

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

ETHICS AND ELECTIONS
Senator Latvala, Chair
Senator Sobel, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Monday, February 3, 2014
TIME: 4:00 —5:00 p.m.
PLACE: *Pat Thomas Committee Room, 412 Knott Building*

MEMBERS: Senator Latvala, Chair; Senator Sobel, Vice Chair; Senators Benacquisto, Braynon, Clemens, Diaz de la Portilla, Flores, Gardiner, Joyner, Lee, Legg, Soto, and Thrasher

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 506 Banking and Insurance	OGSR/Florida Insurance Guaranty Association; Amending provisions which provide an exemption from public records for certain records held by the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association; abrogating the scheduled repeal of the exemption, etc. EE 02/03/2014 Favorable GO RC	Favorable Yeas 10 Nays 0
2	Initial Discussion of Concepts for Inclusion in Elections Bill		Discussed
Other Related Meeting Documents			

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Ethics and Elections

BILL: SB 506

INTRODUCER: Banking and Insurance Committee

SUBJECT: OGSR/Florida Insurance Guaranty Association

DATE: February 4, 2014

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
	Johnson	Knudson		BI SPB 7004 as introduced
1.	Roberts	Roberts	EE	Favorable
2.			GO	
3.			RC	

I. Summary:

SB 506 is the result of an Open Government Sunset Review (OGSR) by the Banking and Insurance Committee staff of a public records exemption for certain information held by the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association (FIGA). The FIGA provides a mechanism for the payment of claims of insolvent property and casualty insurance companies in Florida.¹

Current law provides that the following records are confidential and exempt, with prescribed limitations:

- Claim files;
- Medical records that are part of a claims file and other medical information relating to the claimant; and
- Information relating to matters covered by privileged attorney-client communications.

Pursuant to the Open Government Sunset Review Act, the exemption will repeal on October 2, 2014, unless reenacted by the Legislature. This bill reenacts the exemption and does not expand the scope of the public records exemption.

II. Present Situation:

Public Records Laws

The Florida Constitution provides every person the right to inspect or copy any public record made or received in connection with the official business of any public body, officer, or

¹ Section 631.55, F.S.

employee of the state, or of persons acting on their behalf.² The records of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches are specifically included.³

The Florida Statutes also specify conditions under which public access must be provided to government records. The Public Records Act⁴ guarantees every person's right to inspect and copy any state or local government public record⁵ at any reasonable time, under reasonable conditions, and under supervision by the custodian of the public record.⁶

Only the Legislature may create an exemption to public records requirements.⁷ Such an exemption must be created by general law and must specifically state the public necessity justifying the exemption.⁸ Further, the exemption must be no broader than necessary to accomplish the stated purpose of the law. A bill enacting an exemption may not contain other substantive provisions⁹ and must pass by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting in each house of the Legislature.¹⁰

Open Government Sunset Review Act

The Open Government Sunset Review Act (the Act) prescribes a legislative review process for newly created or substantially amended public records or open meetings exemptions.¹¹ The Act requires the automatic repeal of such exemption on October 2nd of the fifth year after creation or substantial amendment, unless the Legislature reenacts the exemption.¹²

² FLA. CONST., art. I, s. 24(a).

³ *Id.*

⁴ Chapter 119, F.S.

⁵ Section 119.011(12), F.S., defines "public records" to mean "all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, films, sound recordings, data processing software, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received pursuant to law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business by any agency." Section 119.011(2), F.S., defines "agency" to mean "any state, county, district, authority, or municipal officer, department, division, board, bureau, commission, or other separate unit of government created or established by law including, for the purposes of this chapter, the Commission on Ethics, the Public Service Commission, and the Office of Public Counsel, and any other public or private agency, person, partnership, corporation, or business entity acting on behalf of any public agency." The Public Records Act does not apply to legislative or judicial records (*see Locke v. Hawkes*, 595 So.2d 32 (Fla. 1992)).

⁶ Section 119.07(1)(a), F.S.

⁷ FLA. CONST., art. I, s. 24(c). There is a difference between records the Legislature designates as exempt from public records requirements and those the Legislature designates *confidential and* exempt. A record classified as exempt from public disclosure may be disclosed under certain circumstances (*see WFTV, Inc. v. The School Board of Seminole*, 874 So.2d 48 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004), review denied 892 So.2d 1015 (Fla. 2004); *City of Riviera Beach v. Barfield*, 642 So.2d 1135 (Fla. 4th DCA 2004); and *Williams v. City of Minneola*, 575 So.2d 687 (Fla. 5th DCA 1991)). If the Legislature designates a record as confidential and exempt from public disclosure, such record may not be released, by the custodian of public records, to anyone other than the persons or entities specifically designated in the statutory exemption (*see Attorney General Opinion 85-62*, August 1, 1985).

⁸ FLA. CONST., art. I, s. 24(c).

⁹ The bill may, however, contain multiple exemptions that relate to one subject.

¹⁰ FLA. CONST., art. I, s. 24(c).

¹¹ Section 119.15, F.S. An exemption is substantially amended if the amendment expands the scope of the exemption to include more records or information or to include meetings as well as records (s. 119.15(4)(b), F.S.). The requirements of the Act do not apply to an exemption that is required by federal law or that applies solely to the Legislature or the State Court System (s. 119.15(2), F.S.).

¹² Section 119.15(3), F.S.

The Act provides that a public records or open meetings exemption may be created or maintained only if it serves an identifiable public purpose and is no broader than is necessary to meet such public purpose.¹³ An exemption serves an identifiable purpose if it meets one of the following purposes *and* the Legislature finds that the purpose of the exemption outweighs open government policy and cannot be accomplished without the exemption:

- It allows the state or its political subdivision to effectively and efficiently administer a governmental program, which administration would be significantly impaired without the exemption;
- It protects sensitive personal information that, if released, would be defamatory or would jeopardize an individual's safety; however, only the identity of an individual may be exempted under this provision; or
- It protects trade or business secrets.¹⁴

The Act also requires specified questions to be considered during the review process.¹⁵

When reenacting an exemption that will repeal, a public necessity statement and a two-thirds vote for passage are required if the exemption is expanded.¹⁶ A public necessity statement and a two-thirds vote for passage are not required if the exemption is reenacted with grammatical or stylistic changes that do not expand the exemption, if the exemption is narrowed, or if an exception¹⁷ to the exemption is created.¹⁸

Florida Insurance Guaranty Association

The Florida Insurance Guaranty Association (FIGA) is a not-for-profit corporation created by the Legislature in 1970 in order to service insurance claims, whether for or against the policyholder, of property and casualty insurers that have become insolvent and ordered liquidated. The association's membership is composed of all Florida licensed direct writers of property or casualty insurance.

The statutory authority governing FIGA applies to all kinds of direct insurance except the various types specifically excluded under s. 631.52, F.S. Examples of the excluded types of

¹³ Section 119.15(6)(b), F.S.

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ Section 119.15(6)(a), F.S. The specified questions are:

- What specific records or meetings are affected by the exemption?
- Whom does the exemption uniquely affect, as opposed to the general public?
- What is the identifiable public purpose or goal of the exemption?
- Can the information contained in the records or discussed in the meeting be readily obtained by alternative means? If so, how?
- Is the record or meeting protected by another exemption?
- Are there multiple exemptions for the same type of record or meeting that it would be appropriate to merge?

¹⁶ An exemption is expanded when it is amended to include more records, information, or meetings or to include meetings as well as records, or records as well as meetings.

¹⁷ An example of an exception to a public records exemption would be allowing an additional agency access to confidential and exempt records.

¹⁸ See *State of Florida v. Ronald Knight*, 661 So.2d 344 (Fla. 4th DCA 1995) (holding that nothing in s. 24, art. I of the Florida Constitution requires exceptions to a public records exemption to contain a public necessity statement).

insurance are workers' compensation, surplus lines, fidelity or surety bonds, and life, annuity, health, or disability insurance. A covered claim is "an unpaid claim, including one of unearned premiums, which arises out of, and is within the coverage, and not in excess of, the applicable limits of an insurance policy."

The FIGA obtains funds to pay claims of insolvent insurance companies, in part, from the liquidation of assets of these companies by the Division of Rehabilitation and Liquidation in the Department of Financial Services. Funds are also generated from the liquidation of assets of insolvent insurers domiciled in other states but having claims in Florida. In addition, after insolvency occurs, FIGA can issue two types of assessments against property and casualty insurance companies to raise funds to pay claims – regular and emergency assessments. The FIGA assesses solvent insurance companies directly for both assessments, and the insurance company is allowed to pass the assessment on to its policyholders.

Public Records under Review

Section 631.582, F.S., provides that the following records held by the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), F.S., and s. 24(a), Art. I of the Florida Constitution:

- Claims files, until the termination of all litigation, settlement, and final closing of all claims arising out of the same incident, although portions of the claims files may remain exempt as otherwise provided by law;
- Medical records that are part of a claims file and other information related to the medical condition or medical status of a claimant; and
- Records pertaining to matters reasonably encompassed in privileged attorney-client communications.

Claims files contain detailed information about the claim, including personal, sensitive information about the policyholder or claimant. Claims files may also contain information detailing the evaluation of the legitimacy of the claim, and a valuation of the award, if any, that should be made.

The law does not prescribe what matters are "reasonably encompassed in privileged attorney-client communications." Under the Florida Evidence Code, a client has a privilege of refusing to disclose the content of confidential communications stemming from the lawyer-client relationship. A communication between a lawyer and a client is "confidential" if it is not intended for disclosure to third persons other than when it is in furtherance of the provision of legal services or reasonably necessary for the transmission of the communication.

The law allows the release of records covered by the exemption to any state agency in the performance of that agency's official duties and responsibilities. The agency receiving the information, however, must maintain the confidential and exempt status of the records.

Section 631.582, F.S., provides for future review and repeal of the public records exemption on October 2, 2014. Professional staff of the Banking and Insurance conducted a review of the exemption pursuant to the Open Government Sunset Review Act and solicited comments from FIGA and other stakeholders. The FIGA indicated that there is a public necessity to continue to

protect the information, and recommended reenactment of the public records exemption under review. The responses appears to indicate that the exemption is necessary to preserve the confidentiality and privacy of personal information and to maintain the effective and efficient administration of FIGA.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill removes the repeal date, thereby reenacting the public records exemption for specified records of FIGA. The effective date of the bill is October 1, 2014.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

Not applicable. This bill does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds, reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate, or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

This bill reenacts but does not expand the scope of an existing public records exemption; therefore, a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting in each house of the Legislature is not required for passage.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill amends section 631.582 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

By the Committee on Banking and Insurance

597-00804-14

2014506__

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to a review under the Open Government
 3 Sunset Review Act; amending s. 631.582, F.S., which
 4 provides an exemption from public records for certain
 5 records held by the Florida Insurance Guaranty
 6 Association; abrogating the scheduled repeal of the
 7 exemption; providing an effective date.
 8

9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

10

11 Section 1. Section 631.582, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 12 read:

13

631.582 Public records exemption.—

14

15 (1) The following records of the Florida Insurance Guaranty
 16 Association are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.
 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution:

17

18 (a) Claims files, until termination of all litigation,
 19 settlement, and final closing of all claims arising out of the
 20 same incident, although portions of the claims files may remain
 exempt, as otherwise provided by law.

21

22 (b) Medical records that are part of a claims file and
 23 other information relating to the medical condition or medical
 status of a claimant.

24

25 (c) Records pertaining to matters reasonably encompassed in
 26 privileged attorney-client communications.

27

28 (2) Records or portions of records made confidential and
 29 exempt by this section may be released, upon written request, to
 any state agency in the performance of that agency's official
 duties and responsibilities. The receiving agency shall maintain

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

597-00804-14

2014506__

30 the confidential and exempt status of such record or portion of
 31 such record.

32

~~(3) This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset
 33 Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed
 34 on October 2, 2014, unless reviewed and saved from repeal
 35 through reenactment by the Legislature.~~

36

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

Page 2 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Elections Workshop

Issue	Source	Proposal	Reason	Related 2013 Legis.
TECHNICAL				
1. Unsigned Absentee Ballot "Cure"	FSASE	Modify the voter <i>instructions</i> accompanying absentee ballot signature cure affidavits to include the correct submission deadline (5 p.m. on MON before an election); drafting glitch resulted in an erroneous instruction deadline of 5 p.m. on SUN before an election.	Drafting Glitch/ Fix	2013-57, L.O.F. (2013 Election Admin. Act)
2. Judicial Candidates	FEC	Clarify in the Fla. Elections Commission's general jurisdiction statute (s. 106.25, F.S.) that it has authority to enforce violations of s.105.071, F.S., restricting certain political activities of judicial candidates --- an authority which is already expressly granted in s. 105.071, F.S. NOTE: Requires companion public records bill to keep records confidential until FEC makes a probable cause determination - same process as Chapter 104 and 106 enforcement cases.	Clarification/ Admin. Case	---
3. Campaign Finance Reporting Dates	Stat. Rev. /EE Staff	Detail the <i>specific</i> campaign finance reporting dates for certain candidates and committees from the time of qualifying through the primary and general elections (i.e., 60 th , 46 th , ... 4 th day before the general election), to redress a potential drafting ambiguity in the more descriptive language adopted last year ("on the 60 th day preceding the primary election, and bi-weekly on <i>each</i> Friday thereafter ...").	Drafting Glitch/ Clarification	2013-37, L.O.F. (2013 Campaign Finance Act)
SUBSTANTIVE				
4. Sample Ballot Newspaper Publication	FSASE	Allow supervisors to <i>either</i> publish a sample ballot in a local newspaper <u>or</u> send each registered voter a sample ballot by e-mail or snail mail; supervisors previously had the option to <u>either</u> publish or snail mail a sample ballot; 2014 paper reduction act authorized sending by e-mail, but also set-up the double <i>requirement</i> of publication <u>and</u> sending a sample ballot to each registered voter.	Cost Savings/ Duplicative Requirement	2013-192, L.O.F. (2013 Paper Reduction Act)

Issue	Source	Proposal	Reason	Related 2013 Legis.
5. Service of Process				
a. Initial Service	FEC	Make it a violation for candidates who don't keep their mailing address current with their filing officer for two years after submitting their final campaign finance report; allow FEC complaints to be amended to incorporate this violation; provide that the transmission and notice of initial documents (complaint/legal sufficiency letter) is deemed complete upon mailing or proof of delivery to the address on file with the filing officer.	Cost Savings/ Expedite Process	---
b. Ongoing Service	FEC	Upon commencement of investigation, require respondents to provide the FEC with their current mailing and e-mail addresses (respondents may consent to electronic delivery of docs); failure to maintain a current address or e-mail address (for those receiving electronic docs) is a violation, and complaints may be amended to incorporate the violation; service of docs throughout the pendency of a case is generally deemed complete upon delivery of electronic documents, or upon mailing or receiving proof of delivery at the mailing address on file with the FEC (instead of by certified mail).	Cost Savings/ Expedite Process	---
6. Garnishment of Wages	FEC	Authorize the FEC to record its final orders as judgments and seek garnishment of wages, essentially mirroring the language last year granting such authority to the Ethics Commission.	Uncollected Fines	2013-36, L.O.F. (2013 Ethics Act)
7. Campaign Finance; Automatic Fines for Late Reporting	Sen. Latvala	Delay the increase in automatic fines for candidates, PCs, and ECOs filing late campaign finance reports (from \$50/day to \$500/day) from 3 days after the report was due to 7 days (not applicable to the final report due immediately preceding the primary and general elections).	Senator to explain	2013-37, L.O.F. (2013 Campaign Finance Act)
8. Online Voter Registration	Sen. Clemens	Self-explanatory.	Senator to explain	---
9. Election Day Holiday	Sen. Clemens	Make Election Day a State holiday.	Senator to explain	---

Issue	Source	Proposal	Reason	Related 2013 Legis.
10. Ex-Felon Voting Rights	Sen. Clemens	Streamline the restoration of voting rights process for former felons.	Senator to explain	---
11. Voter Pre-Registration	Sen. Clemens	Allow minors to pre-register to vote. NOTE: Florida law currently allows otherwise qualified minors to pre-register to vote at age 16. (s. 97.041(1)(b), F.S.)	Senator to explain	---

PUBLIC RECORDS BILLS				
12. Voter Information				
a. Voters' E-mail Addresses (gathered for voter registration)	FSASE	<p>Protect public disclosure of voters' e-mail addresses <i>gathered for voter registration</i>; this proposal, a companion bill to the 2013 Paper Reduction Act --- which amended the statewide voter registration form to include a field for e-mail addresses --- passed last year with one no vote; the Governor vetoed it; the Veto Message reads in part:</p> <p><i>"...The mailing addresses of Florida's registered voters have traditionally been part of the public record as a means of delivering important information on election-related issues, and to facilitate communication from elected officials to their constituents. In the modern age of electronic communications, email is increasingly the most convenient and efficient means to receive information that was previously sent through the mail. In order to ensure that voters continue to have efficient access to election-related materials and information, it is essential to keep these channels of communication open to the public."</i></p>	Voter Privacy	CS/CS/HB 249 (vetoed by Governor); companion to 2013-192, L.O.F. (2013 Paper Reduction Act)

Issue	Source	Proposal	Reason	Related 2013 Legis.
b. Voters' Full Birth Date	FSASE	Prevent public disclosure of the voters' full birth date, which can be used for identity theft and for committing fraud in the elections process (i.e., one piece of information in requesting an absentee ballot for another).	Voter Privacy	---

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/3/14
Meeting Date

Topic FEC

Name Amy Toman

Job Title FEC EXEC. Director

Address Collins Bldg.

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

Bill Number N/A
(if applicable)

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Phone 850-922-4539

E-mail amy.toman@myfloridalegal.com

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.
This form is part of the public record for this meeting

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/3/2014

Meeting Date

Topic ELECTIONS

Name DAVID STAFFORD

Job Title SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, DEK. COUNTY

Address PO BOX 12601

Street

PO BOX

City

FL

State

32591

Zip

Bill Number _____

(if applicable)

Amendment Barcode _____

(if applicable)

Phone 850 595 3900

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FSA SE

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: KN 412

Caption: Senate Ethics and Elections

Case:

Judge:

Type:

Started: 2/3/2014 4:05:44 PM

Ends: 2/3/2014 4:52:27 PM Length: 00:46:44

4:05:47 PM Roll Call
4:06:17 PM Opening Remarks by Chair Latvala
4:06:36 PM Tab 1- SB 506 by the Banking & Ins. Comm. - OGSR/FL Ins. Guaranty Assoc.
4:06:52 PM Sen. Simmon's Legislative Aide, Jean Van Smith, presents SB 506
4:07:19 PM Chair Latvala asks for questions
4:07:45 PM Roll Call on SB 506
4:08:09 PM SB 506 reported favorably
4:08:31 PM Tab 2- Initial Discussion of Concepts for Inclusion in Elections Bill
4:09:03 PM Dawn Roberts, Staff Director, presents matrix in meeting packet for Tab 2
4:10:04 PM Chair Latvala asks for objections on #1-Unsigned Absentee Ballot "Cure"
4:10:18 PM Dawn Roberts explains #2- Judicial Candidates
4:10:32 PM Chair Latvala asks for questions
4:10:38 PM Mrs. Roberts makes note to committee
4:10:53 PM Chair Latvala asks question about public records exemption
4:11:11 PM Mrs. Roberts responds
4:11:32 PM Amy Toman, FL Elections Commission, Executive Director
4:12:02 PM Jonathan Fox, Staff Attorney, responds to exemption question
4:12:38 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:12:49 PM Mrs. Roberts explains technical item #3- Campaign Finance Reporting Dates
4:13:16 PM Chair Latvala asks for questions
4:13:28 PM Mrs. Roberts explains #5a- Initial Service
4:14:06 PM Chair Latvala asks for question
4:14:12 PM Sen. Braynon asks question
4:14:26 PM Amy Toman, FEC Exec. Director, responds
4:15:00 PM Chair Latvala asks question regarding penalties
4:15:13 PM Ms. Toman responds
4:15:26 PM Chair Latvala asks for questions
4:15:34 PM Sen. Joyner asks question
4:16:46 PM Chair Latvala asks follow-up question
4:17:11 PM Ms. Toman responds
4:17:31 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:18:05 PM Sen. Sobel asks question about fines
4:18:22 PM Ms. Toman responds
4:18:42 PM Sen. Sobel responds
4:18:57 PM Chair Latvala asks follow-up question
4:19:23 PM Mrs. Roberts explains #5b- Ongoing Service
4:19:56 PM Chair Latvala asks follow-up question
4:20:19 PM Chair Latvala asks for objections
4:20:25 PM Sen. Braynon offers suggestion
4:20:59 PM Ms. Toman responds
4:22:01 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:22:24 PM Mrs. Roberts explains #6- Garnishment of Wages
4:23:07 PM Chair Latvala asks for questions
4:23:18 PM Sen. Joyner asks question about statute of limitations
4:23:28 PM Ms. Toman responds
4:23:39 PM Sen. Joyner asks follow-up question
4:23:52 PM Chair Latvala asks question
4:24:22 PM Ms. Toman responds with regard to caps on fines
4:24:42 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:24:54 PM Ms. Toman responds
4:25:03 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:25:24 PM Sen. Sobel asks question

4:25:49 PM Ms. Toman responds
4:26:33 PM Chair Latvala asks for objections
4:28:05 PM Ms. Toman responds about final orders
4:28:20 PM Chair Latvala asks if it would be prospective
4:28:33 PM Dan Carlton, Staff Attorney, responds
4:28:56 PM Mrs. Roberts explains #7- Campaign Finance
4:29:44 PM Chair Latvala asks for comments and questions
4:30:10 PM Mrs. Roberts explains #4- Sample Ballot Newspaper Publication
4:31:21 PM Chair Latvala asks when bill changed
4:31:31 PM Mrs. Roberts explains
4:31:37 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:32:35 PM Sen. Clemens explains #9- Election Day Holiday
4:33:27 PM Chair Latvala responds with problematic areas
4:34:15 PM Sen. Sobel responds favorably
4:35:32 PM Chair Latvala asks about fiscal impact
4:35:43 PM Sen. Clemens responds
4:36:01 PM Chair Latvala responds with an objection
4:36:16 PM Sen. Clemens responds
4:36:30 PM Sen. Clemens explains #10- Ex-Felon Voting Rights
4:37:49 PM Chair Latvala asks follow-up question
4:38:13 PM Sen. Clemens responds
4:38:57 PM Chair Latvala asks question
4:39:15 PM Sen. Clemens responds
4:39:19 PM Sen. Lee comments on civil rights
4:40:26 PM Chair Latvala asks for other comments
4:40:33 PM Sen. Braynon comments on due process
4:41:41 PM Sen. Flores responds
4:42:23 PM Sen. Clemens makes comment on presentations
4:42:35 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:43:32 PM Sen. Clemens explains #11- Voter Pre-Registration
4:43:57 PM Sen. Clemens explains #8- Online Voter Registration
4:44:58 PM Chair Latvala asks question about certainty
4:45:20 PM Sen. Clemens responds
4:46:30 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:46:47 PM Dave Stafford, Escambia Co. Elec. Sup., representing the FL State Assoc. of Supervisors of Elec.
4:48:18 PM Chair Latvala asks for questions
4:48:24 PM Sen. Clemens responds
4:48:54 PM Chair Latvala thanks Sen. Clemens and makes closing statements
4:50:12 PM Sen. Joyner asks question
4:50:45 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:51:00 PM Sen. Diaz De la Portilla requests favorable motion to vote yes on SB 506
4:51:10 PM Sen. Legg makes comment
4:51:40 PM Chair Latvala responds
4:51:54 PM Sen. Legg makes suggestion
4:52:02 PM Chair Latvala asks for other comments
4:52:18 PM Move to Rise



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

SENATOR JOHN THRASHER
6th District

COMMITTEES:
Rules, *Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education
and Human Services
Community Affairs
Ethics and Elections
Gaming
Judiciary
Regulated Industries

JOINT COMMITTEE:
Joint Legislative Budget Commission

January 31, 2014

Senator Jack Latvala, Chair
408 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Chair Latvala:

I am unable to attend the Senate Ethics and Elections interim committee meeting scheduled for Monday, February 4, 2014 due to a personal commitment.

Please accept this letter as my formal request to be excused from the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Thrasher".

John Thrasher
Florida Senate District 6

cc: Dawn Roberts, Staff Director

REPLY TO:

113 Nature Walk Parkway, Suite 106, St. Augustine, Florida 32092 (904) 287-4222 FAX: 1-888-263-3475
 400 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5006

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

DON GAETZ
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore



SENATOR ANDY GARDINER
13th District

THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development, *Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Ethics and Elections
Gaming
Judiciary
Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEE:
Joint Legislative Budget Commission

January 30, 2014

The Honorable Jack Latvala, Chair
Ethics and Elections
420 Knott Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chair Latvala:

I am writing to respectfully request that I be excused from the Committee on Ethics and Elections meeting scheduled for Monday, February 3. I have a prior commitment and will not be able to attend.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to call my office. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy Gardiner".

Senator Andy Gardiner

AG:gh

Cc: Dawn Roberts, Staff Director
Diane Vause, Administrative Assistant

REPLY TO:

- 1013 East Michigan Street, Orlando, Florida 32806 (407) 428-5800
- 420 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5013

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

DON GAETZ
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

SENATOR DARREN SOTO

Deputy Democratic Whip
14th District

COMMITTEES:

Judiciary, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal
and
Civil Justice
Appropriations Subcommittee on General
Government
Community Affairs
Environmental Preservation and
Conservation
Ethics and Elections

SELECT COMMITTEE:

Select Committee on Patient Protection
and Affordable Care Act

February 3, 2014

The Honorable Jack Latvala
Committee on Ethics and Elections
420 Knott Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

RE: Requested Excuse for Absence

Dear Chairman Latvala,

I respectfully request to be excused from the Committee on Ethics and Elections meeting which was scheduled to meet February 3rd at 4:00 pm. I had to present two of my bills which were heard in two different committees in the Senate Office Building. As the last presenter in the Committee on Criminal Justice, I was unable to make it to your committee before the adjournment. I can assure you that this will not become a regular practice for me. I fully intend to be present at all future meetings of this committee.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 321-332-5308.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darren M. Soto".

Darren M. Soto
State Senator, District 14

REPLY TO:

□ 220 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5014

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

DON GAETZ
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore