



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

2025 Regular Session, Week 6 Summary Report

April 11, 2025

Florida Legislature





Legislative Affairs Department
Broward County Public Schools

Florida Legislature
2025 Regular Session, Week 6 Report
April 7 – April 11, 2025

OVERVIEW

The Legislature held its sixth week of session, April 7 – April 11, 2025.

- Summary of legislative actions taken during the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives sessions for the week - page 2
- Summary of the House Committee & Subcommittee hearings- page 5
- Summary of the Senate Committee & Subcommittee hearings- page 8

House Bill 5101 Education

The proposed 50% cut to accelerated course funding would result in a \$33.5 million loss for the District, threatening the recruitment and retention of qualified educators, limiting professional development, and reducing access to essential instructional resources. This cut jeopardizes tuition-free opportunities for thousands of students, including over \$33 million for Cambridge students, \$1 million for IB students, \$1.2 million for Dual Enrollment AA degree earners, and \$8 million for Industry Certification recipients. If enacted, families may be forced to absorb these costs, significantly impacting educational equity and student success.

Senate Bill 140/House Bill 123 Charter Schools/Education

This legislation would significantly expand opportunities for charter schools, particularly job engine charters, including allowing municipalities to apply. It removes school staff from the conversion charter eligibility process, potentially silencing the voices of seasoned educators and weakening informed decision-making. The bill also restricts school districts from charging rental or leasing fees for facilities used by charter schools, resulting in potential revenue loss. Additionally, it limits district control over inventoried property, hindering resource management and financial flexibility.

TRENDING- IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [Should Florida school board members' addresses be secret?](#) (*Tampa Bay Times*)
- [Florida House advances budget bill reducing bonuses for AP course enrollment](#) (TV - Orlando CBS (WKMG))
- [Schools relying on digital surveillance find security still takes a human touch](#) (*Sun-Sentinel*)



Chamber Session Activities

Senate Session Met 4/9/2025 at 10 AM

House Session Met 4/9/2025 at 1:00 PM

Please find below a summary of legislative actions taken during the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives sessions for the week.

Bill Number and Title <i>Click on title to view bill text</i>	Bill Status	Comparable Bill
<u>SB 2510 - Prekindergarten Through Grade 12 Education</u>	Passed Senate Session	Various
The bill expands funding eligibility for virtual instruction programs to include summer enrollments and revises the definition of a full-time equivalent student accordingly. It also updates CAPE Digital Tool and Industry Certification funding criteria, limits School Recognition Program bonuses to instructional personnel only, reduces add-on funding weights in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), and changes FEFP fund distribution to monthly.		
<u>SB 7022 - Retirement</u>	Passed Senate and House Sessions	<u>HB 5007 - State-administered Retirement System</u>
The bill allows elected officers (excluding legislators) to remain in office and receive DROP benefits after a certain age, with proceeds and interest payable upon termination. It authorizes recovery of improper DROP distributions and updates employer contribution rates for all Florida Retirement System membership classes.		
<u>SB 7030 - Educational Scholarship Programs</u>	Passed Senate Session, and HB 5101 in House	<u>HB 5101 - Education</u>
The bill creates a funding category for the Family Empowerment Scholarship and an enrollment stabilization program to address FTE changes. It requires data verification, renames the Hope Scholarship Program to the Hope Program, and directs the Department of Education to resolve funding discrepancies with scholarship organizations.		
<u>SB 248 - Student Participation in Interscholastic and Intrasccholastic Extracurricular Sports</u>	Passed in Senate Session	<u>HB 151 - Interscholastic Activities</u> <i>Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading</i>
The bill expands access for home education and private school students to join extracurricular activities and sports at public or FHSA member schools, removes enrollment restrictions, and requires non-member schools to provide student records when requested.		
<u>SB 270 - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program</u>	<i>Temporarily Postponed Second Reading</i>	<u>HB 1107 - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program</u> <i>No Committee Activity</i>
The bill expands Florida Bright Futures eligibility for students with non-Florida diplomas, particularly those with parents on military or public service assignments. It adds the AP Capstone designation as a new requirement for Florida Academic Scholars starting in 2025-2026, requiring six specific AP courses. It also updates fee waiver provisions for consistency.		
<u>SB 958 - Type 1 Diabetes Early Detection Program</u>	Passed in Senate Session	<u>HB 723 - Type 1 Diabetes Early Detection Program</u> <i>Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading</i>
Requiring the Department of Health, in collaboration with school districts throughout this state, to develop informational materials for the early detection of Type 1 diabetes for parents and guardians of certain students; requiring early learning coalitions to notify parents and guardians of the availability of such informational materials,		

<u>HB 549 - Gulf of America</u>	Passed in Senate Session	<u>SB 1058 - Gulf of America</u> <i>Laid on Table, Refer to HB 0549</i>
Requires state agencies to update geographic materials to reflect new federal designation of "Gulf of Mexico" as "Gulf of America"; & requires instructional materials & library media center collections adopted or acquired by certain entities on or after specified date to reflect "Gulf of America".		
<u>SB 1070 - Electrocardiograms for Student Athletes</u>	Passed in Senate Session	<u>HB 1135 - Electrocardiograms for Student Athletes</u> <i>Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading</i>
The bill requires the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) to implement bylaws mandating electrocardiogram screenings for students before participating in certain activities. It allows FHSAA member schools to collaborate with organizations to offer low-cost or free screenings; establishes requirements for students living out of state and outlines criteria for exceptions to the screening requirement.		
<u>SB 1402 - Students Enrolled in Dropout Retrieval Programs</u>	Passed in Senate Session	<u>HB 1079 - Students Enrolled in Dropout Retrieval Programs</u> <i>Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading</i>
The bill revises assessment and accountability requirements for virtual instruction program providers. It specifies that dropout retrieval programs are intended for a defined group of students and requires these programs to opt for either a school grade or a school improvement rating.		
<u>SB 1470 - School Safety</u>	Passed in Senate Session	<u>HB 1403 - Safety of Students</u> <i>Now in Education & Employment Committee</i>
The bill requires sheriffs to establish a school guardian program when school boards use security guards and mandates sheriff approval for all guards. It calls for a safety workgroup and a centralized public safety system. Appropriation: \$450,000.		
<u>SB 1472 - Public Records/School Security Guards</u>	Passed in Senate Session	<u>HB 1403 - Safety of Students</u> <i>Now in Education & Employment Committee</i>
The bill exempts certain school security guard information held by law enforcement, school districts, or charter schools from public records requirements. It includes a public necessity statement and sets the exemption for future legislative review and possible repeal.		
<u>SB 726 - False Reporting</u>	Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/15/25	<u>HB 279 - False Reporting</u> <i>Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/16/25</i>
Reenacts a section of the School Safety Awareness Program to include amendments regarding penalties for submitting false reports through FortifyFL, highlighting criminal penalties and potential disclosure of the user's IP address to law enforcement for further investigation.		
<u>HB 5101 - Education</u>	<i>Laid on Table, Refer to SB 7030</i>	<u>SB 7030 - Educational Scholarship Programs</u>
Revises provisions relating to Education Estimating Conference, Family Empowerment Scholarship Program, Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program, FEFP, & K-12 funding.		
<u>SB 7030 - Educational Scholarship Programs</u>	Passed the Senate bill as amended by House and acceded to conference	<i>HB 5101 - Education</i>
The bill creates a dedicated fund for the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program and establishes an enrollment stabilization program to support districts facing FTE shifts. It requires verification of student enrollment data, renames the Hope Scholarship Program to the Hope Program, and directs the Department of Education to work with nonprofit scholarship organizations to resolve funding discrepancies.		
<u>HB 597 - Diabetes Management in Schools</u>	Passed in House Session, Received in Senate Rules	<u>SB 772 - Diabetes Management in Schools</u> <i>Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/16/25</i>
The bill allows schools to obtain, store, and administer undesignated glucagon for emergencies, including through donations or prescriptions issued in the school's name. It requires secure storage, parental notification, and emergency response after use.		



FLORIDA HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

Please find below a summary of the House Committee & Subcommittee hearings and sessions this past week.

Education & Employment Committee

Met on 4/8/2025, at 8:00 AM

[Committee Packet](#)

- **HB 123 – Education by Representative Robert Alexander "Alex" Andrade**
Revises provisions relating to conversion schools; authorizes municipality to apply for job engine charter under certain conditions; prohibits school districts from charging specified fees for conversion school; & requires specified property to remain at conversion school.
Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 - **SB 140 - Charter Schools by Senator Don Gaetz (*Comparable Bill*)**
Status: *Now in Rules*
- **HB 127 - Exceptional Student Education by Representative Kim Kendall**
Requires DOE to develop & implement, by specified date, workforce credential program for students with autism spectrum disorder or students on modified curriculum; provides purpose of program; provides requirements for program; & provides reporting requirements.
Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 - **SB 102 - Exceptional Student Education by Senator Don Gaetz (*Comparable Bill*)**
Status: *Passed in Senate on 3/27/25*
- **HB 257 - Exceptional Students and Video Cameras in Public Schools by Representative Kevin D. Chambliss**
Removes references to Video Cameras in Public School Classrooms Pilot Program; removes obsolete definition; requires certain district school boards to vote to establish policy to provide video cameras in self-contained classrooms upon request of parent; prohibits school or school district from concealing identity of employee in video recording; & provides that video recording made available after request must include accompanying audio.
Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 - *SB 1006 - Video Cameras in Public School Classrooms (No Committee Activity)*
- **HB 443 - Charter Schools by Representatives John Snyder and Alex Rizo**
Revises provisions relating to charter school codes of student conduct, enrollment, capacity, compliance with law, facilities, ad valorem taxes, student data; revises provisions relating to high-performing charter schools; revises provisions relating to sale, transfer, lease, or disposal of school district property.
Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 - **SB 822 – Education by Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez (*Comparable Bill*)**
Status: *On Committee agenda - Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education, 04/15/25, 8:30 am*
- **HB 809 - School Social Workers by Representatives Christine Hunschofsky and Vicki L. Lopez**
Provides that people employed as school social workers are exempt from specified educator certification requirements.
Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 - **SB 1150 - School Social Workers by Senator Alexis Calatayud (*Comparable Bill*)**
Status: *On Committee agenda - Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education, 04/15/25, 8:30 am*
- **HB 875 - Educator Preparation by Representatives Alex Rizo and John Snyder**
The bill revises teacher preparation and certification requirements, removes certain testing mandates, and allows nondegreed fine arts teachers in specific cases. It establishes the Coaching for Educator Readiness Program and

creates the Florida Institute for Teaching Excellence at Miami Dade College, subject to funding. It also sets future repeal dates for some certification and learning programs.

Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

- *SB 930 – Education (No Committee Activity)*

- **HB 885 - Florida Virtual School by Representative David Smith**

The bill updates Florida Virtual School provisions, expanding the types of students it may serve and prioritizing certain groups. It allows use of additional funding sources, revises the role of the board of trustees and executive directors, and addresses contracts, expenditures, and reporting. It also includes provisions for international assessments and test administrator access.

Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

- **SB 1122 - Florida Virtual School by Senator Colleen Burton**
(Comparable Bill)

Status: Passed Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education on 4/10/2025

- **HB 1197 - Anaphylaxis in Public Schools by Representatives Jennifer Harris and Jessica Baker**

Requires each district school board to ensure that certain emergency action plans are effective & that school personnel & employees & contracted personnel of before-school & after-school programs receive certain training relating to allergic reactions & anaphylaxis; & requires that at least one member of school personnel with such training be on school grounds for specified purposes.

Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

- **SB 1514 - Anaphylaxis in Public Schools by Senator Carlos Guillermo Smith** *(Comparable Bill)*

Status: On Committee agenda - Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education, 04/15/25, 8:30 am

- **HB 1237 - Human Trafficking Awareness by Representatives Erika Booth and Tobin Overdorf**

The bill requires all public and charter schools to assign an administrator to provide annual human trafficking awareness training to designated staff. Trained employees must submit acknowledgments, which schools must file electronically. School districts must develop a training curriculum and submit it to the Department of Education for approval, following specified training requirements.

Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

- **SB 444 - Human Trafficking Awareness by Senator Bryan Ávila** *(Comparable Bill)*

Status: Passed Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education on 4/10/2025

- **HB 1287 - School District Personnel and Volunteers by Representative William Robinson**

The bill permits background checks for certain volunteers, requires policies for temporarily removing instructional staff, expands reportable offenses, and mandates timely self-reporting of arrests and judgments by school personnel.

Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

- **SB 1374 - School District Reporting Requirements by Senator Clay Yarborough** *(Comparable Bill)*

Status: Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/16/25

State Affairs Committee

Met on 4/8/2025, at 8:00 AM

[Committee Packet](#)

- **HB 569 - Construction and Facilities by Representative Kim Kendall**

The bill sets guidelines for charter school construction and facilities, treating them as public schools for planning purposes. It allows developers to earn impact fee credits for contributions to nearby schools and bars local governments from limiting enrollment through traffic ordinances. It also exempts charter schools from certain building and land use requirements, ensuring they are treated equally to other public schools.

Status: Passed; placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/16/25

- **SB 1188 - Local Governing Authorities by Senator Stan McClain** *(Comparable Bill)*

Status: Now in Rules



- **HB 679 - Term Limits for Members of County Commissions and District School Boards** by Representative Michelle Salzman
Proposes amendments to Constitution to provide term limits for members of boards of county commissioners & district school boards; provides applicability.
Status: Passed; placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/16/25
 - **SB 802 - Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners and District School Boards** by Senator Blaise Ingolia (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: Now in Community Affairs

PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee

Met on 4/8/2025, at 12:30 PM

[Committee Packet](#)

- **HB 1115 – Education** by Representative Susan L. Valdés
Requires that certain surtax revenues which are shared with school districts must also be shared with charter schools on proportionate basis in accordance with certain provisions; revises provisions relating to charter schools & schools of hope.
Status: Passed; now in Education & Employment Committee
 - **SB 1702 – Education** by Senator Danny Burgess (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: Passed Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education on 4/10/2025
- **HB 1213 - K-12 School Route Optimization Pilot Program** by Representative Daniel Alvarez
Creates K-12 school route optimization pilot program in specified county school districts; provides program requirements; provides reporting requirements; requires DOE to assist school districts with implementation of pilot program; provides for expiration of program
Status: Passed; now in Education & Employment Committee
 - *SB 1424 - K-12 School Transportation (No Committee Activity)*
- **HB 1267 – Education** by Representative Demi Busatta
The bill revises the definition of “persistently low-performing school” and expands rights for Schools of Hope, including facility use, co-location, and direct reporting to DOE. It requires districts to provide certain services at no cost and sets rules for resolving management disputes.
Status: Passed; now in Education & Employment Committee
 - **SB 1708 – Education** by Senator Alexis Calatayud (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: On Committee agenda - Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education, 04/15/25, 8:30 am

Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee

Met on 4/9/2025, at 8:00 AM

[Committee Packet](#)

- **HB 665 - Local Government Impact Fees and Development Permits and Orders** by Representative Kevin M. Steele
The bill restricts counties and municipalities from requiring developers to take specific actions as a condition for processing permits. It prohibits local governments from raising impact fees unless a demonstrated-need study shows extraordinary circumstances using a plan-based method.
Status: Passed; now in Commerce Committee
 - **SB 1118 - Land Use and Development Regulations** by Senator Stan McClain (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: Now in Regulated Industries
 - **SB 482 - Impact Fees** by Senator Nick DiCeglie (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: Now in Finance and Tax



- [**HB 943 - Real Property and Land Use and Development**](#) by Representative Vicki L. Lopez
Requires district school boards to adopt best practices for surplus land programs.
Status: Passed
 - [**SB 1730 - Affordable Housing**](#) by Senator Alexis Calatayud (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/16/25
- [**HB 1263 - Election of County Commissioners and Superintendent of Schools**](#) by Representatives Daniel Alvarez and Michael Owen
Requires that the superintendent of schools in each district be elected by the voters rather than appointed
Status: Workshopped
 - *SB 1456 - Elections of County Commissioners, District School Board Members, and District School Superintendents (No Committee Activity)*
 - *SB 1454 - Election of County Commissioners and Superintendents of Schools (No Committee Activity)*



The Florida Senate

Please find below a summary of the Senate Committee & Subcommittee hearings and sessions this past week.

Senate Rules

Met on 4/8/2025, at 9:00 AM

Committee Rules

- [**SB 508 - Family Empowerment Scholarship Program**](#) by Senator Shevrin Jones
Requiring private schools participating in the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program to provide specified information in writing to certain parents before their student's initial enrollment in the school; providing private school requirements relating to certain services.
Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
 - [**HB 423 - Family Empowerment Scholarship Program**](#) by Representatives Robin Bartleman and Alex Rizo (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: Now in Education & Employment Committee
- [**SB 1546 - Background Screening of Athletic Coaches**](#) by Senator Erin Grall
The bill updates the deadline for independent sanctioning authorities to conduct background checks on athletic coaches, requires them to join the Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse by a set date, and prohibits them from allowing unvetted individuals to coach after that date.
Status: Passed; placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/16/25
 - [**HB 431 - Background Screening of Athletic Coaches**](#) by Representatives Dana Trabulsy and Christine Hunschofsky (*Comparable Bill*)
Status: Temporarily Postponed on Second Reading



Senate Fiscal Policy

Met on 4/8/2025, at 5:00 PM

[Committee Packet](#)

- **SB 1618 – Education** by Senator Alexis Calatayud

Streamlines education statutes by removing references to the Florida School for Competitive Academics, revising certain funding and accreditation provisions, and expanding efforts to ensure equitable access and transparency in the K-20 system.

Status: Passed; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

Met on 4/10/2025; at 8:30 AM

[Committee Packet](#)

- **SB 650 - Hazardous Walking Conditions** by Senator Tom Leek

Revising the criteria that determine a hazardous walking condition for public school students

Status: Passed

- **HB 85 - Hazardous Walking Conditions** by Representative Kim Kendall (*Comparable Bill*)

Status: Passed in House on 3/26/2025

- **SB 754 - International Baccalaureate Bonus Funding** by Senator Colleen Burton

Revising the requirements for the calculation of additional full-time equivalent membership and certain bonuses based on International Baccalaureate examination scores of students to include students who earn a minimum grade in a specified course.

Status: Passed

- **HB 581 - International Baccalaureate Bonus Funding** by Representative Kaylee Tuck (*Comparable Bill*)

Status: Now in PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee

- **SB 1102 - School Readiness Program** by Senator Alexis Calatayud

Revising the criteria for a child to receive priority for participation in the school readiness program; providing requirements for a school readiness program provider to be eligible for specified funding beginning on a specified date.

Status: Passed

- **HB 877 - School Readiness Program** by Representatives Robin Bartleman and Dana Trabulsy (*Comparable Bill*)

Status: Now in Education & Employment Committee

- **SB 1382 - Access to School Readiness Programs for Economically Disadvantaged Households** by Senator Alexis Calatayud

Revising the Department of Education's duties for adopting specific program support services to coordinate a comprehensive early learning program; revising duties of early learning coalitions relating to the creation of a uniform waiting list; revising requirements for the school readiness program plan.

Status: Passed

- **HB 859 - School Readiness Program** by Representative Chase Tramont (*Comparable Bill*)

Status: On Committee agenda - PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee, 04/14/25, 2:30 pm

- **SB 1590 - Educator Preparation** by Senator Danny Burgess

Calls for the creation of a task force with members from various educational and administrative sectors, including state universities, private and public institutions, school districts, and active teachers.

Status: Passed

