

**EMERGENT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
JUNE 30, 2008**

The Governor has announced a 4% holdback of funds for all state agencies. This happened just after he had signed the 2008-09 budget into law. Since FEFP funds for districts are a combination of state and local funds, this holdback will effect only that portion of school funding which derives from the state – an amount of approximately 2% for school districts. All other state funds allocated to districts via grants, flow-through funds or line item appropriations will be reduced the full 4%.

Remember that the Legislature authorized the Governor to transfer up to \$1.7 billion from specific endowment funds to the 2008-09 Budget. The Governor has not indicated when he may consider this action.

The next Budget Estimating Conference is scheduled for July.

Bill Status

There were 63 total education bills passed by the Legislature. This includes bills for the University and Community College systems and some special agency bills. Of this total, 55 have become law, 7 are awaiting action and 1 has been vetoed by the Governor.

We were tracking 34 bills (including the budget) which impact K-12. All of these bills have been received by the Governor's office. Of these, 27 have become law, 5 are on his desk awaiting action, and 2 became law without his signature.

To examine bills, go to www.leg.state.fl.us click on House or Senate and enter the bill number in the box provided on the left hand side of the page. Look for the **enrolled copy** marked ER. When the status of all bills is known, we will hot link the sites for your convenience.

Bills Awaiting Action By The Governor

HB 0043	Criminal Activity
HB 0489	Sexual Violence
SB 0526	Interscholastic extracurricular activities
HB 0653	Corporate Income Tax
SB 1908	Senate Education Train

(The Governor must act upon these bills prior to July 4th or they become law without his signature.)

Bills Which Have Become Law

HB 0003	Children's Zones
HB 0251	ROTC
HB 0503	Right to Bear Arms (hasn't been included in earlier reports)
SB 0610	Physical Education
HB 0623	Food Service Programs
SB 0642	Multiple Birth Siblings Classroom Placement
HB 0669	Bullying
HB 0687	Veterans Business Enterprises
HB 0697	Building Code Standards
SB 0856	Disability History
HB 0879	Early Learning
HB 0967	Workplace Safety
SB 1070	Intergovernmental Cooperation
HB 1203	Interstate Compact for Military Children
SB 1276	Educational Facilities Construction
HB 1313	Students with Disabilities
HB 1395	Council on the Status of Black Men and Boys
SB 1414	Supplemental Education Services Providers
SB 1712	Ethics
SB 1906	Alternative Credit High School Courses
SB 1992	Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
HB 5001	Budget (no education line item vetoes)
HB 5003	Implementing Bill for the Budget
HB 5063	Retirement
HB 5083	House Education Train
HB 7067	Virtual Education
HB 7097	Trust Fund B, Surplus Funds
HB 7135	Energy

Bills That Became Law Without Signature

SB 0242	Single Gender Classes
SB 1742	Ethics (requesting national system development)

Election Information (Florida House And Senate)

Florida has 160 Legislators, 120 House and 40 Senate - 142 seats are up for election this year.

FLORIDA SENATE

The Florida Senate has 21 seats up for election. Five Senators are unopposed for re-election (Dennis Jones, Paula Dockery, Mike Bennett, Frederica Wilson, and Larcinia Bullard.) and one new Senator is unopposed (Garrett Richter).

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Florida House has all 120 seats up for election. Thirty-one incumbents are re-elected without opposition (Ray Samson, Jim Patronis, Marti Coley, Jennifer Carroll, Audrey Gibson, Charles McBurney, Larry Cretul, Alan Hays, Geraldine Thompson, Steve Precourt, Ron Schultz, Tom Anderson, Ed Hooper, Rick Kriseman, Will Weatherford, Richard Glorioso, Seth McKeel, Baxter Troutman, William Galvano, Gary Aubuchon, Priscilla Taylor, Kelly Skidmore, Ari Porth, Franklin Sands, Oscar Braymon, Yolly Roberson, Joe Gibbons, Ronald Brise, Anitere Flores, Jaun-Carlos Planas, and Marcelo Liorente). Two new House Members were unopposed. (Tom Grady and Mark Pafford.)

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

In the School Board elections, there are 160 positions up for election. There are 61 uncontested positions and 99 will be decided in an election. Twenty-nine current School Board members have chosen not to run for re-election.

SUPERINTENDENT ELECTIONS

Now that Lake County has voted to have an appointed superintendent (Susan Moxley), there are 42 districts which elect the position of superintendent. Elections will decide 34 of these positions while 8 superintendents will return as the result of being unopposed. Fifteen current elected superintendents have chosen not to run for re-election.