

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Senator Rodriguez, Chair
Senator Mayfield, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, October 7, 2025
TIME: 2:00—3:30 p.m.
PLACE: Toni Jennings Committee Room, 110 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Rodriguez, Chair; Senator Mayfield, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, DiCeglie, Harrell, Polsky, and Smith

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
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1	Presentation by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on the implementation of recently passed legislation relating to vessels.		Presented
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TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
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Senate Confirmation Hearing: A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointment to the office indicated.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

2	Kellam, Joshua ()	08/01/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 2
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TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
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Other Related Meeting Documents

2025 Boating Legislation Implementation



Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
October 7, 2025

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission



2025 Boating Bills

- Senate Bill 1388 – Vessels
- Senate Bill 164 – Vessel Accountability
- House Bill 289 – Boating Safety
- Senate Bill 830 – Migrant Vessels
- House Bill 735 – Water Access Facilities



Boater Freedom Act



- Senate Bill 1388
- Boaters' rights
- Modifies Spring Protection Zones (SPZ) requirements
- Ensures use and sale of all vessel propulsion systems



Boater Freedom Act – Key Provisions

- Law Enforcement must have probable cause
- Safety Inspection Decal
- Modify allowable boating activities within SPZs
- Predominant source of significant harm for an SPZ



Boater Freedom Act - Implementation



- Rulemaking process ongoing
- Officer training
- Marine Enforcement Alert
- Coordination with DHSMV
- New threshold for SPZs communicated





Vessel Accountability

- Senate Bill 164
- Derelict vessel (DV) management
 - 365 active cases
 - 210 awaiting removal
- At-Risk Enforcement
 - 18 to 24 months
 - Immediate effective means of propulsion testing
 - Failure to appear/pay
- Derelict Enforcement
 - Prohibits DV residency
 - Removes “responsible party”
- Long-Term Anchoring
 - Creates permit
 - Establishes penalties for violations



Vessel Accountability – Implementation

- Rulemaking process ongoing
- Officer training
- Updating electronic systems
- Long-term anchoring permit system in development
- Stickers modified



NOTICE

**TO THE OWNER AND ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN
THE ATTACHED VESSEL**

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

THIS VESSEL, TO WIT, _____ HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE:

(☐) **DERELICT** PURSUANT TO SECTION 823.11(2), F.S. (☐) **PUBLIC NUISANCE** PURSUANT TO SECTION 327.73(1)(aa), F.S.,
AND IS UNLAWFULLY UPON WATERS OF THIS STATE, SPECIFICALLY: _____

AND MUST BE REMOVED WITHIN 21 DAYS; OTHERWISE, IT WILL BE
REMOVED AND DISPOSED OF PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 705, FLORIDA STATUTES. THE OWNER AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES HAVE THE RIGHT
TO A HEARING TO CHALLENGE THE DETERMINATION THAT THIS VESSEL IS DERELICT OR OTHERWISE IN VIOLATION OF THE LAW. PLEASE CONTACT
THE FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL AT (850) 487-1764 FOR MORE INFORMATION. THE OWNER
_____ FOR THE VESSEL BEING UPON THE WATERS OF THIS STATE IN A DERELICT CONDITION WILL
BE LIABLE FOR THE COSTS OF REMOVAL, STORAGE, DESTRUCTION, AND DISPOSAL IF THIS VESSEL IS NOT REMOVED BY THE OWNER OF THE
PROPERTY AS PROVIDED IN LAW.

INCIDENT/SUMMARY NUMBER _____ POSTED BY: _____
DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

DATE OF POSTING _____

TELEPHONE _____ ADDRESS _____

URGENT ACTION REQUIRED

FWCDLE-073



Lucy's Law



- House Bill 289
- Penalty structures
 - Leaving the scene
 - Reckless boating
- Adds death of unborn child
- Minimum four years for BUI Manslaughter
- Misdemeanor charge for false statement
- Mandatory boating safety education for violators



Lucy's Law – Implementation



- Rulemaking process ongoing
- Officer training
- Electronic systems updating



Migrant Vessels – Key Provisions and Implementation

- Senate Bill 830
- Unsafe, makeshift vessels
- Defines migrant vessel
- Five-day notice prior to removal



 **NOTICE** 

TO THE OWNER AND ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN
THE ATTACHED VESSEL

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

THIS VESSEL, TO WIT: _____ HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE:
A **MIGRANT VESSEL** PURSUANT TO SECTION 823.11(1), F.S.

AND IS UNLAWFUL UPON WATERS OF THIS STATE, SPECIFICALLY: _____
AND MUST BE REMOVED WITHIN 5 DAYS.
OTHERWISE, IT WILL BE REMOVED AND DISPOSED OF PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 36, FLORIDA STATUTES. THE OWNER
WILL BE LIABLE FOR THE COSTS OF REMOVAL, STORAGE, AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE.

INCIDENT / SUMMARY NUMBER: _____ POSTED BY: _____
DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

DATE OF POSTING: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ ADDRESS _____

URGENT ACTION REQUIRED FWCDLE-074



Water Access Facilities – Key Provisions and Implementation

- House Bill 735
- Improves boating access
- Clean Marine Manufacturers Program
- Grant applications including new criteria





Thank You

Deputy Legislative Affairs Director:

Kate Grimes

Katelyn.Grimes@MyFWC.com

850-567-4264



The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

10/7/25

Meeting Date

ENR

Committee

Boating Presentation

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Bill Holcomb

Phone 850-487-3796

Address 620 S. Meridian St

Email william.holcomb@myfwc.com

Street

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32399

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☒ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
Committee Notice Of Hearing

IN THE FLORIDA SENATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

IN RE: Executive Appointment of

Joshua Kellam

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: Mr. Joshua Kellam

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources of the Florida Senate will conduct a hearing on your executive appointment on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, in the Toni Jennings Committee Room, 110 Senate Building, commencing at 2:00 p.m., pursuant to Rule 12.7(1) of the Rules of the Florida Senate.

Please be present at the time of the hearing.
DATED this the 29th day of September, 2025

Committee on Environment and Natural
Resources



Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez
As Chair and by authority of the committee

cc: Members, Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Office of the Sergeant at Arms

850

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

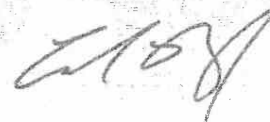
Joshua Kellam

is duly appointed a member of the

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of August, A.D., 2025,
until the First day of August, A.D., 2027 and is subject to be
confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of the
Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Eleventh day of September, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State



DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

If photocopied or chemically altered, the word "VOID" will appear.

"State of Florida" appears in small letters across the face of this 8 1/2 x 11" document.



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 AUG 12 PM 3:26
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

August 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 379.102, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Joshua Kellam

as a member of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, filling a vacant seat previously occupied by Gary Nicklaus, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective August 11, 2025, for a term ending August 1, 2027.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/dw

AND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.; § 92.50, Florida Statutes)

2025 SEP -4 PM 1:50

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Palm Beach

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Fish Wildlife Conservation Commission

(Full Name of Office - Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Signature

Joshua Kellam

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of physical presence ☒ OR online notarization ☐
this 22nd day of August, 2025.

[Signature]

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

(To be completed only by judges administering oath - see § 92.50, Florida Statutes.)

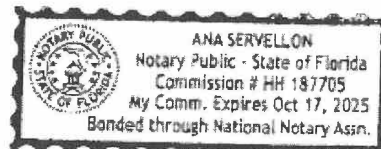
Print Name

Title

Court

(To be completed by officer administering oath, other than judges - see § 92.50, Florida Statutes.)

Affix Seal Below



Personally Known ☒ OR Produced Identification ☐
Type of Identification Produced _____

ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☐ Office ☒

Joshua Kellam

Print Name

Joshua Kellam

Signature

City, State, Zip Code

THE FLORIDA SENATE

COMMITTEE WITNESS OATH

CHAIR:

Please raise your right hand and be sworn in as a witness.

Do you swear or affirm that the evidence you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

WITNESS'S NAME: Joshua Kellam

ANSWER: I Do

Pursuant to §90.605(1), *Florida Statutes*: "The witness's answer shall be noted in the record."

COMMITTEE NAME: Environment and Natural Resources

DATE: October 7, 2025

THE FLORIDA SENATE

COMMITTEE WITNESS OATH

CHAIR:

Please raise your right hand and be sworn in as a witness.

Do you swear or affirm that the evidence you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

WITNESS'S NAME: Robyn Blevins

ANSWER: I Do

Pursuant to §90.605(1), *Florida Statutes*: "The witness's answer shall be noted in the record."

COMMITTEE NAME: Environment and Natural Resources

DATE: October 7, 2025

THE FLORIDA SENATE

COMMITTEE WITNESS OATH

CHAIR:

Please raise your right hand and be sworn in as a witness.

Do you swear or affirm that the evidence you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

WITNESS'S NAME: Javier Estevez

ANSWER: I Do

Pursuant to §90.605(1), *Florida Statutes*: "The witness's answer shall be noted in the record."

COMMITTEE NAME: Environment and Natural Resources

DATE: October 7, 2025

THE FLORIDA SENATE

COMMITTEE WITNESS OATH

CHAIR:

Please raise your right hand and be sworn in as a witness.

Do you swear or affirm that the evidence you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

WITNESS'S NAME: Ernie Barnett

ANSWER: I Do

Pursuant to §90.605(1), *Florida Statutes*: "The witness's answer shall be noted in the record."

COMMITTEE NAME: Environment and Natural Resources

DATE: October 7, 2025

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

10/7/25

Meeting Date

ENR

Committee

FWCC

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Joshua Kellam

Phone

757-286-4183

Address

14027 Wind Flower Dr

Email

JKellam@growgarcia.com

Street

PBG

FL

33418

City

State

Zip

Speaking:



☐ Against

☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐ In Support

☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.



I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. § 11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

10/7/25

Meeting Date

Env. + Natural Resources

Committee

Kellom Confirmation

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Javier Estevez Sierra Club Florida

Phone 305-297-6069

Address 2713 S Oakland Forest Drive
Street

Email javier.estevez@SierraClub.org

Oakland Park FL 33309
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☒ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☒ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

Sierra Club Florida

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

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Josh Kellan
Bill Number or Topic

10/7/25
Meeting Date
ENR
Committee

Name Ernie Barnett Phone 850 284 6170
Address 4524 Gun Club Rd Email Barnett
WPB FL
City State Zip

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
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S-001 (08/10/2021)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Finance and Tax, Chair
Transportation, Chair
Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development
Environment and Natural Resources
Ethics and Elections
Fiscal Policy
Rules

SENATOR BRYAN AVILA

39th District

September 30, 2025

On Behalf of Senator Bryan Avila:

The Honorable Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez
The Florida Senate
409, The Capitol 404 S. Monroe
Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

REF: Absence Excusal Request

Honorable Senator Rodriguez:

Please excuse my absence from the Environment and Natural Resources Committee which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th, 2025. I have been activated to serve in the Florida Army National Guard during that time.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryan Avila".

Bryan Avila
Senator
District 39

CC: Tracy C. Cantella, Secretary of the Senate
Ronnie Whitaker, Majority Office Staff Director
Ellen Rogers, Staff Director- Environment and Natural Resources

REPLY TO:

- 10001 NW 87th Avenue, Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016 (305) 364-3073
- 309 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5039

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 110

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Environment and Natural Resources

Judge:

Started: 10/7/2025 2:01:38 PM

Ends: 10/7/2025 3:11:36 PM

Length: 01:09:59

2:01:44 PM	Roll call
2:02:01 PM	Quorum present
2:02:29 PM	Senator Avila is excused
2:02:39 PM	Pledge of Allegiance
2:03:02 PM	Tab 2 - FWCC Appointment of Joshua Kellam
2:08:50 PM	Senator Harrell recognized for a question
2:13:01 PM	Follow up from Senator Harrell
2:16:47 PM	Follow up from Senator Harrell
2:18:08 PM	Senator Smith recognized for questions
2:22:49 PM	Follow up from Senator Smith
2:28:59 PM	Question from Senator Smith
2:33:36 PM	Robyn Blevins committee witness oath
2:33:56 PM	Ms. Blevins speaks against the confirmation of Mr. Kellam
2:38:06 PM	Javier Estevez of the Sierra Club committee witness oath - speaks against the confirmation
2:40:10 PM	Ernie Barnett witness oath - speaks in support of confirmation
2:42:04 PM	Senator Arrington recognized in debate
2:42:58 PM	Senator Smith in debate
2:47:11 PM	Senator Mayfield in debate
2:48:49 PM	Closing remarks from Joshua Kellam
2:49:42 PM	Senator Mayfield moves to recommend confirmation
2:50:00 PM	Confirmation is reported favorably
2:50:28 PM	Tab #1 - Presentation by FWCC on boating legislation implementation
2:50:59 PM	Bill Holcomb w/ the FWCC
3:03:18 PM	Senator Harrell recognized for a question
3:04:46 PM	Senator Smith recognized for a question
3:07:04 PM	Follow up from Senator Smith
3:11:28 PM	Senator Polsky moves to adjourn