

A photograph of the Florida State Capitol building in Tallahassee, Florida. The building is a grand, white, neoclassical structure with a prominent portico supported by tall columns. A large dome is visible on top. The sky is clear and blue. In the foreground, there are palm trees and several Florida state flags. The text 'BEHIND THE CURTAIN' is overlaid in large white letters across the center of the image.

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

What to expect in the
Florida House and
Senate in 2025

SENATE
PRESIDENT
BEN
ALBRITTON



SENATE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Sen. Jason Brodeur,
President *pro tempore*

**Pres. Kathleen
Passidomo, Rules
Committee Chair**

**Sen. Ed Hooper,
Appropriations
Committee Chair**

**Sen. Joe Gruters,
Fiscal Policy
Committee Chair**

**Sen. Jim Boyd,
Majority Leader**

SENATE BY THE NUMBERS



Republicans
28



Democrats
26



No net
change

2025 SENATE PRIORITIES

- Economy
 - Continue to balance budget, pay down debt, and grow reserves
 - Family Friendly Tax Measures
- Education
 - Colleges and Universities – continue to focus on affordability, low student debt, and workforce preparation
 - Public Schools – priority on school choice, continue to focus on reducing red tape for public schools to free them to compete
- Storm Recovery
 - Continue to help communities recover
- Insurance
 - Will not sit idly by while legitimate claims are denied and rates continue to rise





2025 SENATE PRIORITIES

- Rural
 - Opportunities for innovation and technology in health care, education, agriculture and supply chain to create a Rural Renaissance in Florida
- Agriculture
 - Supporting Florida farm families so they can continue to protect the environment, strengthen national security and feed our state and the nation; save citrus from extinction
- Water
 - Data driven, outcome-based approach to protecting our water supply and removing excessive nutrients from septic tanks and other sources
- Israel
- Honor Military and Veterans
- Diversity in communities and needs
 - not every city and county are the same

HOUSE
SPEAKER
DANNY PEREZ



HOUSE LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Rep. Chuck Brannan,
Judiciary
Committee
Chair**



**Rep. James Buchanan,
Commerce
Committee
Chair**



**Rep. Jennifer Canady,
Education &
Employment
Committee
Chair**



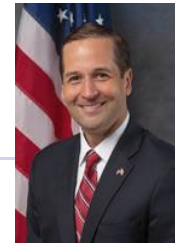
**Rep. Wyman Duggan,
Speaker *pro tempore* and
Ways &
Means
Committee
Chair**



**Rep. Sam Garrison,
Rules &
Ethics
Committee
Chair**



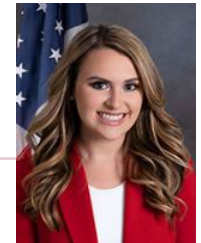
**Rep. Lawrence McClure,
Budget
Committee
Chair**



**Rep. Will Robinson,
State Affairs
Committee
Chair**




**Rep. Tyler Sirois, House
Majority
Leader and
Security &
Threat
Assessment
Committee
Chair**




**Rep. Josie Tomkow,
Health &
Human
Services
Committee
Chair**

HOUSE BY THE NUMBERS



Republicans
85



Democrats
35



Net Change
Republican
+1

2025 HOUSE PRIORITIES



The priority is to serve the people of Florida

Pass laws that help real people with real problems

Not social media activists or lobbyists

People do not need to be told what to think or how to live



People understand that insurance will be a challenge in Florida, but they don't want the laws to be written by insurance companies



People want to own their homes, not be tenants to private equity firms
Pick their doctor
Send their kids to good schools

2025 HOUSE PRIORITIES

State budget should value “value”

- No sense of discipline
- Buying land we can't keep track of or manage
- No accountability for spending on large IT and infrastructure projects

DBPR reshuffle

- This is a headline, not a solution
 - Dismantle licenses that stifle competition
-

GOVERNOR
RON DESANTIS



2025 GOVERNOR PRIORITIES

The Governor will not formally announce 2025 priorities for policy or budget until closer to the Legislative session

Previous priorities have included a focus on gun rights, union regulations, immigration, social or “woke” issues, media, social media, data privacy

The Governor made opposition to Amendment 3 re: marijuana and Amendment 4 re: abortion a central focus for the 2024 General Election

ISSUES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



Property Rights

Storm recovery
Affordable housing
Building permits
Land use – including growth management and concurrency
Vacation rentals



Water Supply, Wastewater and Water Quality

Funding and data/outcomes
Stormwater and Water Quality

- Septic Tanks
- Fertilizer – Agriculture and Urban
- Infrastructure projects
- Stormwater treatment requirements



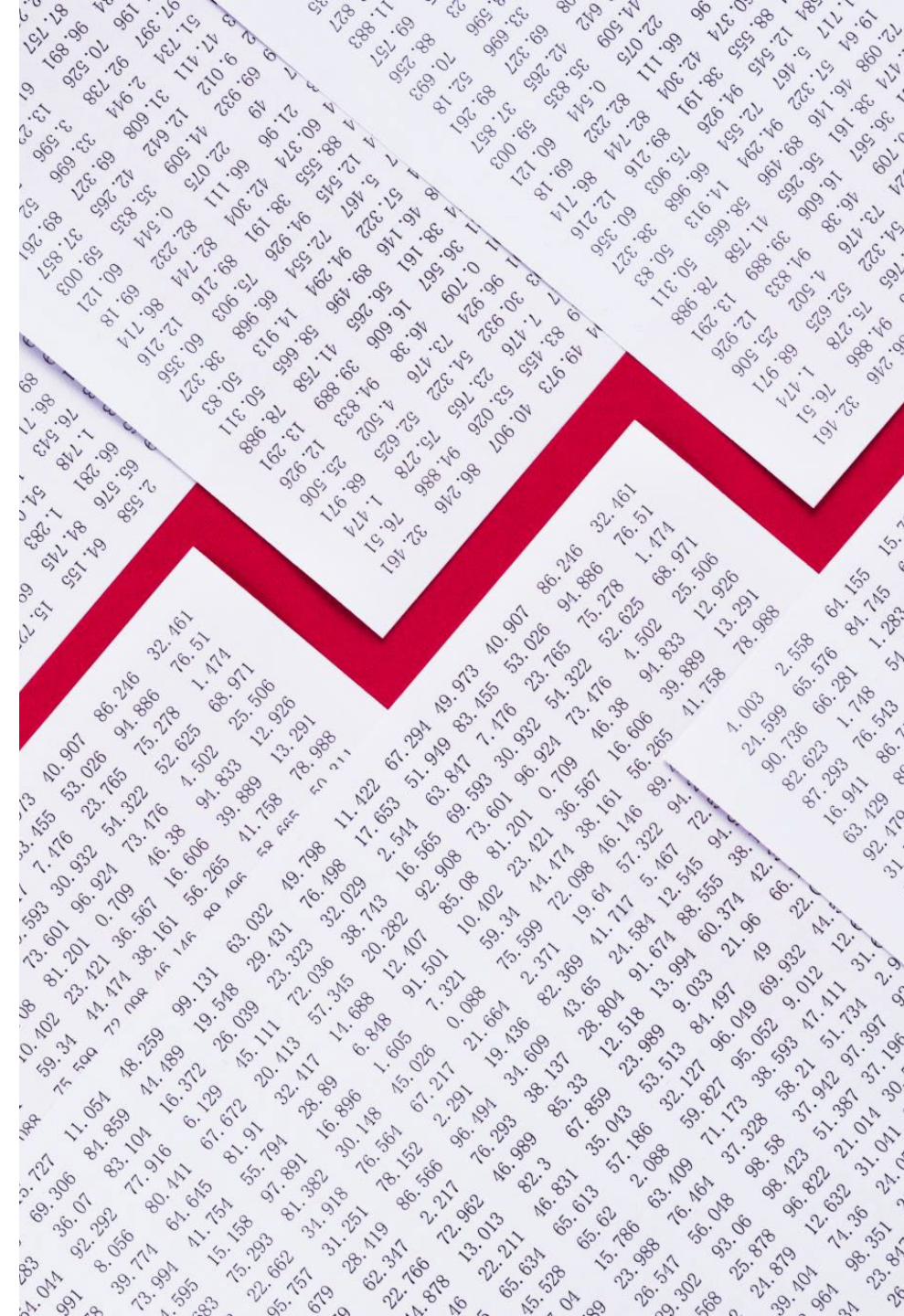
Budget Project Funding

Less robust budget anticipated
Some discussion of zero basing budget

FLORIDA'S GDP GROWTH

Buffeted by a series of economic shocks, the state's GDP dipped to near **zero** (0.4 percent) in Fiscal Year 2019-20, bounced back to **4.7** percent in Fiscal Year 2020-21, and surged to **7.0** percent in Fiscal Year 2021-22, more than double the pre-pandemic-year growth rate and exceeding the prior peak growth rate of **6.6** percent in Fiscal Year 2004-05.

The state's economy expanded by **4.4** percent in Fiscal Year 2022-23 and **4.5** percent in Fiscal Year 2023-24, but *the Revenue Estimating Conference expects growth to decelerate to 2.1 percent and 1.9 percent over the current and next fiscal years* as businesses and consumers transition from a high inflation / high interest rate environment to more normal conditions. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2026-27, the economy will *stabilize at its characteristic 2.0 to 2.1* percent per year.



ADVOCACY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- Early outreach
- Ongoing policy discussions
- Relationship building with delegation and key stakeholders
- Post session briefings
- Tours of important projects
- Building an empowered team – staff, contract
- Local elected involvement during session





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