



July 2025

# SKIDMORE SCOOP

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF HOUSE DISTRICT 92

**Happy 4<sup>th</sup>  
of July**



## Florida Files

### New Laws



Beginning July 1st, several new laws, passed during the 2025 Legislative Session, will take effect. Below are summaries of some notable changes, along with direct links for you to learn more.

**HB1105** Education, is a sweeping education package that introduces major reforms including prohibiting phone and tablet use for students in elementary and middle school from bell to bell and at school functions. High school students may not use phones or tablets in class unless directly requested by a teacher, in a designated area. This legislation also provides for charter school expansion by allowing the conversion of a traditional public school into a charter school with a majority vote of parents, without input from teachers or staff. Municipalities may also apply to convert schools into workforce-focused charter institutions. In addition, charter schools will gain access to local sales surtax revenues and private schools may build facilities without going through rezoning requirements.



## THIS ISSUE...

### Florida Files

- New Laws
- 2025/26 Budget Summary

### Events

## ***New Laws Cont...***

**HB209** State Land Management, puts protections in place to stop developers from building establishments like golf courses, hotels, and pickle ball courts in any of Florida's 175 state parks. The bill won't prohibit all kinds of development, but Florida's state parks will only be used for conservation-based projects that promote



outdoor activities, such as hiking, camping, kayaking, and bird watching. **HB279** False Reporting, increases penalties for those who misuse emergency communication systems by making "swatting" or fake emergency calls for law enforcement to respond. The law makes false reporting that leads to a death a second-degree felony, and false reporting that leads to a serious injury a third-degree felony. Additionally, greater charges will be enforced for repeat offenders, including restitution to be paid to law enforcement and compensation for the victims. **SB700** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, prohibits local governments from adding fluoride to their water systems, making Florida the second state in the country after Utah to implement a statewide ban on the mineral and other additives. **HB913** Condominium and Cooperative



Associations, seeks to improve the safety, transparency, and financial operations of condominium associations by allowing the use of loans to meet reserve funding requirements and delaying certain costly assessments for non-emergency structural work. The law also requires posting of board meeting minutes online and strengthens disclosures for potential buyers. **HB255** Aggravated Animal Cruelty, also known as "Dexter's Law," requires the Department of Law Enforcement to post the names of people who have violated animal cruelty laws online. The bill also enhances criminal penalties for severe cruelty. **SB994** Driver License Education Requirements, makes it mandatory for Florida teens to take a driver's education course to get their learner's permit. The program established will be called Driver Education Traffic Safety (DETS) for people ages 15 to 17 and will begin on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

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## ***New Laws Cont...***

**SB1388** Vessels, known as the “Boater Freedom Act,” prohibits law enforcement from being able to pull over a boat without probable cause or for a suspected violation. The new law requires that the FWC and DMV make a “Florida Freedom Boater” safety inspection decal that boaters will receive once it has been determined that a



vessel that is in alignment with safety equipment carriage and use requirements. Additionally, the bill stops local governments from prohibiting the usage and sale of gas-powered boats. **HB351** Dangerous Excessive Speeding, imposes penalties and jailtime for excessive speeding, which is classified as going 50 mph over the speed limit. A person convicted of dangerous excessive speeding will face imprisonment of up to 30 days and a fine of \$500. A second or subsequent conviction are punishable by up to 90 days in jail and a fine of \$1,000. For more information on these or any bills passed during the 2025 Legislation Session, visit [www.flhouse.gov](http://www.flhouse.gov).

## ***Budget***

Florida’s newly adopted 2025-2026 FY state budget totals \$115 billion and will go into effect July 1st. For more information, visit [www.flhouse.gov](http://www.flhouse.gov).

### **Budget Breakdown**

**Total:** \$115.1 billion

**General Revenue:** \$50.4 billion

**Trust Fund:** \$58 billion

**Education:** \$28 billion

**Health and Human Services:** \$55 billion

**Criminal and Civil Justice:** \$6 billion

**Transportation, Tourism & Economic Development:** \$18 billion

**Emergency Preparedness & Response:** \$500 million

**Housing:** \$408 million

### **Tax Package**

**Total:** \$2.25 billion in recurring revenue reductions

Tax breaks:

- Private Corporations (casinos, airlines, NASCAR)
- Eliminates business rent tax, totaling \$900 million
- Permanent sales tax for school holidays valued at \$350 million

## Events

### Boca Raton



The Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department invites you to attend the 4th of July Celebration at Sunset Cove Amphitheater in Boca Raton. Enjoy a fireworks show and concert featuring Giaco

Pop Rock playing Pop and Rock Top 40 Hits. Other activities include a variety of bounce houses, games, recreational activities, and more. The event is free to attend and food trucks, concessions, and beverages will be available onsite. Lawn chairs and blankets are welcome. The gates open at 5:30PM with performances starting at 7:00PM and fireworks at 9:00PM. For more information, visit

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

### Delray Beach

The City of Delray Beach is excited to be hosting the 4th of July Celebration again for 2025! It's been a family-friendly event for over 50 years and draws over 20,000 people. The event starts at 6:00PM with the flag raising ceremony and the singing of the



National Anthem. The celebration has something for everyone; food trucks and vendors, children's activities and games, non-stop entertainment, live music, and so much more! The spectacular fireworks will start promptly at 9:00PM. The City of Delray Beach 4th of July Celebration will take place on East Atlantic Avenue from the Intracoastal Bridge to A1A. For more information and a schedule of events, visit [www.delraybeachfl.gov](http://www.delraybeachfl.gov).

# Contact Your State Representative

## Committee Assignments

- Ways & Means Committee
- Criminal Justice Subcommittee
- Justice Budget Appropriations Subcommittee
- Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee
- Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee
  - \*Democratic Ranking Member

## District Office

### Delray Beach

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