

WEEKLY TALLAHASSEE UPDATE



The 60-day 2024 Florida Legislative Session is currently happening in Tallahassee where our elected officials are hearing bills, meeting with constituents, and negotiating on the state budget. Having already completed two full weeks of this year's legislative session, agendas and priorities are taking shape as the picture begins to look more clear as what the themes of this year's session will be.

Identified as a top priority of the Florida Chamber, [SB 1492 Employment Regulations](#) sponsored by Senator Trumbull, will have its first hearing this week in the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee. The broad goal of this legislation is to provide support and regulatory certainty for local businesses. I outlined HB 433 sponsored by Representative Esposito, the House companion of this Senate bill, in last week's legislative update. As mentioned in the last update, this legislation aims to eliminate prevailing wages and preempt local heat safety regulations by creating consistency with regulations across the State of Florida.

[SB 532 Securities](#) sponsored by Senator Brodeur, also known as "The Invest Local Act" passed through the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee by a 10 - 0 vote, and companion bill HB 311 Securities sponsored by Representative Barnaby passed 17 - 0 through the House Insurance and Banking Subcommittee. The overall goal of these bills is to make it "easier for Florida based companies to raise investment capital by providing exemptions from certain regulations around capital raises while providing enhanced investor protections."

[HB 665 Expedited Approval of Residential Building Permits](#) sponsored by Representative McClain passed with an 11 - 2 vote through the Florida House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee. This bill aims to encourage the development of more housing units by expediting the approval process for building permits. The bill's Senate companion, SB 812 sponsored by Senator Ingolia passed through its first committee with an 8 - 0 vote. The legislation aims to expedite the approval of residential building permits by requiring certain governing bodies to create a program to expedite the process for issuing residential building permits before a final plat is recorded, along with conforming to the Florida Building Code.

The Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee voted unanimously to advance [SB 1126 Regulation of Auxiliary Containers](#) sponsored by Senator Martin. This bill aims to "strengthen a preemption against local governments regulating the use of plastic bags, food packaging, and other auxiliary containers." This will create regulatory consistency throughout the State of Florida for Florida's food service and retail establishments by preventing a patchwork of different laws from various municipalities and governing bodies. HB 1641 by Representative Yeager has been referred to the Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee agenda but has not yet been heard.

WEEKLY TALLAHASSEE UPDATE



Aiming to discourage tampering with critical infrastructure such as airports, railroads, ports, water systems, wireless communications, natural gas, and electricity, [HB 275 Offenses Involving Critical Infrastructure](#) sponsored by Senator Canady passed through the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee unanimously 16 - 0. This legislation is supported by the Florida Chamber because it aims to “protect critical infrastructure that plays an essential role in daily life, commerce and the movement of goods and services.”

Thank you for your interest in reading this week’s legislative update. If you have any questions or requests, please send those to the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce.

Justin Taylor
Public Policy Chair

Sources:

www.FLchamber.com

www.FLsenate.gov

www.myFloridaHouse.gov