

## WEEKLY TALLAHASSEE UPDATE



As we find ourselves heading into the final week of the 2024 Florida legislative session, here are some key takeaways from week 8:

[HB 433 Employment Regulations](#) sponsored by Representative Esposito passed off the House floor with a vote of 79 - 33. "The bill supports local businesses and creates regulatory certainty by limiting the ability of local governments to mandate harmful labor regulations, preventing a patchwork of different regulatory standards across the state's 67 counties and 411 municipalities, and enhancing Florida's business-friendly environment" according to the Florida Chamber. The Senate companion [SB 1492 Employment Regulations](#) sponsored by Senator Trumbull passed its final committee stop last week and will head to the Senate floor for a vote. The main difference between the two bills is that SB 1492 doesn't include a provision for heat exposure preemption, and it also doesn't include the House's provisions on prevailing wages and the preemption of labor regulations.

The Florida House of Representatives passed [HB 7073 Taxation](#) favorably off the House floor 88 - 17. The Senate companion [SB 7074 Taxation](#) passed its final committee stop unanimously and is heading to the Senate floor for a vote. The House's tax relief package includes a proposal to fully eliminate the Florida business rent tax. The Senate's proposal does include a priority of Governor DeSantis to exempt certain "taxes, fees, and assessments on residential property insurance policyholders with a policy under \$750,000.00 for one year beginning on July 1, 2024." Both the Senate and House tax proposals include four sales tax holidays, which is estimated to have \$287 in consumer savings in the next fiscal year.

[HB 1503 Citizens Property Insurance Corporation](#) sponsored by Representative Esposito passed off the House floor last week 81 - 28. The intent of this legislation is to continue the Florida Legislature's efforts to reduce the "size and exposure of Citizens by making it easier for private insurers to take out policies under certain conditions." Additionally, "the bill moves Citizens closer to its intended role as the state's insurer of last resort, invites greater private competition in the Florida market, and reduces the likelihood of hurricane taxes or assessments on Floridians."

HJR 7075 and [HB 7007 Tangible Personal Property Taxation](#) sponsored by Representative Alvarez passed off the House floor 88 - 23. This legislation proposes a constitutional amendment on the November 2024 ballot to "exempt an additional \$25,000.00 on the assessed value of tangible personal property for the purposes of ad valorem taxes levied on Florida job creators." The increased exemption will "benefit Florida businesses of all sizes... if the business holds more than \$25,000.00 of personal property, which is defined as all goods, property other than real estate and other articles of value the owner possesses." At this time there is no Senate companion bill.

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**[SB 62 Resident Status for Tuition Purposes](#)** sponsored by Senator Osgood passed the Florida Senate unanimously with the House version headed to the House floor for a vote. This bill aims to keep people from losing their in-state status for tuition purposes due to incarceration in a Florida state or federal correctional facility.

**[SB 644 Rural Emergency Hospitals](#)** sponsored by Senator Simon unanimously passed 37 - 0 off the Senate floor last week. The House companion is scheduled to be heard on the House floor this week. This legislation intends to "improve access to healthcare in rural areas by allowing hospitals to apply for new destinations that will help prevent hospital closures in rural communities."

Thank you for reading this week's update. With the 2024 Florida legislative session scheduled to sine die this Friday, next week will be the final Tallahassee update for this 2024 regular session.

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**Sources:**

[www.flchamber.com](http://www.flchamber.com)

[www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

[www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)