



OVERVIEW

The Legislature held Week 7 of Regular Legislative Session.

Senator Collins and Florida State Legislators were joined by victims of communism from across the State to discuss the importance of instructing our youth about the dangers of communism in the United States. The event offered perspectives and first-hand experiences from victims of communist regimes across the world, and SB 1264's intended impact on education and public awareness.

Senate Appropriations Chair Senator Doug Broxson indicated it is not likely that members will begin budget conference this weekend.

This week there were no changes to the 2024-25 budgets passed last week in their respective chambers.

The Senate version allocates almost \$1 billion for educational improvements across the state in public K-12 schools, as well as colleges and universities.

The House also passed a bill for increased compensation for the governor and other state executives (beginning in fiscal year 2027-2028), while including a 3% cut from the state's total spending in the year before.

The House and Senate are proposing near-identical increases in per-student funding for kindergarten through 12th-grade students under the Florida Education Finance Program. Both proposals remain at a 2.5 percent hike. All three Broward County Public Schools appropriation requests remain fully funded within the Senate budget proposal:

- Student Athlete Mentoring Pilot Expansion \$250,000
- SmartPass Pilot Project \$300,000
- Adults with Disabilities (recurring) \$800,000

Budget Proposals				
	2023-2024	House (2/1/24)	Senate (2/7/24)	Governor
BSA	\$5,139.73	\$5,316.31		\$5,246
Broward FTE	\$8,638.20	\$8,892.56	\$8,854.18	--
State FTE	\$8,718.58	\$8,936.95	\$8,936.98	\$8,842

Senate Session

Recognition of Crystal Rey Miami High School leaders by Senator Shevrin D. Jones.
 Recognition of State College of Florida leaders and students by Senator Jim Boyd.
 Recognition of FAMU Day by Senators Bobby Powell & Daryl Ervin Rouson.

Special order as determined by the Committee on Rules and Calendar:

[SB 832 - Employment of Individuals with Disabilities](#) General Bill by Calatayud
 Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 38 Yeas / 0 Nays); Immediately certified; In Messages
 Requiring the collection and sharing of data between multiple agencies for the interagency
 cooperative agreement under the Employment First Act; requiring the Office of Reimagining Education
 and Career Help to issue an annual statewide report by a specified date each year, etc.

[HB 1 - Social Media Use for Minors](#) General Bill by Sirois, McFarland, Rayner CoSponsors: Anderson,
 Bankson, Barnaby, Basabe, Beltran, Black, Cassel, Chamberlin, Chambliss, Fine, Garcia (A), Jacques,
 Lopez (V), Massullo, MD, Melo, Mooney, Jr., Overdorf, Payne, Plakon, Plasencia, Rizo, Salzman, Tant,
 Temple, Trabulsy, Tramont, Waldron CS Sponsors: Judiciary Committee
 Read Second Time; Amendment Failed (193630); Amendment Adopted (901464); Placed on Third
 Reading for 02/22/24
 Requires social media platforms to prohibit minors from creating new accounts, terminate accounts &
 provide additional options for termination of such accounts, use reasonable age verification methods
 to verify ages of account holders, & disclose specified policies & provide specified resources, measures,
 & disclaimers; authorizes DLA to bring actions for violations under Florida Deceptive & Unfair Trade
 Practices Act; provides penalties; provides for private causes of actions; provides certain social media
 platforms are subject to jurisdiction of state courts.

[SB 996 – Education](#) General Bill by Burgess CS Sponsors: Fiscal Policy, Appropriations Committee on
 Education, Education Pre-K – 12
 Retained on Calendar
 Providing that an annual application for exemption on property used to house a charter school is not
 required; prohibiting members of the board of trustees of a Florida College System institution or a state
 university, respectively, from doing business with or having any business affiliation with any institution
 under their purview during their membership; authorizing private schools to use or purchase specified
 facilities; establishing the Purple Star School District Program; providing requirements for such program;
 requiring school districts and charter schools to provide certain students with an opportunity to take the
 Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and consult with a military recruiter; prohibiting a public
 postsecondary institution from implicitly or explicitly prohibiting specified students from being employed,
 etc.

[HB 1285 – Education](#) General Bill by Canady CoSponsors: Michael, Rizo CS Sponsors: Education &
 Employment Committee, Choice & Innovation Subcommittee
 Received; Referred to Fiscal Policy

Revises provisions relating to K-12 education, postsecondary education, & Education Practices Commission; establishes Purple Star School District Program; creates AA specialized transfer degrees; requires SBE to adopt rules for issuance of classical education teaching certificate.

Considered Bills on Second reading:

SB 240 - International Baccalaureate Teacher Bonuses General Bill by Burton CoSponsors: Perry

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

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 equivalent scores as determined by the Department of Education, etc.

SB 396 - Holocaust Remembrance Day General Bill by Berman CoSponsors: Book, Perry CS Sponsors:

Education Pre-K – 12

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Requiring the Governor to annually proclaim a specified day as “Holocaust Remembrance Day”; authorizing “Holocaust Remembrance Day” to be observed in this state’s public schools and be observed by public exercise as the Governor may designate, etc.

SB 962 - Student Health General Bill by Hooper CS Sponsors: Rules, Health Policy

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Revising a provision to authorize asthmatic students to carry a short-acting bronchodilator, rather than a metered dose inhaler; authorizing licensed pharmacists to dispense short-acting bronchodilators and components in the name of a public school; requiring certain public schools to adopt a protocol developed by a licensed physician for the administration of a short-acting bronchodilator and components by school personnel; authorizing certain students to carry a short-acting bronchodilator at school under certain conditions, etc.

SB 1356 - School Safety General Bill by Calatayud CS Sponsors: Criminal Justice

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Providing that sheriffs are responsible for screening-related costs for school guardian programs; authorizing sheriffs to waive training and screening-related costs for a private school for a school guardian program; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to maintain a list of school guardians and provide the list to any School Safety Specialist upon request; providing requirements for the list; requiring each sheriff to report on a quarterly basis to the Department of Law Enforcement the schedule for school guardian trainings, etc.

Considered Bills on Third reading:

HB 1 - Social Media Use for Minors General Bill by Sirois, McFarland, Rayner CoSponsors: Anderson,

Bankson, Barnaby, Basabe, Beltran, Black, Cassel, Chamberlin, Chambliss, Fine, Garcia (A), Jacques, Lopez (V), Massullo, MD, Melo, Mooney, Jr., Overdorf, Payne, Plakon, Plasencia, Rizo, Salzman, Tant, Temple, Trabulsy, Tramont, Waldron CS Sponsors: Judiciary Committee

Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 23 Yeas / 14 Nays); Immediately certified

Requires social media platforms to prohibit minors from creating new accounts, terminate accounts & provide additional options for termination of such accounts, use reasonable age verification methods to verify ages of account holders, & disclose specified policies & provide specified resources, measures, & disclaimers; authorizes DLA to bring actions for violations under Florida Deceptive & Unfair Trade Practices Act; provides penalties; provides for private causes of actions; provides certain social media platforms are subject to jurisdiction of state courts.

House Session

Special Orders:

[HB 1473 - School Safety](#) General Bill by Trabulsy CoSponsors: Daley, Dunkley, Massullo, MD, Woodson
CS Sponsors: Judiciary Committee, Education & Employment Committee
Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/22/24
Revises provisions & establishes reporting requirements for school guardian programs & school guardians; revises school safety requirements for DOE, school districts, charter schools, & school safety specialists.

[HB 1109 - Security for Jewish Day Schools and Preschools](#) General Bill by Fine CoSponsors: Lopez (J), Lopez (V), Maney
Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/22/24
Requiring DOE to establish program to provide funds to Jewish day schools & preschools for specified security purposes; provides authorized uses for such funds.

[HB 931 - School Chaplains](#) General Bill by McClain, Daniels CoSponsors: Bankson, Black, Dunkley, Fine, Melo
Read Second Time; Amendments Failed (33997, 733109, 812581, 310623, 186515, 893609); Amendments Withdrawn (705453, 447945); Amendment Adopted (879021); Placed on Third Reading, 02/22/24; Engrossed Text (E1) Filed
Authorizes school districts & charter schools to adopt policy to allow volunteer school chaplains; requires district school boards & charter school governing boards to assign specified duties to such volunteer school chaplains; requires volunteer school chaplains to meet certain background screening requirements; requires school districts and charter schools to publish specified information under certain circumstances.

[HB 1317 - Patriotic Organizations](#) General Bill by Duggan CoSponsors: Fine CS Sponsors: Choice & Innovation Subcommittee
Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/22/24
Authorizes school districts to allow representatives of patriotic organizations certain opportunities to speak to students, distribute certain materials, & provide certain displays relating to patriotic organizations; requires certain school districts to provide date & time for such patriotic organizations to speak with students, distribute materials, & provide certain displays; authorizes patriotic organizations to be provided certain access to school buildings & properties.

[HB 1429 - District and School Advisory Councils](#) General Bill by Bell, Valdes CS Sponsors: Education Quality Subcommittee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Renaming "district advisory councils" & "school advisory councils" as "district community advisory boards" & "community advisory boards"; & revises requirements for such boards.

Bills on Second Reading:

[HB 217 - College Campus Facilities in Areas of Critical State Concern](#) General Bill by Mooney, Jr.
CS Sponsors: Postsecondary Education & Workforce Subcommittee, Appropriations Committee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Revises authorized uses of revenue from capital improvement fees to include certain college campus facilities & revises number of beds certain FCS institutions may provide to certain persons; revises which funds may be used for construction of dormitories; & requires Division of Bond Finance to conduct analysis of financing before issuance of specified bonds.

HB 315 - Reading Achievement Initiative for Scholastic Excellence Program General Bill by Williams
CoSponsors: Casello, Dunkley, Lopez (V), Valdes
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Authorizes tutoring to be provided after school day; & authorizes school districts that participate in specified tutoring program to provide stipend to instructional personnel & high school students serving as tutors for after-school tutoring.

HB 501 - Renaming of Tallahassee Community College General Bill by Shoaf CoSponsors: Franklin II, Tant
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Changes name of "Tallahassee Community College" to "Tallahassee State College".

HB 511 - Graduate Program Admissions General Bill by Holcomb CoSponsors: Valdes CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee, Postsecondary Education & Workforce Subcommittee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Requires institution of higher education to waive certain examination requirements for servicemember who applies for admission to graduate program that requires such examination.

HB 537 - Student Achievement General Bill by Valdes CoSponsors: Garcia (A) CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee, Education Quality Subcommittee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Removes provisions providing for award of certificate of completion to certain students; & creates Music-based Supplemental Content to Accelerate Learner Engagement & Success Pilot Program within DOE for specified purpose.

HB 553 - Career-themed Courses General Bill by Dunkley
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Revises requirements for specified school district strategic plan to include certain information; requires DOE to include specified data in annual review of K-12 & postsecondary career & technical education offerings; & requires school districts to inform students & parents of specified information during middle school course selection.

HB 767 - Resident Status for Tuition Purposes General Bill by Edmonds CoSponsors: Lopez (V), Valdes CS Sponsors: Postsecondary Education & Workforce Subcommittee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Prohibits individual from losing his or her resident status for tuition purposes solely because of his or her incarceration.

HB 883 - Short-acting Bronchodilator Use in Public and Private Schools General Bill by Koster CoSponsors: Basabe CS Sponsors: Choice & Innovation Subcommittee, Health & Human Services Committee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Authorizes certain public & private school students to carry short-acting bronchodilators & components; provides school district, public school, private school, and parental requirements.

HB 917 - Career and Technical Education General Bill by Snyder CoSponsors: Bankson, Basabe, Roach, Salzman, Stark CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee, Choice & Innovation Subcommittee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Revises duties of Office of Reimagining Education & Career Help; revises provisions relating to journeymen & specified career fairs; provides exemption for minors to work in specified conditions; revises list of individuals who are required to review & comment on certain revisions to state academic standards; requires DOE to convene workgroup by specified date; authorizes certain students to be exempt from completing certain examinations.

HB 1137 - Employment of Individuals with Disabilities General Bill by Redondo CoSponsors: Berfield, Lopez (V), Tant

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Requires collection & sharing of data between multiple agencies for interagency cooperative agreement; provides requirements for accountability measures; requires Office of Reimagining Education & Career Help to issue annual statewide report each year.

HB 1169 - Coordinated Systems of Care for Children General Bill by Redondo, Hunschofsky CoSponsors: Lopez (J), Lopez (V), Robinson (F), Williams, Woodson CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee, Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Defines "care coordinator"; requires school districts to be guided by & adhere to specified mental health & treatment support system for children; requires school districts to contract with managing entities to provide care coordinators for students; requires care coordinator provided by managing entity be placed in school districts for specified purposes; requires school districts to address recommendations & meet specified performance outcomes; requires school districts to report annually to DOE on performance outcomes & allocation & expenditure of funding.

HB 1291 - Educator Preparation Programs General Bill by Snyder, Jacques CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Prohibits courses & curriculum of teacher preparation programs, postsecondary educator preparation institutes, professional learning certification programs, & school leader preparation programs from distorting certain events & including certain curriculum & instruction; & requires teacher preparation programs, postsecondary educator preparation institutes, professional learning certification programs, & school leader preparation programs to afford candidates certain opportunities.

HB 1429 - District and School Advisory Councils General Bill by Bell, Valdes CS Sponsors: Education Quality Subcommittee

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Renaming "district advisory councils" & "school advisory councils" as "district community advisory boards" & "community advisory boards"; & revises requirements for such boards.

HB 7025 – Education General Bill by Education Quality Subcommittee, Trabulsy CoSponsors: Massullo, MD, Valdes CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee

Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

Revises provisions relating to SBE, FCS, Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning options, single-gender programs, charter technical career centers & public technical centers, virtual education options, school readiness program providers, VPK, & ELCs, Competency-Based Education Pilot Program, Art in Capitol Competition, DJJ education programs, automotive service technology education programs, Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College, coordinated screening & progress monitoring system, & instructional materials adoption cycles.

[HB 7039 – Education](#) General Bill by Choice & Innovation Subcommittee, Rizo CoSponsors: Daniels, Massullo, MD CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Revises requirements relating to district school board duties & responsibilities, requirements for student management of specified health conditions, prekindergarten instructors postsecondary educator preparation in field experiences, Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation, critical teacher shortages, collective bargaining, Teacher Apprenticeship Program, Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program, FCS institution employment equity accountability program, rent or lease of K-12 plants & facilities.

[HB 7051 – Education](#) General Bill by Postsecondary Education & Workforce Subcommittee, Melo CS Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee, Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee
Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
Revises provisions relating to specified education services; establishes Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Program for specified purpose; creates GATE Scholarship Program; & creates GATE Startup Grant Program.

Bills and Joint Resolutions on Third Reading:

[HB 1473 - School Safety](#) General Bill by Trabulsy CoSponsors: Daley, Dunkley, Lopez (J), Massullo, MD, Woodson CS Sponsors: Judiciary Committee, Education & Employment Committee
Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/22/24
Revises provisions & establishes reporting requirements for school guardian programs & school guardians; revises school safety requirements for DOE, school districts, charter schools, & school safety specialists.

[HB 1109 - Security for Jewish Day Schools and Preschools](#) General Bill by Fine CoSponsors: Lopez (J), Lopez (V), Maney
Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/22/24
Requiring DOE to establish program to provide funds to Jewish day schools & preschools for specified security purposes; provides authorized uses for such funds.

[HB 931 - School Chaplains](#) General Bill by McClain, Daniels CoSponsors: Bankson, Black, Dunkley, Fine, Melo
Engrossed Text (E1) Filed
Authorizes school districts & charter schools to adopt policy to allow volunteer school chaplains; requires district school boards & charter school governing boards to assign specified duties to such volunteer school chaplains; requires volunteer school chaplains to meet certain background screening requirements; requires school districts and charter schools to publish specified information under certain circumstances.

[HB 1317 - Patriotic Organizations](#) General Bill by Duggan CoSponsors: Fine CS Sponsors: Choice & Innovation Subcommittee
Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/22/24
Authorizes school districts to allow representatives of patriotic organizations certain opportunities to speak to students, distribute certain materials, & provide certain displays relating to patriotic organizations; requires certain school districts to provide date & time for such patriotic organizations to speak with students, distribute materials, & provide certain displays; authorizes patriotic organizations to be provided certain access to school buildings & properties.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Florida moves to join other states opening schools to chaplains [POLITICO](#)
Bible ban? Florida lawmakers respond to calls to have Bible removed from schools [10 Tampa Bay](#)
FL House members clash on requirements for volunteer chaplains in public schools [Florida Phoenix](#)
Community Partnership Schools lowers barrier for elementary kids [Spectrum News](#)
Florida House committee approves bill to create Communism Education Task Force [The Center Square](#)
House bill co-sponsor denies kindergartners will learn about communism history [Florida Politics](#)
DCPS adds permission slip policy for students to participate in any school-related event or activity [News 4 JAX](#)

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

Senate Appropriations Committee on Education

Met on 2/20/24 at 8:30 AM

Voted Favorable:

[SB 1044 - School Chaplains](#) General Bill by Grall CS Sponsors: Education Pre-K – 12
(Similar to HB 931 - School Chaplains)

Authorizing school districts and charter schools to adopt a policy to allow volunteer school chaplains; requiring district school boards and charter school governing boards to assign specified duties to such volunteer school chaplains; requiring school districts that adopt volunteer school chaplain policies to publish certain information on their websites; providing background screening requirements for volunteer school chaplains, etc.

[STAFF ANALYSIS](#)

Last Action: 2/20/2024 Senate - Now in Rules

[SB 1264 - History of Communism Task Force](#) General Bill by Collins CoSponsors: Avila, Harrell, Rodriguez
CS Sponsors: Education Pre-K – 12
(Similar to HB 1349 - Required Instruction on History of Communism)

Requiring instruction in public schools on the history of communism; creating the History of Communism Task Force within the Department of Education; requiring the task force to work with the Division of Historical Resources within the Department of State to make recommendations by a specified date to the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education for curriculum standards and instruction on communist history, etc.

[STAFF ANALYSIS](#)

Last Action: 2/20/2024 Senate - CS/CS by Appropriations Committee on Education; YEAS 6 NAYS 0

[Committee Video](#) / [Committee Packet](#)

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

House Education & Employment Committee

Met on 2/21/24 at 8 AM

Voted Favorable:

[HB 1353 - Early Learning](#) General Bill by Snyder CoSponsors: Tramont, Valdes, Williams CS Sponsors: PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee (Compared to SB 1026 - Early Learning; SB 2502 - Implementing the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act; HB 5003 - Implementing the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act; HB 5101 – Education) Revises provisions relating to early learning coalitions & specified early learning programs.

[STAFF ANALYSIS](#)

Last Event: Favorable with CS by Education & Employment Committee on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:44 AM

[HB 929 - School Readiness Program](#) General Bill by Trabulsy CoSponsors: Barnaby, Massullo, MD, Mooney, Jr. CS Sponsors: PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee, Education Quality Subcommittee (Similar to SB 916 - School Readiness Program) Revises definition of term "economically disadvantaged" for purposes of school readiness program; & revises provisions relating to school readiness program.

[STAFF ANALYSIS](#)

Last Event: Favorable with CS by Education & Employment Committee on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:44 AM

[HB 1349 - Required Instruction on History of Communism](#) General Bill by Brannan III, Buchanan CoSponsors: Alvarez, Amesty, Daniels, Garcia (A), Stark CS Sponsors: PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee (Similar to SB 1264 - History of Communism Task Force) Beginning in specified school year, requires students to receive instruction on history of Communism; provides requirements for such instruction & school districts, & DOE; & creates Communism Education Task Force.

[STAFF ANALYSIS](#)

Last Event: Favorable with CS by Education & Employment Committee on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:44 AM

[Committee Video](#) / [Committee Packet](#)

Please find below a list of other relative legislation considered this past week.

<p>Senate</p> <p>Appropriations SB 472 - Suits Against the Government HB 7017 - Annual Adjustment to Homestead Exemption Value HB 7019 - Exemption of Homesteads SB 7032 – Education SB 7048 – Education</p> <p>Fiscal Policy SB 460 - Career and Technical Education SB 558 - Homeless Service Professionals SB 1396 - Security for Jewish Day Schools and Preschools</p>	<p>House</p> <p>Appropriations Committee HB 1239 - Affordable Housing</p> <p>State Affairs Committee HB 735 - Government Accountability</p>
<p>Joint:</p>	

Education Estimating Conference

Members met to discuss Public Schools PreK-12 Enrollment. 76 districts reviewed and approved their forecasts. 41 districts made changes to their initial forecast, 28 districts submitted discrete adjustments, and 26 districts showed a different averaging model. BCPS previously requested a shift of (101) Basic Non-ESE PK-3 to (111) Basic ESE PK-3. [Initial FTE Enrollment Forecast](#)