons, and includes the National Electric Safety Code and the 2017 edition of the Florida Department of Transportation Utility Accommodation Manual.

3. "Applicant" means a person who submits an application and is a wireless provider.

4. "Application" means a request submitted by an applicant to an authority for a permit to collocate small wireless facilities*,* ~~or to~~ place a new utility pole used to support a small wireless facility*, or place other communications facilities. An authority's permit application form or process must include all required permissions, however designated, required by the authority to grant a permit to place communications facilities, including, but not limited to, right-of-way occupancy, building permits, electrical permits, or historic review*.

5. "Authority" means a county or municipality having jurisdiction and control of the rights-of-way of any public road. The term does not include the Department of Transportation. Rights-of-way under the jurisdiction and control of the department are excluded from this subsection.

6. "Authority utility pole" means a utility pole owned by an authority in the right-of-way. The term does not include a utility pole owned by a municipal electric utility, a utility pole used to support municipally owned or operated electric distribution facilities, or a utility pole located in the right-of-way within:

a. A retirement community that:

(I) Is deed restricted as housing for older persons as defined in s. 760.29(4)(b);

(II) Has more than 5,000 residents; and

(III) Has underground utilities for electric transmission or distribution.

b. A municipality that:

(I) Is located on a coastal barrier island as defined in s. 161.053(1)(b) 3.;

(II) Has a land area of less than 5 square miles;

(III) Has less than 10,000 residents; and

(IV) Has, before July 1, 2017, received referendum approval to issue debt to finance municipal-wide undergrounding of its utilities for electric transmission or distribution.

7. "Collocate" or "collocation" means to install, mount, maintain, modify, operate, or replace one or more wireless facilities on, under, within, or adjacent to a wireless support structure or utility pole. The term does not include the installation of a new utility pole or wireless support structure in the public rights-of-way.

8. "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.

9. "Micro wireless facility" means a small wireless facility having dimensions no larger than 24 inches in length, 15 inches in width, and 12 inches in height and an exterior antenna, if any, no longer than 11 inches.

10. "Small wireless facility" means a wireless facility that meets the following qualifications:

a. Each antenna associated with the facility is located inside an enclosure of no more than 6 cubic feet in volume or, in the case of antennas that have exposed elements, each antenna and all of its exposed elements could fit within an enclosure of no more than 6 cubic feet in volume; and

b. All other wireless equipment associated with the facility is cumulatively no more than 28 cubic feet in volume. The following types of associated ancillary equipment are not included in the calculation of equipment volume: electric meters, concealment elements, telecommunications demarcation boxes, ground-based enclosures, grounding equipment, power transfer switches, cutoff switches, vertical cable runs for the connection of power and other services, and utility poles or other support structures.

11. "Utility pole" means a pole or similar structure that is used in whole or in part to provide communications services or for electric distribution, lighting, traffic control, signage, or a similar function. The term includes the vertical support structure for traffic lights but does not include a horizontal structure to which signal lights or other traffic control devices are attached and does not include a pole or similar structure 15 feet in height or less unless an authority grants a waiver for such pole.

12. "Wireless facility" means equipment at a fixed location which enables wireless communications between user equipment and a communications network, including radio transceivers, antennas, wires, coaxial or fiber-optic cable or other cables, regular and backup power supplies, and comparable equipment, regardless of technological configuration, and equipment associated with wireless communications. The term includes small wireless facilities. The term does not include:

a. The structure or improvements on, under, within, or adjacent to the structure on which the equipment is collocated;

b. Wireline backhaul facilities; or

c. Coaxial or fiber-optic cable that is between wireless structures or utility poles or that is otherwise not immediately adjacent to or directly associated with a particular antenna.

13. "Wireless infrastructure provider" means a person who has been certificated under chapter 364 to provide telecommunications service or under chapter 610 to provide cable or video services in this state, or that person's affiliate, and who builds or installs wireless communication transmission equipment, wireless facilities, or wireless support structures but is not a wireless services provider.

14. "Wireless provider" means a wireless infrastructure provider or a wireless services provider.

15. "Wireless services" means any services provided using licensed or unlicensed spectrum, whether at a fixed location or mobile, using wireless facilities.

16. "Wireless services provider" means a person who provides wireless services.

17. "Wireless support structure" means a freestanding structure, such as a monopole, a guyed or self-supporting tower, or another existing or proposed structure designed to support or capable of supporting wireless facilities. The term does not include a utility pole, pedestal, or other support structure for ground-based equipment not mounted on a utility pole and less than 5 feet in height.

(d) An authority may require a registration process and permit fees in accordance with subsection (3). An authority shall accept applications for permits and shall process and issue permits subject to the following requirements:

1. An authority may not directly or indirectly require an applicant to perform services unrelated to the collocation for which approval is sought, such as in-kind contributions to the authority, including reserving fiber, conduit, or pole space for the authority.

2. An applicant may not be required to provide more information to obtain a permit than is necessary to demonstrate the applicant's compliance with applicable codes for the placement of small wireless facilities in the locations identified in the application. An applicant may not be required to provide inventories, maps, or locations of communications facilities in the right-of-way other than as necessary to avoid interference with other at-grade or aerial facilities located at the specific location proposed for a small wireless facility or within 50 feet of such location.

3. An authority may not:

a. Require the placement of small wireless facilities on any specific utility pole or category of poles;

b. Require the placement of multiple antenna systems on a single utility pole;

c. Require a demonstration that collocation of a small wireless facility on an existing structure is not legally or technically possible as a condition for granting a permit for the collocation of a small wireless facility on a new utility pole except as provided in paragraph (i);

d. Require compliance with an authority's provisions regarding placement of *communications facilities, including* small wireless facilities or ~~a~~ new utility *poles* ~~pole~~ used to support ~~a~~ small wireless *facilities,* ~~facility~~ in rights-of-way under the control of the department unless the authority has received a delegation from the department for the location of the small wireless facility or utility pole*;*~~,~~ or require such compliance as a condition to receive a permit that is ancillary to the permit for collocation of a small wireless facility, including an electrical permit;

e. Require a meeting before filing an application;

f. Require direct or indirect public notification or a public meeting for the placement of communication facilities in the right-of-way;

g. Limit the size or configuration of a small wireless facility or any of its components, if the small wireless facility complies with the size limits in this subsection;

h. Prohibit the installation of a new utility pole used to support the collocation of a small wireless facility if the installation otherwise meets the requirements of this subsection; ~~or~~

i. Require that any component of a small wireless facility be placed underground except as provided in paragraph (i)*; or*

j. Require compliance with provisions regarding the placement of communications facilities, including small wireless facilities or new utility poles used to support small wireless facilities, in rights-of-way not owned and controlled by the authority and public utility easements that are within areas not owned and controlled by the authority unless a permit delegation agreement exists between the authority and the owner of the right-of-way or area that contains the public utility easement.

4. Subject to paragraph (r), an authority may not limit the placement, by minimum separation distances, of small wireless facilities, utility poles on which small wireless facilities are or will be collocated, or other at-grade communications facilities. However, within 14 days after the date of filing the application, an authority may request that the proposed location of a small wireless facility be moved to another location in the right-of-way and placed on an alternative authority utility pole or support structure or placed on a new utility pole. The authority and the applicant may negotiate the alternative location, including any objective design standards and reasonable spacing requirements for ground-based equipment, for 30 days after the date of the request. At the conclusion of the negotiation period, if the alternative location is accepted by the applicant, the applicant must notify the authority of such acceptance and the application shall be deemed granted for any new location for which there is agreement and all other locations in the application. If an agreement is not reached, the applicant must notify the authority of such nonagreement and the authority must grant or deny the original application within 90 days after the date the application was filed. A request for an alternative location, an acceptance of an alternative location, or a rejection of an alternative location must be in writing and provided by electronic mail.

5. An authority shall limit the height of a small wireless facility to 10 feet above the utility pole or structure upon which the small wireless facility is to be collocated. Unless waived by an authority, the height for a new utility pole is limited to the tallest existing utility pole as of July 1, 2017, located in the same right-of-way, other than a utility pole for which a waiver has previously been granted, measured from grade in place within 500 feet of the proposed location of the small wireless facility. If there is no utility pole within 500 feet, the authority shall limit the height of the utility pole to 50 feet.

6. The installation by a communications services provider of a utility pole in the public rights-of-way, other than a utility pole used to support a small wireless facility, is subject to authority rules or regulations governing the placement of utility poles in the public rights-of-way.

7. Within 14 days after receiving an application, an authority must determine and notify the applicant by electronic mail as to whether the application is complete. If an application is deemed incomplete, the authority must specifically identify the missing information. An application is deemed complete if the authority fails to provide notification to the applicant within 14 days.

8. An application must be processed on a nondiscriminatory basis. A complete application is deemed approved if an authority fails to approve or deny the application within 60 days after receipt of the application. If an authority does not use the 30-day negotiation period provided in subparagraph 4., the parties may mutually agree to extend the 60-day application review period. The authority shall grant or deny the application at the end of the extended period. A permit issued pursuant to an approved application shall remain effective for 1 year unless extended by the authority.

9. An authority must notify the applicant of approval or denial by electronic mail. An authority shall approve a complete application unless it does not meet the authority's applicable codes. If the application is denied, the authority must specify in writing the basis for denial, including the specific code provisions on which the denial was based, and send the documentation to the applicant by electronic mail on the day the authority denies the application. The applicant may cure the deficiencies identified by the authority and resubmit the application within 30 days after notice of the denial is sent to the applicant. The authority shall approve or deny the revised application within 30 days after receipt or the application is deemed approved. The review of a revised application is limited to the deficiencies cited in the denial. If an authority provides for administrative review of the denial of an application, the review must be complete and a written decision issued within 45 days after a written request for review is made. A denial must identify the specific code provisions on which the denial is based. If the administrative review is not complete within 45 days, the authority waives any claim regarding failure to exhaust administrative remedies in any judicial review of the denial of an application.

10. An applicant seeking to collocate small wireless facilities within the jurisdiction of a single authority may, at the applicant's discretion, file a consolidated application and receive a single permit for the collocation of up to 30 small wireless facilities. If the application includes multiple small wireless facilities, an authority may separately address small wireless facility collocations for which incomplete information has been received or which are denied.

11. An authority may deny an application to collocate a small wireless facility or place a utility pole used to support a small wireless facility in the public rights-of-way if the proposed small wireless facility or utility pole used to support a small wireless facility:

a. Materially interferes with the safe operation of traffic control equipment.

b. Materially interferes with sight lines or clear zones for transportation, pedestrians, or public safety purposes.

c. Materially interferes with compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act or similar federal or state standards regarding pedestrian access or movement.

d. Materially fails to comply with the 2017 edition of the Florida Department of Transportation Utility Accommodation Manual.

e. Fails to comply with applicable codes.

f. Fails to comply with objective design standards authorized under paragraph (r).

12. An authority may adopt by ordinance provisions for insurance coverage, indemnification, force majeure, abandonment, authority liability, or authority warranties. Such provisions must be reasonable and nondiscriminatory *and apply to all providers of communications services, including, if applicable, any local government or nonprofit providers*. An authority may require a construction bond to secure restoration of the postconstruction rights-of-way to the preconstruction condition. However, such bond must be time-limited to not more than 18 months after the construction to which the bond applies is completed*, and such bond must be reasonably related to the cost to secure restoration of the rights-of-way. An authority may not limit the number of permits allowed under the same bond*. For any financial obligation required by an authority allowed under this section, the authority *may not limit the number of permits in any way, including by project size or by limiting the number of applications or open permits, provided that the permit is closed out within 45 days after the provider's completion of work; may not impose additional requirements based on the scope or linear feet of the project; and* shall accept*, at the option of the applicant, a bond or* a letter of credit or similar financial instrument issued by any financial institution that is authorized to do business within the United States *and*~~, provided~~ that a claim against the financial instrument may be made by electronic means~~, including by facsimile~~. *An authority may not require a deposit or escrow of cash as a condition of issuing a permit or compel the applicant to agree to any additional terms or agreements not specifically authorized by this act or directly related to the work set out in the application.* A provider of communications services may add an authority to any existing bond, insurance policy, or other relevant financial instrument, and the authority must accept such proof of coverage without any conditions other than consent to venue for purposes of any litigation to which the authority is a party. An authority may not require a communications services provider to indemnify it for liabilities not caused by the provider, *its agents, or its employees,* including liabilities arising from the authority's negligence, gross negligence, or willful conduct *by an unaffiliated third party*.

13. Collocation of a small wireless facility on an authority utility pole does not provide the basis for the imposition of an ad valorem tax on the authority utility pole.

14. An authority may reserve space on authority utility poles for future public safety uses. However, a reservation of space may not preclude collocation of a small wireless facility. If replacement of the authority utility pole is necessary to accommodate the collocation of the small wireless facility and the future public safety use, the pole replacement is subject to make-ready provisions and the replaced pole shall accommodate the future public safety use.

15. A structure granted a permit and installed pursuant to this subsection shall comply with chapter 333 and federal regulations pertaining to airport airspace protections.

(r) An authority may require wireless providers to comply with objective design standards adopted by ordinance. The ordinance may only require:

1. A new utility pole that replaces an existing utility pole to be of substantially similar design, material, and color;

2. Reasonable spacing requirements concerning the location of a ground-mounted component of a small wireless facility which does not exceed 15 feet from the associated support structure; or

3. A small wireless facility to meet reasonable location context, color, camouflage, and concealment requirements, subject to the limitations in this subsection; and

4. A new utility pole used to support a small wireless facility to meet reasonable location context, color, and material of the predominant utility pole type at the proposed location of the new utility pole.

Such design standards under this paragraph may be waived by the authority upon a showing that the design standards are not reasonably compatible for the particular location of a small wireless facility or utility pole or are technically infeasible or that the design standards impose an excessive expense. The waiver must be granted or denied within 45 days after the date of the request. *An authority may not require landscaping, landscaping maintenance, or vegetation management other than that necessary for right-of-way restoration.*

Section 30. Subsection (23) is added to section 775.15, Florida Statutes, to read:

775.15 Time limitations; general time limitations; exceptions.—

(23) For a traffic citation enforced pursuant to s. 316.0083, s. 316.173, or s. 316.1896, the 1-year period of limitation for a noncriminal violation pursuant to paragraph (2)(d) is extended for 1 year upon receipt of an affidavit indicating that the motor vehicle was in the care, custody, or control of another person at the time of the violation, as authorized in s. 316.0083, s. 316.173, or s. 316.1896, respectively.

Section 31. Subsection (1) of section 316.1995, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1995 Driving upon sidewalk or bicycle path.—

(1) Except as provided in s. 316.008, s. 316.20655, *s. 316.212(9)* ~~s. 316.212(8)~~, or s. 316.2128, a person may not drive any vehicle other than by human power upon a bicycle path, sidewalk, or sidewalk area, except upon a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway.

Section 32. Subsection (1) of section 316.2125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2125 Operation of golf carts within a retirement community.—

(1) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ s. 316.212, the reasonable operation of a golf cart, equipped and operated as provided in *s. 316.212(6), (7), and (8)* ~~s. 316.212 (5), (6), and (7)~~, within any self-contained retirement community is *authorized* ~~permitted~~ unless prohibited under subsection (2).

Section 33. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 316.2126, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.2126 Authorized use of golf carts, low-speed vehicles, and utility vehicles.—

(1) In addition to the powers granted by ss. 316.212 and 316.2125, municipalities are authorized to use golf carts and utility vehicles, as defined in s. 320.01, upon any state, county, or municipal roads located within the corporate limits of such municipalities, subject to the following conditions:

(a) Golf carts and utility vehicles must comply with the operational and safety requirements in ss. 316.212 and 316.2125, and with any more restrictive ordinances enacted by the local governmental entity pursuant to *s. 316.212(9)* ~~s. 316.212(8)~~, and shall be operated only by municipal employees for municipal purposes, including, but not limited to, police patrol, traffic enforcement, and inspection of public facilities.

(b) In addition to the safety equipment required in *s. 316.212(7)* ~~s. 316.212(6)~~ and any more restrictive safety equipment required by the local governmental entity pursuant to *s. 316.212(9)* ~~s. 316.212(8)~~, such golf carts and utility vehicles must be equipped with sufficient lighting and turn signal equipment.

(3)

(c) All vehicles specified in this subsection must be:

1. Marked in a conspicuous manner with the name of the delivery service.

2. Equipped with, at a minimum, the equipment required under *s. 316.212(7)* ~~s. 316.212(6)~~.

3. Equipped with head lamps and tail lamps, in addition to the safety requirements in *s. 316.212(7)* ~~s. 316.212(6)~~, if operated after sunset.

Section 34. Subsection (5) of section 316.2128, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2128 Micromobility devices, motorized scooters, and miniature motorcycles; requirements.—

(5) A person who engages in the business of, serves in the capacity of, or acts as a commercial seller of miniature motorcycles in this state must prominently display at his or her place of business a notice that such vehicles are not legal to operate on public roads, may not be registered as motor vehicles, and may not be operated on sidewalks unless authorized by an ordinance enacted pursuant to s. 316.008(7)(a) or *s. 316.212(9)* ~~s. 316.212(8)~~. The required notice must also appear in all forms of advertising offering miniature motorcycles for sale. The notice and a copy of this section must also be provided to a consumer *before* ~~prior to~~ the consumer's purchasing or becoming obligated to purchase a miniature motorcycle.

Section 35. Subsection (6) of section 316.455, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.455 Other equipment.—Every motorcycle and every motor-driven cycle when operated upon a highway shall comply with the requirements and limitations of:

~~(6) Section 316.272 on the requirement for mufflers and prevention of noise.~~

A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318.

Section 36. Subsection (11) of section 403.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.061 Department; powers and duties.—The department shall have the power and the duty to control and prohibit pollution of air and water in accordance with the law and rules adopted and promulgated by it and, for this purpose, to:

(11) Establish ambient air quality and water quality standards for the state as a whole or for any part thereof, and also standards for the abatement of excessive and unnecessary noise. The department is authorized to establish reasonable zones of mixing for discharges into waters. For existing installations as defined by rule 62-520.200(10), Florida Administrative Code, effective July 12, 2009, zones of discharge to groundwater are authorized horizontally to a facility's or owner's property boundary and extending vertically to the base of a specifically designated aquifer or aquifers. Such zones of discharge may be modified in accordance with procedures specified in department rules. Exceedance of primary and secondary groundwater standards that occur within a zone of discharge does not create liability pursuant to this chapter or chapter 376 for site cleanup, and the exceedance of soil cleanup target levels is not a basis for enforcement or site cleanup.

(a) When a receiving body of water fails to meet a water quality standard for pollutants set forth in department rules, a steam electric generating plant discharge of pollutants that is existing or licensed under this chapter on July 1, 1984, may nevertheless be granted a mixing zone, provided that:

1. The standard would not be met in the water body in the absence of the discharge;

2. The discharge is in compliance with all applicable technology-based effluent limitations;

3. The discharge does not cause a measurable increase in the degree of noncompliance with the standard at the boundary of the mixing zone; and

4. The discharge otherwise complies with the mixing zone provisions specified in department rules.

(b) Mixing zones for point source discharges are not permitted in Outstanding Florida Waters except for:

1. Sources that have received permits from the department prior to April 1, 1982, or the date of designation, whichever is later;

2. Blowdown from new power plants certified pursuant to the Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act;

3. Discharges of water necessary for water management purposes which have been approved by the governing board of a water management district and, if required by law, by the secretary; and

4. The discharge of demineralization concentrate which has been determined permittable under s. 403.0882 and which meets the specific provisions of s. 403.0882(4)(a) and (b), if the proposed discharge is clearly in the public interest.

(c) The department, by rule, shall establish water quality criteria for wetlands which criteria give appropriate recognition to the water quality of such wetlands in their natural state.

This act may not be construed to invalidate any existing department rule relating to mixing zones. ~~The department shall cooperate with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in the development of regulations required by s. 316.272(1).~~

The department shall implement such programs in conjunction with its other powers and duties and shall place special emphasis on reducing and eliminating contamination that presents a threat to humans, animals or plants, or to the environment.

Section 37. Subsection (9) of section 403.415, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.415 Motor vehicle noise.—

(9) OPERATING VEHICLE NOISE MEASUREMENTS.—~~The department shall establish, with the cooperation of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, measurement procedures for determining compliance of operating vehicles with the noise limits of s. 316.293(2).~~ The department shall advise the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles on technical aspects of motor vehicle noise enforcement regulations, assist in the training of enforcement officers, and administer a sound-level meter loan program for local enforcement agencies.

Section 38. *Railroad crossing safety technology study.—*

(1)(a) The Legislature finds that improving safety at railroad crossings is critical to protecting the lives of pedestrians, motorists, railway workers, and the general public. Advanced detection and monitoring systems using such technologies as sensors, high-resolution cameras, and data analytics may provide a reliable means to enhance situational awareness and reduce collisions at railroad crossings.

(b) The Legislature further finds that additional analysis is necessary to evaluate the effectiveness, feasibility, costs, and implementation considerations of such systems.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature to direct the Department of Transportation to study the technologies referenced in paragraph (a) before considering any statewide requirements for their deployment.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Advanced detection and monitoring system" means a system capable of detecting and classifying objects, such as pedestrians, vehicles, or other obstructions at or approaching a railroad crossing, using technologies including, but not limited to, sensors, cameras, and data analytics.

(b) "Public railroad-highway grade crossing" has the same meaning as provided in s. 335.141(1)(b), Florida Statutes.

(3)(a) The Department of Transportation shall conduct a statewide study on the use of advanced detection and monitoring systems at public railroad-highway grade crossings in this state.

(b) The study must include, but is not limited to, an analysis of all of the following:

1. Available and emerging advanced detection and monitoring technologies applicable to railroad crossings.

2. The effectiveness of such technologies in improving safety outcomes, including collision prevention and hazard mitigation, based on available data from pilot programs, deployments in other jurisdictions, or academic research.

3. Technical and operational considerations, including interoperability with existing railroad safety systems and operating protocols.

4. Costs associated with the deployment of advanced detection and monitoring systems, including installation, operation, maintenance, and long-term lifecycle costs.

5. Potential funding mechanisms, including federal funds, state funds, grants, or public-private partnerships.

6. Criteria for identifying higher-risk railroad crossings where such technologies may provide the greatest safety benefit.

7. Legal, regulatory, and operational considerations related to the deployment and oversight of advanced detection and monitoring systems.

8. The respective roles of the state, local governments, and railroad owners in the implementation of such systems.

(4) In conducting the study, the department may consult with, as appropriate, any of the following:

(a) Railroad owners and railroad industry representatives.

(b) Local governments with jurisdiction over public railroad-highway grade crossings.

(c) Transportation safety experts and academic institutions.

(d) Federal agencies or national organizations with expertise in railroad safety.

(5) By December 1, 2026, the department shall submit a report of its findings and any recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report may include policy recommendations for legislative consideration, but may not recommend or require the mandatory installation or upgrade of railroad crossings.

Section 39. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 318.18, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 318.121, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

318.121 Preemption of additional fees, fines, surcharges, and costs.—Notwithstanding any general or special law, or municipal or county ordinance, additional fees, fines, surcharges, or costs other than the court costs and surcharges assessed under s. 318.18(12), (14), (19), (20), and (23) may not be added to the civil traffic penalties assessed under this chapter.

Section 40. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; requiring the Department of Transportation and any impacted local government to increase the minimum perception-reaction time for steady yellow signals at certain intersections by a specified amount of time; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "local hearing officer"; amending s. 316.008, F.S.; revising powers of local authorities; amending s. 316.0083, F.S.; deleting a provision prohibiting the issuance of certain notices of violation and traffic citations for failure to stop before crossing over a stop line or other point at which a stop is required under certain circumstances; defining the term "careful and prudent manner"; providing that certain counties and municipalities are responsible for and must maintain certain data for a specified period; amending s. 316.0776, F.S.; revising provisions relating to speed detection systems in school zones; amending s. 316.0777, F.S.; authorizing a private entity to install an automated license plate recognition system for use on certain property for a specified purpose and providing requirements therefor; providing a penalty; providing applicability; defining the term "authorized investigative partner"; amending s. 316.173, F.S.; providing and revising procedures for an administrative hearing; requiring that a certain report is due annually, rather than quarterly; amending s. 316.183, F.S.; authorizing a county or municipality to set a lower maximum speed limit under certain conditions; amending s. 316.189, F.S.; authorizing a county to set a lower maximum speed limit under certain conditions; amending s. 316.1895, F.S.; requiring the use of flashing beacons in certain circumstances; requiring certain areas to have placed and installed flashing beacons by a specified date; amending s. 316.1896, F.S.; requiring flashing beacons to be activated during specified times to enforce the restricted school zone speed limit through a school zone speed detection system; providing applicability; revising provisions relating to roadways maintained as school zones; amending s. 316.1906, F.S.; specifying that certain radar and LiDAR units are not required to be on certain lists; amending s. 316.212, F.S.; authorizing operation of a golf cart for the purpose of crossing certain streets and highways under certain conditions; providing penalties; repealing ss. 316.272 and 316.293, F.S., relating to the prevention of noise from exhaust systems and motor vehicle noise, respectively; amending s. 316.3045, F.S.; requiring certain motor vehicles to be equipped with and maintain an exhaust system to prevent excessive or unusual noise; prohibiting certain excessive or unusual noises; providing applicability; amending s. 316.650, F.S.; revising provisions relating to traffic citations; amending s. 318.15, F.S.; revising provisions relating to penalties for certain failures to comply; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; revising provisions relating to penalties; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 319.1401, F.S.; authorizing certain golf carts to be titled and registered for operation on certain roads without an inspection by the department and providing requirements therefor; amending s. 320.02, F.S.; revising provisions relating to withholding motor vehicle registration; amending s. 320.0848, F.S.; including certain pregnancy-related conditions in the list of disabilities that qualify a person for a disabled parking permit; repealing s. 320.0849, F.S., relating to expectant mother parking permits; amending s. 320.262, F.S.; providing that the use of a license plate frame or decorative border device is not prohibited under specified conditions; amending s. 322.142, F.S.; authorizing digital imaged licenses to be used for a specified purpose with the licensee's consent; authorizing identity verification service providers to use Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles data under certain conditions; prohibiting such providers from selling, sharing, or retaining certain information; prohibiting the department from allowing the use of digital imaged licenses for a private entity's business purposes; amending s. 332.007, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Transportation to fund certain project costs at certain airports; prohibiting the department from requiring certain matching funds; authorizing the provision of certain funds as matching funds for certain eligible projects; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; authorizing the department to make direct payments to certain subcontractors under specified conditions; requiring the department to adopt rules; amending s. 337.18, F.S.; providing requirements for a takeover agreement;

amending s. 339.175, F.S.; requiring metropolitan planning organizations serving specified counties to submit a certain feasibility report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date, with certain goals; amending s. 337.401, F.S.; prohibiting municipalities and counties from requiring that providers locate or perform surveys of certain facilities; requiring a provider to use certain means to avoid damaging certain facilities under specified circumstances; prohibiting municipalities and counties from taking certain actions relating to certain facility permits; authorizing municipalities and counties to require a bond or other financial instrument; prohibiting municipalities and counties from imposing or collecting a tax, fee, cost, charge, or exaction for the placement of certain communications facilities; revising applicability; revising the definition of the term "application"; prohibiting an authority from requiring compliance with an authority's provisions regarding placement of communications facilities in certain locations; providing exceptions; requiring that certain authority ordinances apply to all providers of communications services; providing bond requirements; providing requirements for certain financial obligations required by an authority; prohibiting an authority from requiring a deposit or escrow of cash or agreement with certain terms; prohibiting an authority from requiring a communications service provider to indemnify it for certain liabilities; prohibiting an authority from imposing certain landscaping and vegetation management requirements; amending s. 775.15, F.S.; providing time limits for certain traffic violations; amending ss. 316.1995, 316.2125, 316.2126, 316.2128, 316.455, 403.061, and 403.415, F.S.; conforming cross-references and provisions to changes made by the act; providing legislative findings and intent; defining terms; requiring the department to conduct a statewide study on advanced detection and monitoring systems at public railroad-highway crossings; providing requirements for the study; authorizing the department to consult with certain entities; requiring the department to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date; reenacting s. 318.121, F.S., relating to preemption of additional fees, fines, surcharges, and costs, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 318.18, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for CS for HB 543**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—33

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Berman	Garcia	Pizzo
Bernard	Grall	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

CS for CS for SB 1036—A bill to be entitled An act relating to school counselors; amending s. 1012.34, F.S.; requiring that evaluation criteria for certified school counselors be based on specified standards; amending s. 1012.55, F.S.; providing that persons seeking employment as school counselors are exempt from specified educator certification requirements; authorizing school districts to require such persons to meet certain requirements as a condition of employment; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 1036**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 753** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Calatayud—

CS for CS for HB 753—A bill to be entitled An act relating to school counselors; amending s. 1012.34, F.S.; requiring evaluation criteria for certified school counselors to be based on specified standards; amending s. 1012.55, F.S.; providing that persons seeking employment as school counselors are exempt from specified educator certification requirements; providing that school districts may require such persons to meet certain requirements as a condition of employment; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 1036** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 753** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Consideration of **CS for CS for CS for SB 902** was deferred.

CS for SB 646—A bill to be entitled An act relating to drug paraphernalia; amending s. 893.145, F.S.; revising the definition of "drug paraphernalia" to exclude certain narcotic-drug-testing products; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 646**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 477** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Gaetz—

CS for HB 477—A bill to be entitled An act relating to drug paraphernalia; amending s. 893.145, F.S.; revising the definition of "drug paraphernalia" to exclude certain narcotic-drug-testing products; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 646** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Gaetz, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 477** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

SB 642—A bill to be entitled An act relating to foreign and alien bail bond insurers; amending s. 624.4094, F.S.; providing duties of certain foreign and alien bail bond insurers relating to reporting bail bond premiums to the Office of Insurance Regulation, keeping records of considerations paid for bail bonds written by the insurers, and disclosing certain information in the financial statements filed with the office; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 642**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 271** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Burgess—

HB 271—A bill to be entitled An act relating to foreign and alien bail bond insurers; amending s. 624.4094, F.S.; providing duties of certain foreign and alien bail bond insurers relating to reporting bail bond premiums to the Office of Insurance Regulation, keeping records of considerations paid for bail bonds written by the insurers, and disclosing certain information in the financial statements filed with the office; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 642** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Burgess, by two-thirds vote, **HB 271** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

SB 624—A bill to be entitled An act relating to batterers' intervention program activities; amending s. 741.325, F.S.; authorizing batterers' intervention programs to offer supplemental faith-based activities; prohibiting required participation in such activities; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 624**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 491** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Yarborough—

HB 491—A bill to be entitled An act relating to faith-based content in batterers' intervention programs; amending s. 741.325, F.S.; specifying that batterers' intervention programs may include faith-based activities, but may not require participation in such activities; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 624** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Yarborough, by two-thirds vote, **HB 491** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—33

Mr. President	Gaetz	Osgood
Arrington	Garcia	Passidomo
Bernard	Grall	Pizzo
Boyd	Harrell	Rodriguez
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Rouson
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
DiCeglie	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—1

Berman

Consideration of **CS for CS for CS for SB 260** was deferred.

CS for CS for SB 214—A bill to be entitled An act relating to special district funding; amending s. 215.971, F.S.; revising agency agreements that provide state financial assistance to recipients or subrecipients to include specified special districts as an entity to which such agency may provide for the payment of invoices under specified circumstances; providing construction; requiring state agencies to expedite payment requests from certain counties, municipalities, and special districts for a specified purpose; amending s. 288.0656, F.S.; revising the definition of "rural community" to include specified special districts; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 214**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 273** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator McClain, the rules were waived and—

CS for HB 273—A bill to be entitled An act relating to special districts; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 189.056, F.S.; defining the term "downtown development district"; providing that the boundaries of a downtown development district may only be changed in a specified manner; requiring the adopted budget of a downtown development district to contain specified information; prohibiting certain expenditures from exceeding a specified percentage of such budget; defining the term "administrative and overhead expenditures"; requiring such budget to be approved in a specified manner; amending s. 215.971, F.S.; revising agency agreements that provide state financial assistance to recipients or subrecipients to include specified special districts as an entity to which such agency may provide for the payment of invoices under specified circumstances; providing construction; amending s. 288.0656, F.S.; revising the definition of "rural community" to include specified special districts; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 214** and read the second time by title.

Senator McClain moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (625206) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 215.971, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.971 Agreements funded with federal or state assistance.—

(1) An agency agreement that provides state financial assistance to a recipient or subrecipient, as those terms are defined in s. 215.97, or that provides federal financial assistance to a subrecipient, as defined by applicable United States Office of Management and Budget circulars, must include all of the following:

(h) If the agency agreement provides federal or state financial assistance to a county or municipality that is a rural community or rural area of opportunity as those terms are defined in s. 288.0656(2) *or a special district located entirely within such county or municipality or an independent special district that provides water and wastewater services within a rural area of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656(2)*, a provision allowing the agency to provide for the payment of invoices to *such* ~~the~~ county, municipality, or *special district* ~~rural area of opportunity as that term is defined in s. 288.0656(2),~~ for verified and eligible performance that has been completed in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the agreement. *The provision is not intended to require reimbursement to such county, municipality, or special district for invoices paid, but to allow the agency to provide for the payment of invoices due. The agency shall expedite payment requests in order to facilitate the timely payment of invoices received by such county, municipality, or special district.* This provision is included to alleviate the financial hardships that *such* ~~certain rural~~ counties*,* ~~and~~ municipalities*, or special districts* encounter when administering agreements, and must be exercised by the agency *if* ~~when~~ a county*,* ~~or~~ municipality*, or special district located entirely within such county or municipality or an independent special district that provides water and wastewater services within a rural area of opportunity, as defined in s. 288.0656(2),* demonstrates financial hardship, to the extent that federal or state law, rule, or other regulation allows such payments. This paragraph may not be construed to alter or limit any other provisions of federal or state law, rule, or other regulation.

Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 288.0656, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.0656 Rural Economic Development Initiative.—

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(e) "Rural community" means:

1. A county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.

2. A county with a population of 125,000 or fewer which is contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.

3. A municipality *or special district* within a county described in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2.

4. An unincorporated federal enterprise community or an incorporated rural city with a population of 25,000 or fewer and an employment base focused on traditional agricultural or resource-based industries, located in a county not defined as rural, which has at least three or more of the economic distress factors identified in paragraph (c) and verified by the department.

5. An independent special district that provides water and wastewater services within a rural area of opportunity.

For purposes of this paragraph, population shall be determined in accordance with the most recent official estimate pursuant to s. 186.901.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to special district funding; amending s. 215.971, F.S.; revising agency agreements that provide state financial assistance to recipients or subrecipients to include specified special districts as an entity to which such agency may provide for the payment of invoices under specified circumstances; providing construction; requiring state agencies to expedite payment requests from certain counties, municipalities, and special districts for a specified purpose; amending s. 288.0656, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "rural community" to include specified special districts; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator McClain, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 273**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

CS for CS for SB 182—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program; creating s. 1012.988, F.S.; establishing the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program within the Department of Education; providing the purpose of the program; authorizing school districts and charter schools to place certain classroom teachers as teacher mentors in specified schools for specified purposes; providing requirements for teacher mentors and mentees; authorizing teacher mentors to receive a stipend; providing the time period for each mentor and mentee relationship through the program; providing limitations on the number of mentees teacher mentors may work with; providing department and teacher mentor responsibilities; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; authorizing specified funds to be used for the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Jones, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for SB 182** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

CS for CS for SB 96—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Veterans Dental Care Grant Program; amending s. 295.157, F.S.; revising the purpose of the Veterans Dental Care Grant Program; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 96**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 253** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Osgood—

CS for HB 253—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Veterans Dental Care Grant Program; amending s. 295.157, F.S.; revising the purpose of the Veterans Dental Care Grant Program; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 96** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Osgood, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 253** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

CS for SB 86—A bill to be entitled An act relating to commercial motor vehicles operated by unauthorized aliens; amending s. 316.3026, F.S.; declaring the policy of the state with respect to the operation of commercial motor vehicles by unauthorized aliens; deeming a certain threat to be an imminent safety hazard; providing requirements for commercial motor vehicle operators; requiring sworn law enforcement officers with certain authority to take into custody persons determined to be unauthorized aliens operating commercial motor vehicles and facilitate the transfer of such persons into the custody of a federal immigration agency; requiring the impoundment and removal of a commercial motor vehicle under certain circumstances; requiring such sworn law enforcement officers to immediately provide certain notification and information to the Florida Highway Patrol; providing that motor carriers are liable for certain civil penalties; prohibiting the release of certain impounded commercial motor vehicles unless certain penalties are paid or bonds are posted and certain costs are paid; requiring the Office of Commercial Vehicle Enforcement to issue certain out-of-service orders; authorizing the Office of Commercial Vehicle Enforcement to issue out-of-service orders to and impose civil penalties upon motor carriers under certain circumstances; providing that certain motor carriers are subject to certain penalties; requiring the approval of such out-of-service orders by the director of the Division of the Florida Highway Patrol or his or her designee; providing the circumstances under which such out-of-service orders may be removed; providing for the payment of certain penalties to the Chief Financial Officer, who shall credit the funds to the State Transportation Trust Fund for distribution to the Florida Highway Patrol to fund certain training and technology; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Gaetz, by two-thirds vote, **CS for SB 86** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—29

Mr. President	Garcia	Passidomo
Bernard	Grall	Pizzo
Boyd	Harrell	Rodriguez
Bradley	Hooper	Rouson
Brodeur	Jones	Simon
Burgess	Leek	Truenow
Burton	Martin	Trumbull
Calatayud	Massullo	Wright
DiCeglie	Mayfield	Yarborough
Gaetz	McClain	

Nays—5

Arrington	Bracy Davis	Smith
Berman	Osgood	

Vote after roll call:

Yea to Nay—Bernard, Jones

CS for SB 1734—A bill to be entitled An act relating to juvenile justice; amending s. 14.33, F.S.; authorizing the Governor to award a Medal of Heroism to juvenile detention and juvenile probation officers; amending ss. 112.19 and 112.193, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "law enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation officer" to include juvenile detention and juvenile probation officers; amending s. 112.194, F.S.; authorizing certain entities to establish an award program to award a Medal of Valor to a juvenile detention officer or probation officer in certain circumstances; amending s. 787.035, F.S.; specifying that a certain reference to the department is a reference to the Department of Juvenile Justice; amending s. 943.10, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "officer" to include juvenile detention and juvenile probation officers; defining the terms "juvenile detention officer" and "juvenile probation officer"; amending s. 984.03, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "family in need of services"; amending s. 984.09, F.S.; providing that a child subject to proceedings under ch. 984, F.S., may only be placed in a shelter in certain circumstances; amending s. 985.6865, F.S.; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments for a certain purpose; requiring the department to direct the Department of Revenue to deduct specified amounts owed to the Department of Juvenile Justice upon a certain determination; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer such funds into a certain trust fund; specifying requirements relating to such reductions in amounts distributed to counties; reenacting s. 112.1912(1)(a), F.S., relating to first responders, and death benefits for educational expenses, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 112.19, F.S., in a reference thereto; reenacting ss. 384.287(1), 493.6102(1), 741.31(4)(b), 782.07(4), and 790.233(3), F.S., relating to screening for sexually transmissible disease, inapplicability of ch. 493, F.S., violation of an injunction for protection against domestic violence, manslaughter, aggravated manslaughter of an elderly person or disabled adult, aggravated manslaughter of a child, aggravated manslaughter of an officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, or a paramedic, and possession of firearm or ammunition prohibited when person is subject to an injunction against committing acts of domestic violence, stalking, or cyberstalking, and penalties, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 943.10, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting ss. 39.01(1) and (37)(e), 44.1011(2)(d), 44.102(2)(d), 984.04(1), 984.071(1), 984.10(1) and (2), 984.12, 984.13(3), and 985.03(23), F.S., relating to definitions in proceedings relating to children, definitions in dependency mediation, court-ordered mediation, early truancy intervention, families in need of services and children in need of services, procedures and jurisdiction, resources and information, intake, case staffing, services and treatment related to a family in need of services, taking a child into custody, and definitions relating to juvenile justice, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 984.03, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting ss. 984.03(33), 984.07(1), and 984.151(12), F.S., relating to definitions relating to children and families in need of services, right to counsel, waiver, appointed counsel, compensation, and early truancy intervention, truancy petition, and judgment, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 984.09, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 1734**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 1153** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Martin—

CS for CS for HB 1153—A bill to be entitled An act relating to juvenile justice; amending s. 14.33, F.S.; authorizing the Governor to award a Medal of Heroism to juvenile detention and juvenile probation officers; amending ss. 112.19 and 112.193, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "law enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation officer" to include juvenile detention and juvenile probation officers; amending s. 112.194, F.S.; authorizing certain entities to establish an award program to award a Medal of Valor to a juvenile detention officer or probation officer in certain circumstances; amending s. 787.035, F.S.; specifying that a certain reference to the department is a reference to the Department of Juvenile Justice; amending s. 943.10, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "officer" to include juvenile detention and

juvenile probation officers; defining the terms "juvenile detention officer" and "juvenile probation officer"; amending s. 984.03, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "family in need of services"; amending s. 984.09, F.S.; providing that a child subject to proceedings under ch. 984, F.S., may only be placed in a shelter in certain circumstances; amending s. 985.6865, F.S.; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to direct the Department of Revenue to deduct specified amounts owed to the Department of Juvenile Justice upon a certain determination; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer such funds into a certain trust fund; specifying requirements relating to such reductions in amounts distributed to counties; reenacting s. 112.1912(1)(a), F.S., relating to first responders, death benefits for educational expenses, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 112.19, F.S., in a reference thereto; reenacting ss. 384.287(1), 493.6102(1), 741.31(4)(b), 782.07(4), and 790.233(3), F.S., relating to screening for sexually transmissible disease, inapplicability of this chapter, violation of an injunction for protection against domestic violence, manslaughter, aggravated manslaughter of an elderly person or disabled adult, aggravated manslaughter of a child, aggravated manslaughter of an officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, or a paramedic, possession of firearm or ammunition prohibited when person is subject to an injunction against committing acts of domestic violence, stalking, or cyberstalking, penalties, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 943.10, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting ss. 39.01(1) and (37)(e), 44.1011(2)(d), 44.102(2)(d), 984.04(1), 984.071(1), 984.10(1) and (2), 984.12, 984.13(3), and 985.03(23), F.S., relating to definitions in proceedings relating to children, definitions in dependency mediation, court-ordered mediation, early truancy intervention, families in need of services and children in need of services, procedures and jurisdiction, resources and information, intake, case staffing, services and treatment related to a family in need of services, taking a child into custody, and definitions relating to juvenile justice, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 984.03, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting ss. 984.03(33), 984.07(1), and 984.151(12), F.S., relating to definitions relating to children and families in need of services, right to counsel, waiver, appointed counsel, compensation, and early truancy intervention, truancy petition, judgment, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 984.09, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 1734** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Martin, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 1153** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

CS for CS for SB 1580—A bill to be entitled An act relating to illegal gaming; repealing s. 849.23, F.S., relating to penalties and violations related to illegal gambling; amending s. 16.71, F.S.; requiring that the Florida Gaming Control Commission, rather than the chair of the commission, appoint an inspector general; authorizing the commission to delegate any of the duties and powers of an agency head to a commissioner, with an exception; amending s. 16.712, F.S.; revising the information to be included in the commission's annual report to the Governor and the Legislature; amending s. 16.713, F.S.; authorizing a person who is ineligible for employment with the commission to submit a waiver request to the commission asking to be considered eligible for employment if the person possesses certain expertise or experience; requiring the commission to consider such requests on a case-by-case basis and to approve or deny such requests; providing that such person is eligible for employment with the commission if the waiver request is approved by the commission; providing applicability; providing the standard of review for such waiver requests; authorizing the commission to adopt rules; amending s. 16.715, F.S.; revising the standards of conduct for current and former commissioners and employees of the commission; revising the persons who may not hold permits or licenses relating to gaming within a certain timeframe; prohibiting such persons from accepting employment or compensation from or engaging in any business activity with certain persons or entities for a specified timeframe; authorizing certain employees to request that the commission waive certain postemployment restrictions for a certain purpose; requiring the commission to consider and approve or deny each waiver request on a case-by-case basis; authorizing the commission to adopt rules; amending s. 20.055, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 546.10, F.S.; authorizing certain veterans' service organizations to petition the commission for a declaratory statement to determine whether a game or machine is authorized by law before such organizations purchase or install such game or machine; prohibiting the purchase or installation of a game or machine awaiting such declaratory statement until the declaratory statement has been issued; authorizing veterans' service organizations that have a game or machine already installed on their premises to petition the commission for a declaratory statement to determine whether a game or machine is authorized by law; prohibiting such veterans' service organizations from petitioning the commission if the game, machine, premises, or organization is the subject of an ongoing criminal investigation; requiring the commission to issue the declaratory statement or deny the petition for a declaratory statement within a specified timeframe; prohibiting the commission from denying a veterans' service organization's petition that is validly requested; providing that a petition is deemed complete if the petition includes certain information; providing that the declaratory statement is valid only for the game or machine for which it was requested; providing that a declaratory statement is invalid if the specifications of the game or machine have changed; providing that the declaratory statement is binding on the commission and may be introduced in subsequent proceedings as evidence of a good faith effort to comply with certain provisions; providing construction; amending s. 551.107, F.S.; requiring the commission to consider and approve or deny waiver requests on a case-by-case basis; providing the standard of review for certain actions of the commission; making technical changes; amending s. 551.114, F.S.; authorizing a slot machine licensee to apply to the commission to change the location of its designated slot machine gaming area under certain circumstances; requiring the licensed parimutuel permitholder to submit to the commission a survey indicating specified information; providing that the commission is responsible for approving or denying the application to change the location of the designated slot machine gaming area; requiring a slot machine licensee to apply to the commission using forms adopted by the commission; requiring the commission to examine the application and approve or deny the application within a specified timeframe; authorizing the commission to adopt rules; amending s. 782.04, F.S.; revising the underlying felonies for felony murder of the second degree to include keeping a gambling house; amending s. 838.12, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for persons who stake, bet, or wager any money or other thing of value upon the result of certain games, contests, matches, races, or sports if such persons have knowledge that the outcome of the games, contests, matches, races, or sports is prearranged or predetermined; making technical changes; amending s. 843.08, F.S.; revising a prohibition on false personation of certain persons to include any personnel or representative of the commission; amending ss. 849.01 and 849.02, F.S.; revising the criminal penalties for persons who keep a gambling house or are agents or employees of a keeper of a gambling house, respectively; defining the term "course of conduct"; prohibiting a person from knowingly or recklessly benefit or participate in a course of conduct in furtherance of illegal gambling; creating s. 849.021, F.S.; defining the terms "government employee" and "political subdivision"; prohibiting a government employee from knowingly certifying, licensing, approving, aiding, facilitating, or concealing the operation of a gambling house; providing criminal penalties; providing applicability; creating s. 849.023, F.S.; defining terms; providing that violations of certain laws

are deemed immediate and serious dangers to public health, safety, and welfare; authorizing the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the commission, or the Office of Financial Regulation to summarily suspend the license of certain persons violating such laws; authorizing a licensee or an applicant to retain, apply for, or be reissued a license if the license-issuing agency finds that such licensee has removed the controlling person violating such laws from the business; providing that a licensee is subject to a specified fine; amending s. 849.03, F.S.; revising the criminal penalties for persons who rent or lease a house for gambling purposes; defining the term "knowingly"; amending s. 849.08, F.S.; defining terms; providing criminal penalties for persons who play, engage in, operate, conduct, or promote Internet gambling or Internet sports wagering; providing applicability; amending s. 849.086, F.S.; revising the prohibited activities of licensed cardrooms; providing criminal penalties for violations of such prohibitions; republishing s. 849.09, F.S., relating to the prohibition against lotteries; amending s. 849.11, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for persons who play in person, or by the use of the Internet, certain games of chance; providing criminal penalties for persons who set up, operate, conduct, promote, or receive any money or other thing of value for certain prohibited conduct; amending s. 849.13, F.S.; revising the criminal penalties for persons convicted of a second or subsequent violation in connection with lotteries; reclassifying certain criminal violations to the next level higher in the Criminal Punishment Code's offense severity ranking chart; amending s. 849.14, F.S.; making technical changes; amending s. 849.15, F.S.; defining terms; revising criminal penalties relating to persons owning or operating slot machines or devices; providing that all shipments of legal slot machines into Indian lands are deemed legal shipments under certain circumstances; creating s. 849.155, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for persons who knowingly sell, purchase, manufacture, transport, deliver, or bring into this state more than a specified number of slot machines or devices or any parts thereof; defining the term "parts thereof"; providing for fines for specified violations; providing that any county in which slot machine gaming is authorized is exempt from certain federal provisions; providing that all shipments of slot machines into any county in this state are deemed legal shipments if specified requirements are met; providing that all shipments of legal gaming devices into Indian lands located within this state are deemed legal shipments under certain circumstances; requiring that any fines imposed and collected be deposited into the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund to be used for a specified purpose; creating s. 849.157, F.S.; prohibiting persons from knowingly and willfully making or disseminating materially false or misleading statements or information regarding the legality of a slot machine or device to facilitate the sale of such slot machine or device; providing criminal penalties; amending s. 849.18, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a judge may order a slot machine, apparatus, or device seized; authorizing the commission to destroy a seized machine, apparatus, or device after a specified timeframe if no arrests or criminal charges have been filed and no person files a claim for such machine, apparatus, or device; creating s. 849.181, F.S.; providing legislative intent; defining terms; authorizing a criminal justice agency having custody of excess slot machines related to a legal proceeding or ongoing criminal investigation to destroy such machines if the criminal justice agency takes certain actions; requiring that written descriptions of such slot machines be made under oath by the investigating law enforcement officer before the slot machines are destroyed; requiring that photographs and video recordings of such slot machines be authenticated by the photographer's or videographer's signature; requiring that a law enforcement officer create written and sworn documentation of certain information regarding a destroyed slot machine; providing that such photographs or video recordings may be deemed competent evidence and may be admissible in a prosecution to the same extent as if such slot machines were introduced as evidence; providing severability; creating s. 849.47, F.S.; defining the term "illegal gambling"; prohibiting persons from knowingly and willfully transporting, or procuring the transportation of, certain persons into this state for the purpose of illegal gambling; providing criminal penalties; creating s. 849.48, F.S.; defining the term "illegal gambling"; prohibiting persons from advertising illegal gambling or setting up any type or plate for any type for advertising illegal gambling; providing criminal penalties; providing exceptions; creating s. 849.49, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; prohibiting counties, municipalities, or other political subdivisions from enacting or enforcing any ordinance or local rule relating to certain gaming and gambling activities; providing applicability; creating s. 849.51, F.S.; providing legislative findings; creating the Limited Slot Machine Surrender Program within the commission; providing the purpose of the program; providing that the surrender of any slot machine to the commission is irrevocable and final; providing that an individual or organization that surrenders a slot machine pursuant to the program is immune from criminal prosecution; requiring that the program begin and end within specified timeframes; requiring the commission to advertise the program before a specified timeframe; providing that a person or entity that surrenders a gaming device does not have any rights to the property in any of the devices surrendered; authorizing the commission to enter into memoranda of understanding with other criminal justice agencies to administer the program; amending s. 903.046, F.S.; revising the circumstances a court must consider when determining whether to release a defendant on bail or other conditions; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; revising the ranking of certain offenses on the offense severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment Code; amending ss. 772.102, 849.17, 849.18, 849.20, 849.21, 849.22, and 895.02, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Martin, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for SB 1580** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

Consideration of **SB 7034** was deferred.

SB 1548—A bill to be entitled An act relating to affordable housing; amending ss. 125.01055 and 166.04151, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to authorize certain residential use on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district under certain circumstances; providing requirements for certain proposed developments; prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from restricting the height of certain proposed developments through other dimensional means and from requiring certain setbacks or stepbacks; revising the definitions of the terms "commercial use" and "industrial use"; authorizing applicants for certain proposed developments to notify the county or municipality, as applicable, by a specified date of intent to proceed under certain provisions; requiring counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit revised applications, written requests, and notices of intent to account for changes made by the act; amending s. 333.03, F.S.; providing an exception authorizing the applicability of certain provisions to certain proposed developments, if approved by the governing body of an airport; amending s. 760.22, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "person"; amending s. 760.26, F.S.; revising a prohibition on discriminatory practices in land use decisions and in permitting of development to include housing that is affordable; amending s. 760.35, F.S.; waiving the state's sovereign immunity for certain causes of action based upon housing discrimination; providing applicability; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 1548**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 1389** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, the rules were waived and—

CS for CS for HB 1389—A bill to be entitled An act relating to affordable housing; amending ss. 125.01055 and 166.04151, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential uses as allowable uses for specified property; requiring certain proposed developments to be within specified geographic boundaries; requiring certain counties, municipalities, school districts, and religious institutions to be a party to an application for certain proposed developments; prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from restricting the height of certain proposed developments in a certain manner or requiring setbacks or step-backs that are more restrictive than certain zoning regulations as authorized by a specified date; revising the definitions of the terms "commercial use" and "industrial use"; defining the terms "multifamily development" and "mixed-use residential development"; providing exceptions; amending s. 163.31771, F.S.; defining the term "primary dwelling unit"; requiring, rather than authorizing, local governments to adopt certain ordinances relating to accessory dwelling units by a specified date; requiring such ordinances to apply prospectively; prohibiting such ordinances from including certain requirements; providing an exception to certain local governments; removing the requirement that a building permit application include a specified affidavit; prohibiting owners of certain property from being denied a homestead exemption; requiring certain accessory dwelling units to be assessed and taxed separately from the homestead property; authorizing applicants for certain proposed developments to notify, by a specified date, the county or municipality, as applicable, on the applicant's intent to proceed under certain provisions of law; requiring counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit revised applications, written requests, or notices of intent to account for changes made by the act; amending s. 196.1978, F.S.; defining the term "multifamily project"; removing certain provisions relating to taxing authorities; amending s. 333.03, F.S.; providing that specified provisions of law relating to proposed developments do not apply to airport zoning regulations unless the governing body of the airport approves the application; amending s. 420.615, F.S.; authorizing local governments to provide certain incentives to landowners who donate property to provide affordable housing for military families; amending s. 760.22, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "person"; amending s. 760.26, F.S.; prohibiting certain discriminatory practices based on financing of a development, or a proposed development, for affordable housing; amending s. 760.35, F.S.; waiving the state's sovereign immunity for certain causes of action; providing applicability; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to evaluate certain methods to stimulate certain construction and the potential of tiny homes for a specified purpose; requiring the office to consult with certain entities; requiring the office to submit a report to the Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 1548** and read the second time by title.

Senator Calatayud moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (668106) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (a), (d), (n), and (o) of subsection (7) of section 125.01055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

125.01055 Affordable housing.—

(7)(a)*1.* A county must authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential as allowable uses in any area zoned for commercial, industrial, or mixed use, ~~and~~ in portions of any flexibly zoned area such as a planned unit development permitted for commercial, industrial, or mixed use, *and on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district,* if at least 40 percent of the residential units in a proposed multifamily development are rental units that, for a period of at least 30 years, are affordable as defined in s. 420.0004. Notwithstanding any other law, local ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a county may not require a proposed multifamily development to obtain a zoning or land use change, special exception, conditional use approval, variance, transfer of density or development units, amendment to a development of regional impact, or comprehensive plan amendment for the building height, zoning, and densities authorized under this subsection. For mixed-use residential projects, at least 65 percent of the total square footage must be used for residential purposes. The county may not require that more than 10 percent of the total square footage of such mixed-use residential projects be used for nonresidential purposes. *A proposed development on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district must be within the geographic boundaries of the respective county, municipality, or school district, and the respective county, municipality, or school district must be a party to the application for the proposed development.*

2. A multifamily or mixed-use residential development proposed under this section may consist of an assemblage of parcels under common ownership or control separated by no more than 15 feet of land and limited to public pedestrian access. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2028.

(d)1. A county may not restrict the height of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within 1 mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. *A county may not restrict height below the height authorized under this paragraph through other dimensional means, such as height determined by setbacks or stepbacks, or require setbacks or stepbacks that are more restrictive than the minimum applicable to the proposed development.* For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed height" does not include the height of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the height of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for height provided in the county's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

2. If the proposed development is adjacent to, on two or more sides, a parcel zoned for single-family residential use which is within a single-family residential development with at least 25 contiguous single-family homes, the county may restrict the height of the proposed development to 150 percent of the tallest building on any property adjacent to the proposed development, the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for the property provided in the county's land development regulations, or three stories, whichever is higher, not to exceed 10 stories. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "adjacent to" means those properties sharing more than one point of a property line, but does not include properties separated by a public road.

3. If the proposed development is on a parcel with a contributing structure or building within a historic district which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places before January 1, 2000, or is on a parcel with a structure or building individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the county may restrict the height of the proposed development to the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within three-fourths of a mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. The term "highest currently allowed" in this paragraph includes the maximum height allowed for any building in a zoning district irrespective of any conditions.

(n) As used in this subsection, the term:

1. "Commercial use" means activities associated with the sale, rental, or distribution of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as retail sales; wholesale sales; rentals of equipment, goods, or products; offices; restaurants; public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(a); food service vendors; sports arenas; theaters; tourist attractions; and other for-profit business activities. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered commercial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or

title. The term does not include home-based businesses or cottage food operations undertaken on residential property, public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(c), or uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not commercial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not commercial use.*

2. "Industrial use" means activities associated with the manufacture, assembly, processing, or storage of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as automobile manufacturing or repair, boat manufacturing or repair, junk yards, meat packing facilities, citrus processing and packing facilities, produce processing and packing facilities, electrical generating plants, water treatment plants, sewage treatment plants, and solid waste disposal sites. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered industrial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or title. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not industrial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not industrial use.*

3. "Mixed use" means any use that combines multiple types of approved land uses from at least two of the residential use, commercial use, and industrial use categories. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not mixed use, irrespective of how they are operated.

4. "Planned unit development" has the same meaning as provided in s. 163.3202(5)(b).

(o) This subsection does not apply to:

1. Airport-impacted areas as provided in s. 333.03.

2. Property defined as recreational and commercial working waterfront in s. 342.201(2)(b) in any area zoned as industrial.

3. The Wekiva Study Area, as described in s. 369.316.

4. The Everglades Protection Area, as defined in s. 373.4592(2).

5. Areas subject to land development regulations, as defined in s. 163.3164, which are in existence before July 1, 2026, and are intended to retain the open character of land, including, but not limited to, open space districts, open space recreation districts, open use estate districts, open use rural districts, and park and open space districts.

6. Any area of critical state concern, as designated in ss. 380.055, 380.0551, 380.0552, 380.0553, and 380.0555.

7. Any portion of a property encumbered by a recorded conservation easement, as defined in s. 704.06(1).

Section 2. Paragraphs (a), (d), (n), and (o) of subsection (7) of section 166.04151, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

166.04151 Affordable housing.—

(7)(a)*1.* A municipality must authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential as allowable uses in any area zoned for commercial, industrial, or mixed use, ~~and~~ in portions of any flexibly zoned area such as a planned unit development permitted for commercial, industrial, or mixed use, *and on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district,* if at least 40 percent of the residential units in a proposed multifamily development are rental units that, for a period of at least 30 years, are affordable as defined in s. 420.0004. Notwithstanding any other law, local ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a municipality may not require a proposed multifamily development to obtain a zoning or land use change, special exception, conditional use approval, variance, transfer of density or development units, amendment to a development of regional impact, amendment to a municipal charter, or comprehensive plan amendment for the building height, zoning, and densities authorized under this subsection. For mixed-use residential projects, at least 65 percent of the total square footage must be used for residential purposes. The municipality may not require that more than 10 percent of the total square footage of such mixed-use residential projects be used for nonresidential purposes. *A proposed development on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district must be within the geographic boundaries of the respective county, municipality, or school district, and the respective county, municipality, or school district must be a party to the application for the proposed development.*

2. A multifamily or mixed-use residential development proposed under this section may consist of an assemblage of parcels under common ownership or control separated by no more than 15 feet of land and limited to public pedestrian access. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2028.

(d)1. A municipality may not restrict the height of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within 1 mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. *A municipality may not restrict height below the height authorized under this paragraph through other dimensional means, such as height determined by setbacks or stepbacks, or require setbacks or stepbacks that are more restrictive than the minimum applicable to the proposed development.* For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed height" does not include the height of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the height of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for height provided in the municipality's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

2. If the proposed development is adjacent to, on two or more sides, a parcel zoned for single-family residential use that is within a single-family residential development with at least 25 contiguous single-family homes, the municipality may restrict the height of the proposed development to 150 percent of the tallest building on any property adjacent to the proposed development, the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for the property provided in the municipality's land development regulations, or three stories, whichever is higher, not to exceed 10 stories. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "adjacent to" means those properties sharing more than one point of a property line, but does not include properties separated by a public road or body of water, including manmade lakes or ponds. For a proposed development located within a municipality within an area of critical state concern as designated by s. 380.0552 or chapter 28-36, Florida Administrative Code, the term "story" includes only the habitable space above the base flood elevation as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the most current Flood Insurance Rate Map. A story may not exceed 10 feet in height measured from finished floor to finished floor, including space for mechanical equipment. The highest story may not exceed 10 feet from finished floor to the top plate.

3. If the proposed development is on a parcel with a contributing structure or building within a historic district which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places before January 1, 2000, or is on a parcel with a structure or building individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the municipality may restrict the height of the proposed development to the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within three-fourths of a mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. The term "highest currently allowed" in this paragraph includes the maximum height allowed for any building in a zoning district irrespective of any conditions.

(n) As used in this subsection, the term:

1. "Commercial use" means activities associated with the sale, rental, or distribution of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as retail sales; wholesale sales; rentals of equipment, goods, or products; offices; restaurants; public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(a); food service vendors; sports arenas; theaters; tourist attractions; and other for-profit business activities. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered commercial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or title. The term does not include home-based businesses or cottage food operations undertaken on residential property, public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(c), or uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not commercial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not commercial use.*

2. "Industrial use" means activities associated with the manufacture, assembly, processing, or storage of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as automobile manufacturing or repair, boat manufacturing or repair, junk yards, meat packing facilities, citrus processing and packing facilities, produce processing and packing facilities, electrical generating plants, water treatment plants, sewage treatment plants, and solid waste disposal sites. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered industrial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or title. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not industrial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not industrial use.*

3. "Mixed use" means any use that combines multiple types of approved land uses from at least two of the residential use, commercial use, and industrial use categories. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not mixed use, irrespective of how they are operated.

4. "Planned unit development" has the same meaning as provided in s. 163.3202(5)(b).

(o) This subsection does not apply to:

1. Airport-impacted areas as provided in s. 333.03.

2. Property defined as recreational and commercial working waterfront in s. 342.201(2)(b) in any area zoned as industrial.

3. The Wekiva Study Area, as described in s. 369.316.

4. The Everglades Protection Area, as defined in s. 373.4592(2).

5. Areas subject to land development regulations, as defined in s. 163.3164, which are in existence before July 1, 2026, and are intended to retain the open character of land, including, but not limited to, open space districts, open space recreation districts, open use estate districts, open use rural districts, and park and open space districts.

6. Any area of critical state concern, as designated in ss. 380.055, 380.0551, 380.0552, 380.0553, and 380.0555.

7. Any portion of a property encumbered by a recorded conservation easement, as defined in s. 704.06(1).

Section 3. *The amendments made by this act to ss. 125.01055(7)(n) and 166.04151(7)(n), Florida Statutes, are intended to be remedial and clarifying in nature and apply retroactively to January 1, 2024.*

Section 4. *An applicant for a proposed development authorized under s. 125.01055(7), Florida Statutes, or s. 166.04151(7), Florida Statutes, who submitted an application, a written request, or a notice of intent to use such provisions to the county or municipality and which application, written request, or notice of intent has been received by the county or municipality, as applicable, before July 1, 2026, may notify the county or municipality by July 1, 2026, of its intent to proceed under the provisions of s. 125.01055(7), Florida Statutes, or s. 166.04151(7), Florida Statutes, as they existed at the time of submittal. A county or municipality, as applicable, shall allow an applicant who submitted such an application, written request, or notice of intent before July 1, 2026, the opportunity to submit a revised application, written request, or notice of intent to account for the changes made by this act.*

Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 333.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

333.03 Requirement to adopt airport zoning regulations.—

(5) Sections 125.01055(7) and 166.04151(7) do not apply to any of the following*, unless the respective application is approved by the governing body of the airport*:

(a) A proposed development near a runway within one-quarter of a mile laterally from the runway edge and within an area that is the width of one-quarter of a mile extending at right angles from the end of the runway for a distance of 10,000 feet of any existing airport runway or planned airport runway identified in the local government's airport master plan.

(b) A proposed development within any airport noise zone identified in the federal land use compatibility table or in a land-use zoning or airport noise regulation adopted by the local government.

(c) A proposed development that exceeds maximum height restrictions identified in the political subdivision's airport zoning regulation adopted pursuant to this section.

Section 6. Subsection (8) of section 760.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

760.22 Definitions.—As used in ss. 760.20-760.37, the term:

(8) "Person" includes one or more individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, labor organizations, legal representatives, mutual companies, joint-stock companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, ~~and~~ fiduciaries*, agencies, governmental entities, and other legal or commercial entities*.

Section 7. Section 760.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

760.26 Prohibited discrimination in land use decisions and in permitting of development.—It is unlawful to discriminate in land use decisions or in the permitting of development based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, familial status, *or* religion, or, except as otherwise provided by law, *based on* the source of financing of a development or proposed development*, including, but not limited to, financing of a development or on a proposed development for housing that is affordable as defined in s. 420.0004*.

Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 760.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

760.35 Civil actions and relief; administrative procedures.—

(4) If the court finds that a *person has engaged in a* discriminatory housing practice ~~has occurred~~, it *must* ~~shall~~ issue an order prohibiting the practice and providing affirmative relief from the effects of the practice, including injunctive and other equitable relief, actual and punitive damages, and reasonable attorney fees and costs. *In accordance with s. 13, Art. X of the State Constitution, the state, for itself and its agencies or political subdivisions, waives sovereign immunity for*

a cause of action based upon the application of this section. Such waiver is limited only to actions brought under this section.

Section 9. Subsections (2) through (5) of section 163.31771, Florida Statutes, are amended, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

163.31771 Accessory dwelling units.—

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Accessory dwelling unit" means an ancillary or secondary living unit, that has a separate kitchen, bathroom, and sleeping area, existing either within the same structure, or on the same lot, as the primary dwelling unit.

(b) "Affordable rental" means that monthly rent and utilities do not exceed 30 percent of that amount which represents the percentage of the median adjusted gross annual income for extremely-low-income, very-low-income, low-income, or moderate-income persons.

(d)~~(c)~~ "Local government" means a county or municipality.

(e)~~(d)~~ "Low-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. 420.0004(11).

(f)~~(e)~~ "Moderate-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. 420.0004(12).

(g) "Primary dwelling unit" means an existing or proposed single-family dwelling on the property where a proposed accessory dwelling unit would be located.

(h)~~(f)~~ "Very-low-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. 420.0004(17).

(c)~~(g)~~ "Extremely-low-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. 420.0004(9).

(3) *By December 1, 2026,* a local government *shall* ~~may~~ adopt an ordinance to allow accessory dwelling units *to be approved without requiring a public hearing; a variance, conditional use permit, special permit, or special exception; or other discretionary action, other than a determination that a site plan conforms with applicable zoning regulations,* in any area zoned for single-family residential use. *Such ordinance must apply prospectively to accessory dwelling units approved after the date the ordinance is adopted. Such ordinance may regulate the permitting, construction, and use of an accessory dwelling unit but may not do any of the following:*

(a) Prohibit the renting or leasing of an accessory dwelling unit, except to prohibit the renting or leasing of an accessory dwelling unit approved after the effective date of the ordinance for a term of less than 1 month, notwithstanding s. 509.032(7)(b).

(b) Require that the owner of a parcel on which an accessory dwelling unit is constructed reside in the primary dwelling unit.

(c) Increase parking requirements on any parcel that can accommodate an additional motor vehicle on a driveway without impeding access to the primary dwelling unit.

(d) Require replacement parking if a garage, carport, or covered parking structure is converted to create an accessory dwelling unit.

(e) Impose discretionary review or hearing standards, such as requiring a conditional use approval or special exception to construct an accessory dwelling unit, or other review standards that do not apply generally to other housing in the same district or zone.

A local government that is required by state law to limit the number of new dwelling units within the local government's jurisdiction is not required to adopt an ordinance in accordance with this subsection, but may adopt an ordinance to allow accessory dwelling units in any area zoned for single-family residential use.

(4) ~~An application for a building permit to construct an accessory dwelling unit must include an affidavit from the applicant which attests that the unit will be rented at an affordable rate to an extremely low-income, very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income person or persons.~~

~~(5)~~ Each accessory dwelling unit allowed by an ordinance adopted under this section *which provides affordable rental housing* shall apply toward satisfying the affordable housing component of the housing element in the local government's comprehensive plan under s. 163.3177(6)(f).

(5) The owner of a property with an accessory dwelling unit may not be denied a homestead exemption for those portions of property on which the owner maintains a permanent residence solely on the basis of the property containing an accessory dwelling unit that is or may be rented to another person. However, if the accessory dwelling unit is rented to another person, the accessory dwelling unit must be assessed separately from the homestead property and taxed according to its use.

Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 420.615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.615 Affordable housing land donation density bonus incentives.—

(1) A local government may provide density bonus incentives pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~ this section to any landowner who voluntarily donates fee simple interest in real property to the local government for the purpose of assisting the local government in providing affordable housing*, including housing that is affordable for military families receiving the basic allowance for housing*. Donated real property must be determined by the local government to be appropriate for use as affordable housing and must be subject to deed restrictions to ensure that the property will be used for affordable housing.

Section 11. *The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall evaluate the efficacy of using mezzanine finance, or second-position short-term debt, to stimulate the construction of owner-occupied housing that is affordable as defined in s. 420.0004(3), Florida Statutes, in this state. OPPAGA shall also evaluate the potential of tiny homes in meeting the need for affordable housing in this state. OPPAGA shall consult with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation and the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies at the University of Florida in conducting its evaluation. By December 31, 2027, OPPAGA shall submit a report of its findings to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Such report must include recommendations for the structuring of a model mezzanine finance program.*

Section 12. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to affordable housing; amending ss. 125.01055 and 166.04151, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to authorize certain residential use on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district under certain circumstances; providing requirements for certain proposed developments; specifying that certain proposed developments may consist of an assemblage of certain parcels; providing for the expiration of certain provisions; prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from restricting the height of certain proposed developments through other dimensional means and from requiring certain setbacks or stepbacks; revising the definitions of the terms "commercial use" and "industrial use"; revising applicability; providing retroactive applicability; authorizing applicants for certain proposed developments to notify the county or municipality, as applicable, by a specified date of intent to proceed under certain provisions; requiring counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit revised applications, written requests, and notices of intent to account for changes made by the act; amending s. 333.03, F.S.; providing an exception to the inapplicability of certain provisions; amending s. 760.22, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "person"; amending s. 760.26, F.S.; revising a prohibition on discriminatory practices in land use decisions and in permitting of development to include housing that is affordable; amending s. 760.35, F.S.; waiving the

state's sovereign immunity for certain causes of action based upon housing discrimination; providing applicability; amending s. 163.31771, F.S.; defining the term "primary dwelling unit"; requiring local governments to adopt, by a specified date, an ordinance to allow accessory dwelling units to be approved in certain areas; requiring that such ordinances apply prospectively; providing that such ordinances may regulate specified actions; prohibiting the inclusion of certain requirements or prohibitions in such ordinances; providing an exception to the requirement that local governments adopt such ordinances; deleting a requirement that an application for a building permit to construct an accessory dwelling unit include a certain affidavit; revising the accessory dwelling units that apply toward satisfying a certain component of a local government's comprehensive plan; prohibiting the denial of a homestead exemption for certain portions of property on a specified basis; requiring that a rented accessory dwelling unit be assessed separately from the homestead property and taxed according to its use; amending s. 420.615, F.S.; authorizing a local government to provide a density bonus incentive to landowners who make certain real property donations to assist in the provision of affordable housing for military families; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to evaluate the efficacy of using mezzanine finance and the potential of tiny homes for specified purposes; requiring the office to consult with certain entities; requiring the office to submit a certain report to the Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 1389**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

BILLS ON THIRD READING

On motion by Senator Martin, by unanimous consent—

CS for CS for SB 1296—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Public Employees Relations Commission; amending s. 110.227, F.S.; conforming final order requirements to ch. 120, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring exceptions to a recommended order to be filed within a specified timeframe; amending s. 112.0455, F.S.; revising the timeframe in which an appeal hearing must be conducted; conforming final order requirements to ch. 120, F.S.; amending s. 120.80, F.S.; providing applicability; amending s. 295.14, F.S.; conforming final order requirements to ch. 120, F.S.; reordering and amending s. 447.203, F.S.; revising and defining terms; amending s. 447.205, F.S.; revising the seal of the Public Employees Relations Commission; amending s. 447.207, F.S.; authorizing subpoenas to be served by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal service; revising requirements for proof of service; deleting the requirement that the commission adopt rules for the qualifications of persons who may serve as mediators; authorizing the commission, under certain circumstances, to waive the application of part II of ch. 447, F.S., rather than only specified provisions; amending s. 447.301, F.S.; revising requirements for an employee organization membership authorization form; requiring an employee organization, within a specified timeframe, to revoke the membership of and cease the collection of membership dues from a public employee; providing that a membership authorization form is valid if it meets certain requirements; revising applicability; amending s. 447.303, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 447.305, F.S.; revising application requirements for employee organization registration and renewal of registration; requiring an employee organization to provide an application for renewal of registration to certain persons within a specified timeframe; requiring a bargaining agent to provide a remedy for incomplete application information to the commission within a specified timeframe; requiring the commission to dismiss an application for renewal of registration under certain circumstances; requiring the commission to notify the bargaining agent when such application information is complete; requiring the bargaining agent to petition for recertification within a specified timeframe thereafter; requiring the commission or one of its designated agents to conduct an investigation if a challenge to an application for renewal of registration is filed; authorizing a designated agent of the commission to conduct an investigation to confirm validity of submitted information; exempting certain employee organizations from a specified requirement; requiring a registration fee for applications for registration and renewal of registration; requiring that certain employee organization accounts be open for inspection by any member of the organization or by the commission at a reasonable time and place; providing for the revocation of an employee organization's certification under certain circumstances; providing that decisions issued by the commission in accordance with certain provisions are final agency actions; amending s. 447.307, F.S.; revising requirements for the certification and recertification of an employee organization; requiring the commission to conduct elections by specified methods; specifying the criteria by which the commission determines the method and timing of elections; requiring the commission to conduct election by mail if requested by one of the parties; providing the timeframe for when an election by mail must be conducted; requiring the commission to provide notice of such election to certain parties within a specified timeframe; requiring an election conducted by mail ballot to include return envelopes with prepaid postage affixed, subject to appropriation; creating s. 447.3076, F.S.; providing that a petition to clarify the composition of a bargaining unit may be filed with the commission under certain circumstances; requiring that a copy of the petition be served on certain persons; requiring the public employer to provide a copy of the petition to certain affected employees within a specified timeframe; requiring that a petition be dismissed under certain circumstances; amending s. 447.308, F.S.; revising requirements for the decertification of an employee organization; requiring an election conducted by mail ballot to include return envelopes with prepaid postage affixed, subject to appropriation; amending s. 447.309, F.S.; requiring that certain agreements be returned to the bargaining agent, rather than the employee organization; amending s. 447.401, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 447.403, F.S.; specifying requirements for when an impasse occurs; requiring a hearing within a specified timeframe; authorizing the recommended decision of a special magistrate from an impasse hearing to be transmitted by any method of service agreed to by the parties which establishes proof of delivery; amending s. 447.405, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 447.4095, F.S.; providing that implementation of appropriations from the Legislature which are specifically directed to be disbursed as salaries for employees of local governments are considered a financial urgency; requiring the chief executive officer or his or her representative to meet with the bargaining agent or its representative within a specified timeframe if the use of such funds requires modification of an agreement; providing meeting and dispute requirements; prohibiting the filing of unfair labor charges during specified time periods; providing applicability; amending s. 447.501, F.S.; requiring a public employer to provide to all registered employee organizations or petitioning employees equal access to the employer's facilities and communication systems for a specified time period; amending s. 447.503, F.S.; authorizing certain public employers, public employees, and employee organizations, or combinations thereof, to file certain charges with the commission; amending s. 447.507, F.S.; increasing fines for certain violations; amending s. 447.509, F.S.; prohibiting public employers, their agents or representatives, and any persons acting on their behalf from taking certain actions; authorizing certain actions by public employees under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending ss. 110.114, 110.205, 112.3187, 121.031, 447.02, 447.609, and 1011.60,

F.S.; conforming cross-references and provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

—as amended March 5, was taken up out of order and read the third time by title.

On motion by Senator Martin, **CS for CS for SB 1296**, as amended, was passed and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—20

Mr. President	Gaetz	McClain
Boyd	Grall	Passidomo
Bradley	Harrell	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Martin	Wright
Burton	Massullo	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Mayfield	

Nays—14

Arrington	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Hooper	Rouson
Bernard	Jones	Simon
Bracy Davis	Osgood	Smith
Calatayud	Pizzo	

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the rules were waived and all bills temporarily postponed on the Special Order Calendar this day were retained on the Special Order Calendar with the exception of **CS for CS for CS for SB 260**.

THE PRESIDENT PRESIDING

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the rules were waived and a deadline of one hour after adjournment was set for filing amendments to Bills on Third Reading to be considered Monday, March 9, 2026.

BILLS ON SPECIAL ORDERS

Pursuant to Rule 4.17(1), the Rules Chair, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader submit the following bills to be placed on the Special Order Calendar for Friday, March 6, 2026: CS for SB 7048, SB 7044, CS for CS for SB 1760, CS for CS for SB 1758, SB 1708, CS for SB 1694, CS for SB 1686, CS for SB 1684, SB 1656, CS for SB 1612, CS for SB 1588, CS for CS for SB 1568, CS for CS for CS for SB 1566, SB 1548, SB 1536, CS for SB 1504, CS for CS for SB 1756, CS for SB 1480, CS for CS for CS for SB 1452, SB 1340, CS for CS for SB 1260, CS for CS for SB 1224, SB 1112, CS for SB 1110, CS for CS for SB 1080, CS for CS for SB 1036, CS for CS for CS for SB 902, CS for SB 646, SB 642, SB 624, CS for CS for CS for SB 260, CS for CS for SB 214, CS for CS for SB 182, CS for CS for SB 96, CS for SB 86, CS for SB 1734, CS for CS for SB 1580.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Passidomo, Rules Chair
Jim Boyd, Majority Leader
Lori Berman, Minority Leader

REFERENCE CHANGES PURSUANT TO RULE 4.7(2)

By the Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice; and Senators Avila and Wright—

CS for SB 500—A bill to be entitled An act relating to security for statewide constitutional office candidates; creating s. 99.122, F.S.; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to provide certain candidates with a protective security detail for a specified time period; providing an effective date.

—was placed on the Calendar.

COMMUNICATION

The Honorable Tracy C. Cantella March 9, 2026
Secretary
The Florida Senate
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Honorable Secretary Cantella,

Thank you for excusing me from Session on March 6, 2026.

For the record, if I had been present to vote, I would have voted in the following manner:

- HB 7031 Taxation - Yes
- CS/CS/HB 1503 Computer Science and Education Certificate - Yes
- CS/HB 1445 Pub. Rec./Parkinson's Disease Registry - Yes
- CS/CS/CS/HB 1443 Parkinson's Disease Registry - Yes
- CS/HB 249 Designation of Official State Flagship - Yes
- CS/HB 967 Electronic Payments Made to Units of Local Governments - Yes
- CS/CS/HB 1311 Legal Tender - Yes
- CS/CS/HB 1087 Pub. Rec./Office of Financial Regulation - Yes
- CS/CS/SB 1568 Use of Currency by the Department of Financial Services - Yes
- CS/CS/HB 1329 Local Government Spending - Yes
- SB 1536 Digital Voyeurism - Yes
- CS/HB 1343 Insurance Customer Representative Licensing Qualifications - Yes
- CS/HB 809 Temporary Certificates for Practice in Areas of Critical Need - Yes
- SB 1340 Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring - Yes
- CS/HB 1293: Fraudulent Entry of Residential Dwellings - Yes
- SB 1112 Labor Pool Act - Yes
- CS/SB 1110 Coverage for Orthotics and Prosthetics Services - Yes

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Martin
Senate District 33

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Journal of March 5 was corrected and approved.

CO-INTRODUCERS

Senator Truenow—CS for SB 1734

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate adjourned at 5:13 p.m. for the purpose of holding committee meetings and conducting other Senate business to reconvene at 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 9 or upon call of the President.

Daily Numeric Index for
March 6, 2026

BA — Bill Action
BF — Bill Failed
BP — Bill Passed
CO — Co-Introducers
CR — Committee Report
CS — Committee Substitute, First Reading
FR — First Reading
MO — Motion
RC — Reference Change
SM — Special Master Reports
SO — Bills on Special Orders