

March 21st, 2023



# Delegation Digest

*2023 Legislative Session | Weeks 2-3*



Weeks two and three of legislative session are in the books. Legislators continued committee meetings and were on the floor of their respective chambers for session sittings, passing bills from both chambers and sending some bills to the Governor.

Florida Association of Counties held their annual Legislative Day on March 15th, with some members of the Palm Beach County Commission travelling to Tallahassee once again to advocate the county's position with Delegation and Other members, emphasizing those issues that are on the counties state legislative agenda with those that they met.

Florida Libraries day was held at the Capitol on Wednesday, March 22nd. Doug Crane, Director of Palm Beach Libraries, and others were here to advocate for library funding and programs.

March 21st, 2023

# Member Bills Heard This Week

## **Representative David Silvers, District 89:**

HB 117 - Genetic Counselors Using Telehealth: Representative Silvers passed HB 117 out of Health and Human Services Committee unanimously. This was the bills last stop before being heard before the full house. The Senate Companion to this bill SB 0218-Genetic Counselors Using Telehealth by Senator Harrell also passed out of the Rules Committee unanimously which also makes it moving to the floor of the Senate for full passage.

HB 829 - Operation and Administration of the Baker Act: Representative Silvers passed HB 829 out of the Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee and Health and Human Services Committee unanimously. It is now ready to be heard before the full house for final passage.

HB 0537 - Custody and Supervision of Specified Offenders: Representative Silvers also passed HB 0537-Custody and Supervision of Specified Offenders out of the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee, it is now in Judiciary.



## **Representative Rick Roth, District 94:**

HB 399 - Food Recovery: Representative Roth passed HB 399 out of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee unanimously. It now moves on to the Infrastructure Strategies Committee.

March 21st, 2023

# Member Bills Heard This Week

## **Representative Mike Caruso, District 87:**

HB 1465 - Firearm and Destructive Device Offenses: Representative Caruso passed HB 1465 unanimously out of the Criminal Justice Subcommittee, it now moves to the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee.

HB 677-Interchange Fees on Taxes: Representative Caruso passed HB 0677 out of the Insurance & Banking Subcommittee, it now moves on to the Commerce Committee.

HB 269 - Public Nuisances: Representative Caruso passed HB 0269-Public Nuisances out of the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee moving it on to the Judiciary Committee.

HB 1087 - Child Support: Representative Caruso passed HB 1087 - Child Support unanimously out of the Appropriations Committee it is now in Health & Human Services Committee.



## **Senator Lori Berman, District 26:**

SB 144-Lactation Spaces (in Courthouses): Senator Berman passed SB 144 unanimously off the floor of the Senate, it is now in House messages awaiting its companion bill to come to the floor.

SB 130-Domestic Violence: Senator Berman passed SB 130 out of the Rules Committee unanimously this was the bills last stop before being heard on the floor before the full Senate.

# Member Bills Heard This Week

## **Senator Gayle Harrell, District 31:**

**SB 614 - Mammography Reports:** Senator Harrell passed SB 614 unanimously out of the Rules Committee, moving it to the floor of the Senate for full passage.

**SB 230 - Health Care Practitioner Titles and Designations:** Senator Harrell also passed SB 230 off the floor of the Senate unanimously, and it is now in House messages awaiting its companion bill to come to the floor.

## **Senator Tina Polsky, District 30:**

**SB 184 - Homestead Exemption for First Responders:** Senator Polsky passed SB 184 out of the Community Affairs committee unanimously. It now moves on to the Finance and Tax Committee.

**SB 734 - Saltwater Intrusion Vulnerability Assessments:** Senator Polsky also passed SB 734 unanimously out of the Environment and Natural Resources, it is now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government.



## **Senator Bobby Powell, Jr., District 24:**

**SB 286 - Legal Instruments:** Senator Powell passed SB 286 off the floor of the Senate unanimously, and it is now in House messages awaiting its companion bill to come to the floor.

**SB 848 - People of Iran:** Senator Powell passed SB 848 out of the Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security unanimously. It now moves on to the Rules Committee.

**SB 678 - Disposal of Property:** Senator Powell passed SB 678 out of the Community Affairs Committee unanimously, it now moves on to the Transportation Committee.

**SB 430 - Abandoned and Historic Cemeteries:** Senator Powell passed SB 678 out of Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee unanimously it is now moving on to the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development.

# Local Bills

Representative Katherine Waldron passed her local bill, **HB 943 - ACME Improvement District and Pine Tree Water Control District** unanimously out of its first committee stop of Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee. It is now in State Affairs Committee which will be its last committee stop before the floor.

Representative John Snyder passed his local bill, **HB 945 - Jupiter Inlet District** out of its first committee stop of Local Administration, Federal Affairs and is now in Ways & Means Committee.

Representative Gossett-Seidman passed her local bill, **HB 1049 - Boca Raton Airport Authority** out of its first committee stop of Local Administration, Federal Affairs and is now in the State Affairs Committee.



Representative Rick Roth's **HB 1113 - Palm Beach County**, which would allow for a referendum to create the Village of Loxahatchee, is still waiting to be heard in its first committee stop of Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee.

# Budget

In week two, the appropriations subcommittees released their budget spreadsheets. Many members received numerous items in their respective chambers, and these spread sheets were followed by the full budgets from both the senate and the house. So far, the delegation house members have received \$66,315,268 while the Senate members have received \$75,428,205.

This disparity can be chalked up to some senators representing more than one county. We still have amendments in play and then budget conference will be held to work out the differences in the two budgets.

**House:** \$112,968,304,311 | **Senate:** \$113,665,523,805





# Member Spotlights



**Representative John Snyder**  
District 86

**John Snyder** is a member of the Florida House of Representatives, elected in 2020 to represent the 86th district, which covers portions of Palm Beach County and Martin County. Born and raised in Martin County, John attended Indiana Wesleyan University, where he graduated with Bachelor's in Marketing.

John honorably served in the U.S. Marine Corps, and was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In 2015, John founded ESI Works, a recruiting and payroll company that specializes in healthcare and education staffing. John is the current Deputy Majority Leader and serves on six committees in the Florida House including the Civil Justice Subcommittee (Vice Chair), the Judiciary Committee, the Health & Human Services Committee, the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee, and the Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee.

John currently resides in Stuart with his wife Brittany, and their two daughters.

This edition of the Delegation Digest includes weeks 2 and 3, so let's highlight another member...

**Gayle Harrell** represents Florida Senate District 31, which includes Martin and parts of St. Lucie Counties and Palm Beach County. She was elected to the Florida Senate in November 2018 after serving two terms in the Florida House of Representatives from 2000-2008 and 2010-2018.

Senator Harrell has over 25 years of experience in healthcare. She has worked as a Healthcare Administrator, managing the Ob-Gyn practice of Dr. James E. Harrell, and is the founder of the Breast Imaging Center, a mammography center specializing in preventive care for women. Her experience in healthcare has made her a leader in setting healthcare policy for the State of Florida



**Senator Gayle Harrell**  
District 31  
Vice Chair

March 21st, 2023



# Member Spotlights



Senator Harrell is Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services. Senator Harrell is also a member of the Environment and Natural Resources as Vice Chair, Appropriations, and Appropriations Committee on Education, Education Postsecondary, Health Policy, Judiciary and the Select Committee on Resiliency.

Senator Harrell has won numerous awards for her legislative service. Among her many awards are Legislator of the Year by the Florida Medical Association, the Legislative Leadership Award by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Legislative Award by the Florida Children's Forum, an "A" Ranking by the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Friend of Free Enterprise Award by the Associated Builders and Contractors, the Legislative Achievement Award by Keep Florida Beautiful, and the Distinguished Legislator Award by the Florida Police Benevolent Association.

A resident of Florida's Treasure Coast for over 42 years, Senator Harrell is committed to serving our community having served as president of many civic organizations such as Hibiscus Children's Center, Education Foundation of Martin County, Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee Counties, and HPS - Helping People Succeed. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish and a Master's Degree in Latin American History from the University of Florida where she received the Edith Bristol Tigert award as an Outstanding Female Graduate and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

March 21st, 2023



# Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation



Chair  
Sen. Tina Polsky  
District 30



Vice Chair  
Sen. Gayle Harrell  
District 31



Sen. Bobby Powell, Jr.  
District 24



Sen. Lori Berman  
District 26



Rep. John Snyder  
District 86



Rep. Mike Caruso  
District 87



Rep. Tae Edmonds  
District 88



Rep. David Silvers  
District 89



Rep. Joe Casello  
District 90



Rep. Peggy  
Gossett-Seidman  
District 91



Rep. Kelly Skidmore  
District 92



Rep. Katherine Waldron  
District 93



Rep. Rick Roth  
District 94

301 N. Olive Ave, Suite 701  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
Victoria Nowlan, Executive Director  
T: 561-355-2406 C: 561-818-8833  
VNowlan@PBCGov.org  
PalmBeachDelegation.com

The Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Office is a non-partisan office that serves all thirteen members of the Florida Senate and House of Representatives representing Palm Beach County in Tallahassee. The delegation office is responsible for: scheduling and coordinating all delegation meetings in Palm Beach County and Tallahassee; developing the delegation's legislative program including local bills, appropriation requests, and county and municipal legislative priorities; providing legislative assistance and research to the delegation during the legislative session; and serving as a liaison between the delegation and local governments and community organization.