

## Committee on Appropriations

### **HB 83 — Trust Funds/Re-creation/State-Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund/DOC**

by Rep. V. Lopez and others (SB 520 by Senator Bradley)

The bill re-creates the State-Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund in the Department of Corrections, provided that it is enacted by three-fifths of the membership of both houses of the Legislature.

Article III, s. 19, State Constitution requires that all newly created trust funds terminate not more than four years after the initial creation, unless re-created. This provision requires that a trust fund be created or re-created by a three-fifths vote of the membership in each house of the Legislature in a separate bill, for the sole purpose of creating or re-creating that trust fund. The State-Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund, FLAIR number 20-2-523, was created in the Florida Department of Corrections (FDC), effective July 1, 2020, and is scheduled to terminate on July 1, 2024.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

*Vote: Senate 38-0; House 114-0*

## Committee on Appropriations

### **SB 2518 — Health and Human Services**

by Appropriations Committee

The bill conforms statutes to the funding decisions related to Health and Human Services in the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. The bill:

- Allows the Department of Health (department) to deposit funds from returned Florida Reimbursement Assistance for Medical Education (FRAME) and the Dental Student Loan Repayment Program loan payments into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and provides for the department to use the funds to make payments on behalf of awardees.
- Authorizes an Area Agency on Aging to carry forward documented unexpended state funds from one fiscal year to the next. However, the cumulative amount carried forward may not exceed 10 percent of the area agency's planning and service area allocation for the community care for the elderly program.
- Revises the cap on the grant award levels for continuum of care lead agencies designated by the State Office on Homelessness.
- Amends ch. 2023-277, L.O.F., relating to Florida Kidcare program eligibility, to specify that implementation of the act is contingent on federal approval.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024, except where otherwise expressly provided.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 109-0*

## Committee on Appropriations

### HB 5001 — General Appropriations Act

by Appropriations Committee and Rep. Leek (SB 2500 by Appropriations Committee)

The bill, relating to the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, provides for a total budget of \$117.46 billion, including:

- \$49.4 billion from the General Revenue Fund (GR)
- \$2.5 billion from the Education Enhancement Trust Fund
- \$1.5 billion from the Public Education Capital Outlay Trust Fund (PECO TF)
- \$64.1 billion from other trust funds (TF)
- 113,630.26 full time equivalent positions (FTE)

### Increased Reserves and Debt Reduction

- Total Reserves: \$10 billion
  - \$5.1 billion General Revenue Unallocated
  - \$4.4 billion Budget Stabilization Fund (\$300 million added)
  - \$500 million added to the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund
- \$500 million authorized to retire outstanding state debt

### Major Issues

#### *Compensation and Benefits*

- Three percent pay increase for all state employees
- Additional Pay Increases for:
  - FDLE Special Agents
  - Agency for Health Care Administration
  - Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
- State Employees and Retirees Health Insurance Premiums held constant
- Inclusion of the Florida College System for State Group Health Insurance

#### *Education Capital Outlay*

Total Appropriations: \$2.0 billion [\$268 million GR; \$1.8 billion TF]

- State University System Projects - \$616.2 million
- Florida College System Projects - \$133.6 million
- Charter School Repairs and Maintenance - \$230.8 million
- Small School District Special Facilities - \$193.2 million
- Developmental Research School Repairs and Maintenance - \$9.2 million

**Education Appropriations**

Total Appropriations: \$30.1 billion [\$22.6 billion GR; \$7.5 billion TF]

Total Funding - Including Local Revenues: \$45.6 billion [\$30.1 billion state/federal funds; \$15.5 billion local funds]

***Early Learning Services***

Total: \$1.7 billion [\$608.9 million GR; \$1.1 billion TF]; 98 positions

- Partnerships for School Readiness - \$34.4 million
- School Readiness Program - \$1.2 billion
- Early Learning Standards & Accountability - \$4.9 million
- Voluntary Prekindergarten Program - \$438.1 million
  - Decrease of 1,885 fewer students - (\$9.6 million)
  - 3 percent increase to the BSA - \$12.5 million
  - Increase to Administration from 4 percent to 5 percent - \$4.1 million
  - Summer Bridge Program - \$4.1 million

***Public Schools/K12 FEFP***

Total Funding: \$28.4 billion [\$15.5 billion state funds; \$12.9 billion local funds]

- FEFP Total Funds increase is \$1.8 billion or 6.73 percent
- FEFP increase in Total Funds per Student served by a district is \$240.01, a 2.75 percent increase (from \$8,718.58 to \$8,958.59)
- Base Student Allocation (BSA) increase of \$191.25 or 3.72 percent
- FEFP Base Funds (flexible \$) increase of \$1.27 billion or 7.22 percent
- Required Local Effort (RLE) increase of \$483.4 million; RLE millage maintained at prior year level of 3.189 mills
- Safe Schools Allocation - \$40 million increase for a total of \$290 million for School Safety Officers and school safety initiatives
- Mental Health Assistance Allocation - \$20 million increase for a total of \$180 million to help school districts and charter schools address youth mental health issues

***Public Schools/K12 Non-FEFP & Ed Media***

Total: \$627.4 million [\$619.9 million GR; \$7.5 million TF]

- Coach Aaron Feis, Chris Hixon, & Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program - \$6.5 million
- School Recognition Program - \$200 million
- Mentoring Programs - \$12.2 million
- Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources Centers - \$8.7 million
- School District Foundation Matching Grants - \$7 million
- Florida Safe Schools Canine Program - \$3.5 million
- Early Childhood Music Education - \$2.4 million

- District Threat Management Coordinators - \$5 million
- Regional Literacy Teams - \$5 million
- Charity for Change - \$4.7 million
- Menstrual Hygiene Products Grant Program - \$6.4 million
- Civics Literacy Captains and Coaches - \$3.5 million
- Civics Professional Development - \$2.75 million
- Florida Civics Seal of Excellence - \$10 million
- New Worlds Scholarship Accounts - \$24 million
- SEED School of Miami - \$12.2 million
- School and Instructional Enhancement Grants - \$54.7 million
- Florida School for the Deaf & Blind - \$68.3 million
- Transportation Stipend - \$14 million to fund the Family Empowerment Transportation Scholarships
- School Safety Inspection Bonus Program - \$3.8 million
- Capital Projects - \$66 million

### ***State Board of Education***

Total: \$308.2 million [\$156.1 million GR; \$152.1 million TF]; 949 positions

- Assessment and Evaluation - \$129.2 million
- ACT and SAT Exam Administration - \$8 million

### ***Vocational Rehabilitation***

Total: \$257.4 million [\$61.7 million GR; \$195.7 million TF]; 884 positions

### ***Blind Services***

Total: \$72.6 million [\$24.7 million GR; \$47.9 million TF]; 289.75 positions

### ***Private Colleges***

Total: \$243.2 million GR

- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) – \$31.4 million
- HBCU Facility Hardening Funds - \$15 million
- Effective Access to Student Education (EASE) - \$134.8 million
  - EASE Plus - \$9.6 million

### ***Student Financial Aid***

Total: \$1.05 billion [\$318.6 million GR; \$729.7 million TF]

- Bright Futures - \$616.9 million
  - Workload increase - \$26.2 million
- Benacquisto Scholarship Program - \$39 million

- Workload increase - \$4.3 million
- Children/Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans - \$21.5 million
  - Workload increase - \$4.8 million
- Florida First Responder Scholarship Program - \$10 million
- Open Door Grant Program - \$35 million
- Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Scholarship - \$7 million

### ***School District Workforce***

Total: \$812.1 million [\$475.5 million GR; \$293.9 million TF; \$42.7 million tuition/fees]

- Workforce Development - \$451.2 million
  - Workload increase - \$24.6 million
- Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program for apprenticeships - \$20 million
  - Increase for “Grow Your Own Teacher” Apprenticeship Program - \$5 million
- Nursing Education Initiatives - \$20 million
- Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Program - \$5 million
- Student Success in Career and Technical Education Incentive Funds - \$2.5 million
- No tuition increase

### ***Florida College System***

Total: \$2.4 billion [\$1.47 billion GR; \$259 million TF; \$689.9 million tuition/fees]

- CAPE Incentive Funds for students who earn Industry Certifications - \$20 million
- College System Program Fund - \$1.6 billion
- Nursing Education Initiatives - \$59 million
- Student Success Incentive Funds - \$30 million
  - 2+2 Student Success Incentive Funds - \$17 million
  - Work Florida Incentive Funds - \$13 million
- No tuition increase

### ***State University System***

Total: \$6.8 billion [\$4.3 billion GR; \$666.7 million TF; \$1.94 billion tuition/fees]

- Metric Based Performance Funding - \$645 million
  - State Investment - \$350 million
  - Institutional Investment - \$295 million
- Performance-based Excellence Recognition Program - \$100 million
- Preeminent State Research Universities - \$100 million
- Lastinger Center for Learning at University of Florida - \$58.2 million
- Nursing Education Initiatives - \$46 million
- Community School Grant Program - \$20.1 million total, which includes a \$9.1 million workload increase

- Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program for Students with Unique Abilities - \$12.5 million total, which includes a \$3.5 million workload increase
- No tuition increase

### **Health and Human Services Appropriations**

Total Budget: \$46.5 billion [\$16.2 billion GR; \$30.3 billion TF]; 32,129.76 positions

#### **Major Issues**

##### ***Agency for Health Care Administration***

Total: \$34.7 billion [\$11.1 billion GR; \$23.6 billion TF]; 1,616 positions

- Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Pilot Program - \$38.4 million
- Medicaid Provider Rate Increases - \$333.1 million
  - Air and Ground Ambulance Emergency Services - \$5.9 million
  - Assistive Care Services - \$1.3 million
  - Early Intervention Services - \$1.2 million
  - Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics - \$19 million
  - Maternal Fetal Medicine - \$3.5 million
  - Medical Foster Care - \$0.5 million
  - Nursing Homes - \$247.9 million
  - Pediatric Behavioral Health Services - \$43.1 million
  - Pediatric Physicians - \$43.1 million
  - Statewide Inpatient Psychiatric Program - \$7.6 million
  - Therapeutic Group Home - \$0.3 million
- Behavioral Health Collaborative Care - \$8.3 million
- Graduate Medical Education - \$10.5 million
- Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly - \$29.7 million
- Florida Health Care Connections (FX) - \$92.1 million

##### ***Agency for Persons with Disabilities***

Total: \$2.4 billion [\$1.1 billion GR; \$1.3 billion TF]; 2,753 positions

- Home and Community Based Services Pre-Enrollment to Waiver - \$64.8 million
- Pre-Enrollment to Waiver Slots for Siblings - \$16.9 million
- Dually Diagnosed Program - \$6.5 million
- Adult Pathways Waiver - \$0.3 million
- Information Technology - \$9.3 million
- Fixed Capital Outlay for Persons with Developmental Disabilities - \$12.5 million

***Department of Children and Families***

Total: \$4.7 billion [\$2.8 billion GR; \$1.9 billion TF]; 12,974.75 positions

- Independent Living Programs Eligibility Expansion - \$8.1 million
- Adoption Incentive Benefit Increase and Eligibility Expansion - \$9.4 million
- Adoption, Guardianship, and Foster Care Subsidies - \$26.4 million
- Homeless Housing Opportunities - \$10 million
- Domestic Violence Services - \$10 million
- Human Trafficking Emergency Bed Expansion - \$5 million
- Optional State Supplementation Personal Needs Allowance Increase - \$6.7 million
- Opioid Settlement - Treatment, Prevention, and Recovery Services - \$83.9 million
- State Mental Health Treatment Facilities - \$88.8 million
- Integrated Behavioral Health Clinics - \$7 million
- Behavioral Qualified Residential Treatment Program - \$5.7 million
- Community-Based Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services - \$21.5 million
- Florida System and Child Welfare Information System Modernization - \$54.1 million
- Economic Self Sufficiency (ESS) Call Center - \$12.3 million
- Fixed Capital Outlay for State Mental Health Treatment Facilities - \$6.5 million

***Department of Elder Affairs***

Total: \$482.4 million [\$251.7 million GR; \$230.6 million TF]; 431 positions

- Florida Alzheimer's Center of Excellence - \$2.1 million; 2 positions
- Serve Additional Clients in the Home Care for the Elderly and Community Care for the Elderly Programs - \$11 million
- Alzheimer Disease Initiative - \$6 million
- Office of Professional and Public Guardians Waitlist - \$1.4 million
- Electronic Client Information and Registration Tracking System (eCIRTS) Project Implementation - \$2.8 million

***Department of Health***

Total: \$4.1 billion [\$948.2 million GR; \$3.2 billion TF]; 12,849 positions

- Statewide Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program - \$1.7 million
- Florida Cancer Innovation Fund - \$40 million
- Sickle Cell Treatment and Research - \$10 million
- Rural Hospital Capital Improvement Grant Program - \$10 million
- Mary Brogan Breast and Cervical Early Detection Program - \$1.7 million
- Fixed Capital Outlay for Public Health Laboratories - \$9.7 million

***Department of Veterans Affairs***

Total: \$220 million [\$58 million GR; \$162 million TF]; 1,506 positions

- Collier County State Veterans' Nursing Home - \$10 million
- Veterans' Claims Examiners - \$0.6 million; 6 positions
- Veterans Dental Care Grant Program - \$1 million
- Florida is for Veterans' Vets Program - \$2 million
- Florida is for Veterans' Occupancy License Reciprocity - \$1 million
- Fixed Capital Outlay for State Veterans' Nursing Homes - \$4 million

**Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations**

Total Budget: \$7.3 billion [\$6.3 billion GR; \$1 billion TF]; 45,507 positions

**Major Issues**

- Correctional Facilities Capital Improvement - \$100 million
- DOC Education Expansion - \$11.1 million
- DJJ Florida Scholars Academy - \$12.8 million
- Increase Residential Commitment Capacity - \$5.2 million
- Children In Need of Services/Families In Need of Services (CINS/FINS) - \$6.3 million
- Children's Advocacy Centers - \$5.3 million
- Statewide Prosecution Workload - \$10.9 million; 40 positions
- State Assistance for Fentanyl Eradication (S.A.F.E.) in Florida - \$8.5 million
- Biometric Identification Solution (BIS) Modernization - \$11.9 million
- Certification of Additional Judgeships - \$3.7 million; 20 positions

***Department of Corrections***

Total: \$3.6 billion [\$3.5 billion GR; \$101.7 million TF]; 23,452 positions

- Correctional Facilities Capital Improvement - \$100 million
- DOC Education Expansion - \$11.1 million
- Certified Officers Public Safety Initiative (uniforms) - \$1.6 million
- Community Corrections Statewide Firearms Transition - \$2.1 million
- Inflationary Adjustments for Operations - \$3 million
- Offender Based Information Technology Modernization - \$17 million
- Technology Restoration Plan - \$9.2 million
- Contracted Work Release Provider Rate Increases - \$4.9 million
- Contracted Maintenance Staffing - \$2.5 million
- Food Service Contract - \$12 million
- Contracted Inmate Health Services - \$21.3 million
- Operation New Hope - \$9.8 million

***Attorney General/ Legal Affairs***

Total: \$382.9 million [\$122.3 million GR; \$260.6 million TF]; 1,348.5 positions

- Statewide Prosecution Workload - \$10.9 million; 40 positions
- Children's Advocacy Centers - \$5.3 million
- Agency-wide Information Technology Infrastructure and Hardware Replacement - \$7.1 million

***Florida Department of Law Enforcement***

Total: \$494.9 million [\$321.5 million GR; \$173.3 million TF]; 2,022 positions

- Forensic Backlog Reduction - \$1.3 million; 6 positions
- Biometric Identification Solution (BIS) Modernization - \$11.9 million
- Missing and Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Technology Upgrade - \$1.9 million
- Restore Crime Scene Function Orlando, Tampa, Miami - \$2.5 million; 9 positions
- Criminal Justice Network Bandwidth Increase - \$3 million
- State Assistance for Fentanyl Eradication (S.A.F.E.) in Florida Program - \$8.5 million
- Purchase of Body Armor for Local Law Enforcement - \$2 million
- Investigative Services Needs - \$1.5 million
- Cell Site Simulator - \$2.1 million
- Intercept Operations Expansion - \$1.2 million
- Law Enforcement Crime Abatement Technology Enhancements - \$1.1 million; 6 positions
- Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant - \$2.5 million
- School Safety Security Assessment Grant Program - \$5 million
- Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Community Outreach and Engagement Initiative - \$3 million
- Investigative Support and Laboratory Inflationary Costs - \$2.5 million

***Department of Juvenile Justice***

Total: \$743.3 million [\$581.4 million GR; \$162 million TF]; 3,251.5 positions

- Florida Scholars Academy - \$12.8 million
- Increase DJJ Probation Provider Pay - \$2.4 million
- Increase Residential Commitment Capacity - \$5.2 million
- Children In Need of Services/Families In Need of Services (CINS/FINS) - \$6.3 million

***Justice Administrative Commission***

Total: \$1.3 billion [\$1 billion GR; \$225.4 million TF]; 10,641 positions

- Increase Staff to Represent All Children - \$0.8 million; 9 positions
- Fund Shift for Victims of Crime Act Deficit - \$4.3 million

- Replacement of Motor Vehicles – \$2.8 million
- Ybor City Community Outreach and Engagement Initiative - \$3 million

### ***State Court System***

Total: \$741.3 million [\$625.5 million GR; \$115.8 million TF]; 4,627 positions

- Due Process Resources - \$2.6 million; 10 positions
- Court Reporting Resources - \$4.1 million; 30 positions
- Case Processing Support - \$1.9 million; 20 positions
- Certification of Additional Judgeships - \$3.7 million; 20 positions
- Cybersecurity Resources - \$2 million
- Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer Resources - \$1.8 million; 20 positions
- Maintenance and Repair Needs for the 5<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeal Courthouse - \$1.8 million

### **Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations**

Total Budget: \$20.4 billion [\$930 million GR; \$19.4 billion TF]; 12,975 positions

### **Major Issues**

#### ***Department of Commerce***

Total: \$2.3 billion [\$361 million GR; \$1.97 billion TF]; 1,512 positions

- Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program - \$17 million
- Florida Job Growth Grant Funding - \$75 million
- Fully funds Live Local:
  - State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program - \$174 million
  - Affordable Housing (SAIL) Program - \$84 million
- Emergency Revolving Bridge Loan - \$20 million GR
- VISIT FLORIDA - \$80 million
- Space Florida
  - Financing Program for Aerospace Industry - \$6 million TF
  - Operations - \$5 million TF
- Information Technology
  - Cloud Hosting Infrastructure and Services - \$6.6 million TF
  - Reemployment Assistance Claimant Services Enhancement - \$5 million
  - Reemployment Assistance - Operations and Maintenance - \$11.4 million GR
  - One-Stop Service Migration - \$500,000 TF
  - Florida Planning, Accounting, and Ledger Management (PALM) Readiness - \$645,900 TF
  - Department-Wide IT needs - \$338,887 TF
- Economic Development Toolkit - \$24 million
- Federal Reemployment Tax Service Contract - \$1.7 million

- Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Grant Funding (CDBG-DR) - \$396 million
- Community Services Block Grant - \$3 million TF
- Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Programmatic Funding - \$100 million
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) - \$100 million
- State Small Business Credit Initiative - \$175.2 million
- Housing & Community Development Initiatives - \$29.8 million
- Florida Sports Foundation Additional Funding - \$2 million

### ***Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles***

Total: \$600 million TF; 4,243 positions

- Additional Equipment for the Florida Highway Patrol - \$1.3 million
- Provide for Increased Costs for Fuel and Maintenance for Motor Vehicles - \$1 million
- Replace Pursuit Vehicles - \$3.3 million
- Purchase of Florida Licensing on Wheels (FLOW) Mobile - \$782,284
- Credentialing Equipment and Maintenance - \$5.5 million
- Motorist Modernization Project - Phase II - \$13.2 million
- Maintenance and Repair - Neil Kirkman Building, Tallahassee - \$4.6 million

### ***Department of Military Affairs***

Total: \$169.5 million [\$104.2 million GR; \$65.3 million TF]; 486 positions

- Florida National Guard Tuition Assistance - \$5.2 million GR
- Maintenance, Repair, Construction Statewide - \$8.5 million GR
- Camp Blanding - Level II - \$40.5 million GR
- Readiness Center Revitalization and Modernization Program - \$5.2 million GR

### ***Department of State***

Total: \$231.8 million [\$207.8 million GR; \$24 million TF]; 456 positions

- Libraries Maintenance of Effort - \$21.5 million GR; and Additional Aid - \$2 million GR
- Cultural and Museum Program Support Grants and Initiatives - \$60.8 million GR
- Historical Preservation Grants and Initiatives - \$50.6 million GR
- African American Cultural and Historic Grants - \$4.7 million GR
- Library Construction Grants - \$5.7 million GR
- Sunbiz System Modernization - \$3.8 million GR
- Division of Corporations Call Center Services - \$2.7 million GR
- Reimbursement to Counties for Special Elections - \$1.5 million
- Advertising Proposed Constitutional Amendments - \$1.6 million GR
- Mission San Luis Conservation Laboratory - \$3.5 million GR
- Restoration of Historical Properties - Lead-based Paint Abatement - \$7.1 million GR

***Department of Transportation***

Total: \$15.7 billion [\$138 million GR; \$15.5 billion TF]; 6,053 positions

- Transportation Work Program - \$13.98 billion
- Information Technology
  - Florida Planning, Accounting, and Ledger Management (PALM) Readiness - \$13.8 million
  - Cybersecurity In-House Staffing Resources - \$321,016
  - Network Communication Recovery \$742,807
  - Storage Area Network Replacement - \$452,000
  - Data Infrastructure Modernization - \$3.2 million
  - Security Risk Management Program - \$607,320
  - Virtual Mobility Data Management - \$384,000
  - Geospatial Roadway Data Strategic Framework - \$552,240
  - Secure Email Gateway - \$890,640
- Increase Operating Costs Department-wide - \$10.9 million
- Building and Grounds Maintenance and Repair - \$1 million
- Transportation Disadvantaged - \$3 million
- Fixed Capital Outlay Projects - \$13.2 million

***Division of Emergency Management (Executive Office of the Governor)***

Total: \$1.4 billion [\$118.9 million GR; \$1.3 billion TF]; 225 positions

- Non-federally Declared Disaster Response - \$500,000
- Open Federally Declared Disasters
  - Funding to Communities - \$1.02 billion
  - State Operations - \$155 million
- Statewide Emergency Alert and Notification System - \$3.5 million
- State Non-Profit Security Grant Program (ch. 2023-180, L.O.F.) - \$10 million
- Specialty Response Teams Equipment and Training Support - \$5 million
- Warehousing Space Needs for Commodity Storage and Operations - \$1.9 million
- Warehouse Procurement - \$5 million
- Positions and Salary Issues - \$869,958
- DEM Vehicle Replacement - \$456,860
- Emergency Management Critical Facility Needs - \$15,788,500
- Outside Legal Services Support - \$500,000
- Information Technology
  - Florida Planning, Accounting, and Ledger Management (PALM) Readiness - \$725,000
  - Statewide WebEOC Initiative - \$2.5 million GR

**Agriculture, Environment, and General Government Appropriations**

Total Budget: \$9.9 billion [\$2.2 billion GR; \$7.7 billion TF]; 20,440 positions

**Major Issues*****Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services***

Total: \$3.1 billion [\$314.5 million GR; \$276.6 million LATF; \$2.5 billion TF]; 3,710 positions

- Rural and Family Lands Protection Program - \$100 million
- Wildfire Suppression Equipment - \$12.4 million
- Road/Bridge and Facility Maintenance - \$14 million
- Reforestation Program - \$4 million
- Citrus Canker Eradication Judgments - \$5.5 million
- Citrus Protection and Research - \$33.5 million
- Lake Okeechobee Agriculture Projects - \$10.2 million
- Feeding Programs/Farm Share/Feeding Florida - \$25 million
- Emergency Food Distribution Program - \$33.2 million
- Mosquito Control Program Increase - \$1 million
- Agriculture Education and Promotion Facilities - \$7.6 million
- Conner Complex Construction - \$80 million
- Florida State Fair - \$12 million

***Department of Citrus***

Total: \$33.8 million [\$12.2 million GR; \$21.6 million TF]; 28 positions

- Citrus Marketing - \$4 million
- Citrus Recovery Program - \$2 million
- PALM Readiness - \$0.5 million

***Department of Environmental Protection***

Total: \$3.4 billion [\$1 billion GR; \$2.3 billion TF]; 3,167 positions

- Everglades Restoration and South Florida Water Management District Operations - \$702 million
- Water Quality Improvements - \$1.7 billion
  - Wastewater Grant Program - \$135 million
  - Water Supply Grant Program - \$25 million
  - Indian River Lagoon WQI - \$75 million
  - Biscayne Bay Water Quality Improvements - \$20 million
  - Caloosahatchee WQI - \$25 million
  - Water Projects - \$410.4 million
  - C-51 Reservoir - \$100 million
  - Water Quality Improvements - Everglades - \$50 million

- Total Maximum Daily Loads - \$25 million
- Non-Point Source Planning Grants - \$5 million
- Alternative Water Supply - \$55 million
- Onsite Sewage Program - \$4.1 million
- Water Quality Improvements - Blue Green Algae Task Force - \$10.8 million
- Innovative Technology Grants for Harmful Algal Blooms - \$10 million
- Harmful Algal Bloom Grants - \$10 million
- Springs Restoration - \$55 million
- Flood and Sea-Level Rise Program - \$125 million
- Florida Forever Programs and Land Acquisition - \$528.6 million
  - Division of State Lands - \$100 million
  - Florida Recreational Development Assistance Grants - \$14.3 million
  - Rattlesnake Key Land Acquisition - \$8 million
  - Chips Hole and Wakulla Springs - \$3.8 million
  - Wekiva-Ocala Greenway - \$2.5 million
  - Grove Land Reservoir - \$400 million (Back of the Bill)
- Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern - \$20 million
- Lake Apopka Restoration - \$5 million
- Petroleum Tanks Cleanup Program - \$220 million
- Hazardous Waste and Dry Clean Site Cleanup - \$14 million
- Beach Management Funding Assistance - \$50 million
- Water Infrastructure Improvements - \$178.3 million
- Small County Wastewater Treatment Grants - \$8 million
- Land and Water Conservation Grants - \$16.9 million
- Local Parks - \$17.9 million
- State Parks Maintenance and Repairs - \$15.5 million

### ***Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission***

Total: \$585.3 million [\$138.5 million GR; \$119.4 million LATF; \$327.4 million TF]; 2,209 positions

- Law Enforcement Vehicle Replacement - \$5.5 million
- Law Enforcement Vessel Replacement - \$3.9 million
- Motor Vehicle/Vessel Replacement - \$9.4 million
- Pier Access and Replacement and Renovation - \$8 million
- Wildlife Habitat Restoration Projects - \$8.5 million
- Wildlife Management Area Improvements - \$6.5 million; 4 positions
- Florida Bass Conservation Center - \$0.8 million
- Facilities Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement - \$5 million
- Artificial Reef Program - \$5.6 million

***Department of Business & Professional Regulation***

Total: \$187.7 million [\$1.9 million GR; \$185.8 million TF]; 1,580 positions

- Additional Resources due to Workload Increases - \$0.8 million; 8 positions
- Cybersecurity Support - \$0.3 million; 2 positions
- PALM Readiness - \$1 million

***Florida Gaming Control Commission***

Total: \$42.8 million TF; 198 positions

- Licensing and Enforcement System - \$9.8 million
- Gaming Enforcement Staffing - \$1.1 million; 8 positions
- Outside Legal Counsel - \$0.5 million
- Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Contract - \$0.8 million
- PALM Readiness - \$0.4 million

***Department of Financial Services***

Total: \$684.7 million [\$131 million GR; \$553.7 million TF]; 2,634 positions

- PALM (FLAIR Replacement) - \$59.2 million
- PALM Readiness - \$5.7 million
- Information Technology Upgrades, Systems and Contract Increases - \$19.8 million
- Additional Resources Due to Workload Increases - \$9.1 million; 24 positions
- Fixed Capital Outlay and Maintenance Projects - \$7.5 million
- Law Enforcement, Fire Marshal and Disaster Response Training, Vehicles and, Technology Upgrades and Equipment - \$6.4 million
- Increase in Contracted Services, Rent and Expenses - \$5.3 million
- Local Government Fire and Firefighter Services - \$85.5 million
- Hurricane Model Enhancements - \$7 million
- Workers' Compensation Insurance Premiums Reimbursement - \$2 million
- Veteran/First Responder Electroencephalogram Pilot Program - \$10 million
- My Safe Florida Home Condominium Pilot Program - \$30 million
- Fire and Insurance Studies - \$1 million

***Department of the Lottery***

Total: \$234.9 million TF; 440 positions

- Information Technology Security, Support and Enhancements - \$5.6 million; 7 positions
- Additional Resources Due to Workload Increases - \$2.2 million; 10.5 positions
- Increase in Contracted Services, Special Categories and Expenses - \$2.3 million

***Department of Management Services***

Total Budget: \$862.5 million [\$209.3 million GR; \$653.2 million TF]; 1,021 positions

- Florida Facilities Pool (FFP) Fixed Capital Outlay - \$87.2 million; 3 positions
- Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS) Issues - \$15.2 million
- Florida PALM Readiness - \$11 million
- State Utility Payments - \$2 million
- E-Rate Telecommunications - \$3 million
- Emergency 911 Public Safety Answering Points Upgrade - \$12 million

***Division of Administrative Hearings***

Total Budget: \$39 million TF; 242 positions

- Additional ALJ Positions for Citizens Property Insurance Disputes - \$4.9 million; 27 positions

***Public Service Commission***

Total: \$30.7 million TF; 272 positions

***Department of Revenue***

Total: \$827 million [\$336.2 million GR; \$490.8 million TF]; 4,939 positions

- Fiscally Constrained Counties - \$72.4 million
- Aerial Photography - \$1.4 million
- IT Issues - \$25.2 million; 8 positions

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024, except where otherwise expressly provided.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 105-3*

## Committee on Appropriations

### **HB 5003 — Implementing the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act** by Appropriations Committee and Rep. Leek and others (SB 2502 by Appropriations Committee)

The bill provides the following substantive modifications for the 2024-2025 fiscal year:

**Section 1** provides legislative intent that the implementing and administering provisions of this act apply to the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

**Section 2** incorporates the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) work papers by reference for the purpose of displaying the calculations used by the Legislature.

**Section 3** incorporates the School Readiness Program Reimbursement work papers by reference for the purpose of displaying the rates used in making appropriations for the school readiness program allocation.

**Section 4** amends s. 1004.6495(10), F.S., to require the State Board of Education to, by August 1, 2024, establish a state Classification of Instructional Program code for the Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program.

**Section 5** authorizes the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to submit a budget amendment to realign funding between the AHCA and the Department of Health (DOH) for the Children's Medical Services (CMS) network for the implementation of the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care program, to reflect actual enrollment changes due to the transition from fee-for-service into the capitated CMS network.

**Section 6** authorizes AHCA to submit a budget amendment to realign funding priorities within the Medicaid program appropriation categories to address any projected surpluses and deficits for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

**Section 7** authorizes AHCA to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Medicaid program appropriation categories to address projected surpluses and deficits within the program for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The realignment shall not provide funds to increase managed care rates beyond amounts adopted at the January 8, 2024, Social Services Estimating Conference.

**Section 8** authorizes the AHCA to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida KidCare program appropriation categories, or to increase budget authority in the Children's Medical Services network category, to address projected surpluses and deficits within the program or to maximize the use of state trust funds. A single budget amendment must be submitted in the last quarter of Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

**Section 9** amends s. 381.986(17), F.S., to provide that the Department of Health (DOH) is not required to prepare a statement of estimated regulatory costs when adopting rules relating to

medical marijuana testing laboratories, and any such rules adopted prior to July 1, 2025, are exempt from the legislative ratification provision of ss. 120.54(3)(b) and 120.541, F.S. Medical marijuana treatment centers are authorized to use a laboratory that has not been certified by the department until rules relating to medical marijuana testing laboratories are adopted by the department, but no later than July 1, 2025.

**Section 10** amends s. 14(1), ch. 2017-232, L.O.F., to provide limited emergency rulemaking authority to the DOH and applicable boards to adopt emergency rules to implement the Medical Use of Marijuana Act (2017). The department and applicable boards are not required to prepare a statement of estimated regulatory costs when promulgating rules to replace emergency rules, and any such rules are exempt from the legislative ratification provision of ss. 120.54(3)(b) and 120.541, F.S., until July 1, 2025.

**Section 11** provides that the amendments to s. 14(1), ch. 2017-232, L.O.F., expire on July 1, 2025, and the text of that provision reverts back to that in existence on June 30, 2019.

**Section 12** authorizes the AHCA to submit budget amendments to implement the federally approved Directed Payment Program for hospitals statewide, the Indirect Medical Education Program, and a nursing workforce expansion and education program.

**Section 13** authorizes the AHCA to submit budget amendments to implement the federally approved Directed Payment Program and fee-for-service supplemental payments for cancer hospitals that meet certain federal criteria.

**Section 14** authorizes the AHCA to submit a budget amendment, including specified information, to implement the Low Income Pool Program.

**Section 15** authorizes the AHCA to submit a budget amendment to implement fee-for-service supplemental payments and a directed payment program for physicians and subordinate licensed health care practitioners employed by or under contract with a Florida medical or dental school or a public hospital.

**Section 16** authorizes the AHCA to submit a budget amendment requesting budget authority for emergency medical transportation services.

**Section 17** authorizes the AHCA to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program.

**Section 18** allows the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within DCF based on the implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program, including between guardianship assistance payments, foster care Level 1 board payments, and relative and nonrelative caregiver payments for current caseload.

**Section 19** authorizes the DCF, DOH, and AHCA to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority as necessary to meet caseload requirements for Refugee Programs administered by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement. Requires the DCF to submit quarterly reports on caseload and expenditures.

**Section 20** authorizes the DCF to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the following federal grants: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Grant Program, the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer, the American Rescue Plan Grant, the State Opioid Response Grant, the Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Block Grant, and the Mental Health Block Grant.

**Section 21** authorizes the DOH to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if additional federal revenues become available.

**Section 22** authorizes the DOH to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if additional federal revenues become available.

**Section 23** authorizes the DOH to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for DOH if additional federal revenues specific to COVID-19 become available.

**Section 24** authorizes the balance of any appropriation from the General Revenue Fund for the Pediatric Rare Disease Research Grant, which is not disbursed but which is obligated pursuant to contract or committed to be expended by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the funds are appropriated, may be carried forward for up to 5 years after the effective date of the original appropriation.

**Section 25** requires the AHCA to replace the current Florida Medicaid Management Information System and provides requirements of the system. This section also establishes the executive steering committee (ESC) membership, duties, and the process for the ESC meetings and decisions. Provides requirements for deliverables-based fixed price contracts.

**Section 26** requires the AHCA, in consultation with the DOH, Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), DCF, and the Department of Corrections (DOC), to competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate prices for prescription drugs, including insulin and epinephrine, for all participating agencies. The contract must require that the vendor be compensated on a contingency basis paid from a portion of the savings achieved through the negotiation and purchase of prescription drugs.

**Section 27** authorizes the APD to submit budget amendments to transfer funding from salaries and benefits to contractual services in order to support additional staff augmentation at the Developmental Disability Centers.

**Section 28** authorizes the AHCA to submit budget amendments as needed, notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, F.S., to increase budget authority to implement the home and community-based services Medicaid waiver program of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

**Section 29** authorizes the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) to submit a budget amendment to the Legislative Budget Commission if DVA projects that additional direct care staff are needed to meet its established staffing ratio.

**Section 30** amends s. 409.915(1), F.S., to provide that the term "state Medicaid expenditures" does not include funds specially assessed by any local governmental entity and used as the nonfederal share for the hospital Directed Payment Program after July 1, 2021.

**Section 31** amends s. 394.9082, F.S., to authorize a managing entity to carry forward funds from the State Opioid Settlement Trust Fund and provides that such funds are exempt from the eight percent carry forward cap established pursuant to that section.

**Section 32** authorizes the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Adult Care Food Program if additional federal revenues will be expended in the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

**Section 33** authorizes the AHCA to execute Letters of Agreement for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 by June 1, 2024, to support the state's share of payments for the Directed Payment Program for hospitals in Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Region 5.

**Section 34** authorizes the DVA to submit budget amendments pursuant to ch. 216, F.S., subject to federal approval, requesting additional spending authority to support the development and construction of a new State Veterans Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Care Center in Collier County.

**Section 35** amends s. 409.912(6), F.S., to allow the fiscal agent contract for the Florida Health Care Connection (FX) to be extended through December 31, 2027.

**Section 36** provides that the amendment to s. 409.912(6), expires on July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts back to that in existence on June 30, 2024.

**Section 37** amends s. 216.262(4), F.S., to allow the Executive Office of the Governor (EOG) to request additional positions and appropriations from unallocated general revenue during Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Department of Corrections (DOC) if the actual inmate population of the DOC exceeds certain Criminal Justice Estimating Conference forecasts. Subject to Legislative Budget Commission (LBC) review and approval, the additional positions and appropriations may be used for essential staff, fixed capital improvements, and other resources to provide classification, security, food services, health services, and other variable expenses within the institutions to accommodate the estimated increase in the inmate population.

**Section 38** amends s. 215.18(2), F.S., to provide the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court the authority to request a trust fund loan.

**Section 39** requires the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to review county juvenile detention payments to ensure that counties are fulfilling their financial responsibilities. If the department determines that a county has not met its obligations, Department of Revenue must deduct the amount owed to the DJJ from shared revenue funds provided to the county under s. 218.23, F.S.

**Section 40** reenacts s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), and (5)-(7), F.S., to continue to require written certification of conflict by the public defender or regional conflict counsel before a court may appoint private conflict counsel.

**Section 41** provides that the amendments to s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5)-(7), F.S., expire July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on June 30, 2019.

**Section 42** amends s. 27.5304, F.S., to authorize the fee for compensation for representation in criminal proceedings for misdemeanors and juveniles represented at the trial level to increase from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

**Section 43** provides that the amendments to s. 27.5304(1), (3), (6), (7), (11), and (12)(a)-(e), F.S., expire July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on June 30, 2019.

**Section 44** amends s. 934.50(7)(f), F.S., notwithstanding subsection (7), to create the drone replacement program within the Department of Law Enforcement; and authorize the department to provide any drones turned in to the Florida Center for Cybersecurity for analysis.

**Section 45** requires the Department of Management Services (DMS) and state agencies to utilize a tenant broker to renegotiate private lease agreements that expire between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2027, and are in excess of 2,000 square feet, and to submit a report by November 1, 2024.

**Section 46** provides that, notwithstanding s. 216.292(2)(a), F.S., which authorizes transfers of up to five percent of approved budget between categories, agencies may not transfer funds from a data center appropriation category to a category other than a data center appropriation category.

**Section 47** authorizes the EOG to transfer funds in the appropriation category “Special Categories-Risk Management Insurance” between departments in order to align the budget authority granted with the premiums paid by each department for risk management insurance.

**Section 48** authorizes the EOG to transfer funds in the appropriation category “Special Categories-Transfer to the DMS-Human Resources Services Purchased per Statewide Contract” between departments, in order to align the budget authority granted with the assessments that must be paid by each agency to the DMS for human resources management services.

**Section 49** authorizes the DMS to use five percent of facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to offset relocation expenses associated with the disposition of state office buildings.

**Section 50** authorizes the DMS, notwithstanding s. 253.025(4), F.S., to acquire additional state-owned office buildings or property for inclusion in the Florida Facilities Pool.

**Section 51** defines the components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource subsystem (FLAIR) and Cash Management System (CMS) included in the Department of Financial Services Planning Accounting and Ledger Management (PALM) system. This section also provides the executive steering committee membership and the procedures for executive steering committee meetings and decisions.

**Section 52** reenacts and amends s. 282.709(3), F.S., to carry forward the DMS's authority to execute a 15-year contract with the SLERS operator.

**Section 53** provides that the text of s. 282.709(3), F.S., expires July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on June 1, 2021.

**Section 54** authorizes state agencies and other eligible users of the SLERS network to utilize the DMS state SLERS contract for the purchase of equipment and services.

**Section 55** authorizes a reduction of the MyFloridaMarketPlace (MFMP) transaction fee from 1 percent to 0.7 percent for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

**Section 56** amends s. 24.105(9)(i), F.S., to require the commission for lottery ticket sales to be set at 6 percent of the purchase price of each ticket sold or issued as a prize by a retailer.

**Section 57** provides that the text of s. 24.105(9)(i), F.S., expires July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on June 30, 2023.

**Section 58** authorizes the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation to contract with the Division of Administrative Hearings to conduct proceedings to resolve disputes regarding its claims determinations.

**Section 59** amends s. 110.116, F.S., to specify that, in order to maintain continuity of operations and to ensure the successful completion of the PALM System, DMS must enter into a 3-year contract extension, pursuant to s. 287.057(11), F.S., with an option to renew for an additional year, with the entity operating the People First System. People First cannot be updated until after successfully connecting payroll to PALM.

**Section 60** authorizes the Executive Office of the Governor to submit a budget amendment to transfer funds appropriated in the "Northwest Regional Data Center" category between

departments in order to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

**Section 61** provides that auxiliary assessments charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to Northwest Regional Data Center shall not exceed three percent.

**Section 62** creates s. 284.51, F.S., directing the Division of Risk Management at DFS to select a provider to establish a statewide pilot program to make electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation (eTMS) available for veterans, first responders, and immediate family members thereof with certain medical conditions.

**Section 63** amends s. 215.18(3), F.S., to authorize loans to land acquisition trust funds within several agencies.

**Section 64** provides that, in order to implement specific appropriations from the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACCS), the DEP, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and the Department of State (DOS), the DEP will transfer a proportionate share of revenues in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF) within the DEP on a monthly basis, after subtracting required debt service payments, to each agency and retain a proportionate share within the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the DEP. Total distributions to a land acquisition trust fund within the other agencies may not exceed the total appropriations for the fiscal year. The section further provides that DEP may advance funds from the beginning unobligated fund balance in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to LATF within the FWC for cash flow purposes.

**Section 65** amends s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., to revise the requirements for the usage of the trust fund for ethanol or biodiesel damage.

**Section 66** provides that the amendment to s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., expires July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on July 1, 2020.

**Section 67** amends s. 259.105(3), F.S., to notwithstanding the Florida Forever statutory distribution and authorize the use of funds from the trust fund as provided in the GAA.

**Section 68** provides that, notwithstanding ch. 287, F.S., the Department of Citrus is authorized to enter into agreements to expedite the increased production of citrus trees that show tolerance or resistance to citrus greening.

**Section 69** creates the Local Government Water Supply Grant Pilot Program within the DEP to provide funds to local governments for water supply infrastructure, including distribution and transmission facilities.

**Section 70** amends s. 380.5105, F.S., to add a capital outlay grant program to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Program. The grant program is created within DEP to provide funding to assist commercial fishermen and seafood houses in maintaining their operations.

**Section 71** provides that the amendments to s. 380.5105, F.S., expire July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on June 30, 2024.

**Section 72** amends s. 10, ch. 2022-272, L.O.F., to extend and expand the Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program.

**Section 73** provides that notwithstanding s. 823.11(4)(c), F.S., the FWC is authorized to use funds appropriated for the derelict vessel removal program for grants to local governments or to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, or to pay private contractors to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, derelict vessels or vessels declared a public nuisance pursuant to s. 327.73(1)(aa), F.S.

**Section 74** provides that a county or municipal government may not amend or adopt an ordinance that restricts or prohibits the operation of a leaf blower that is powered by an internal combustion engine or motor.

**Section 75** amends s. 403.0673, F.S., to require a minimum of \$25 million to be dedicated for priority projects to improve water quality in the Indian River Lagoon in the Water Quality Grant Program.

**Section 76** provides that, notwithstanding ch. 287, F.S., the DACS is authorized to enter into agreements to advance technologies leading to the creation of a genetically engineered self-limiting strain of an Asian citrus Psyllid for population suppression.

**Section 77** amends s. 321.04(3)(b) and (5), F.S., to provide that for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) may assign a patrol officer to a Cabinet member if the department deems such assignment appropriate or if requested by such Cabinet member in response to a threat. Additionally, the Governor may request the department to assign one or more highway patrol officers to the Lieutenant Governor for security services.

**Section 78** amends s. 288.80125(3), F.S., to allow funds to be used for the Rebuild Florida Revolving Loan Fund Program to provide assistance to businesses impacted by Hurricane Michael as provided in the GAA.

**Section 79** amends s. 288.8013(3), F.S., to no longer require the interest earned on the Triumph funds to be transferred back into the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund, no other deposits are made into this trust fund. Funds may be used for administrative costs including costs in excess of the statutory cap.

**Section 80** provides that the amendment to s. 288.8013(3), F.S., expires July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on June 30, 2023.

**Section 81** amends s. 339.135(7)(h), F.S., to authorize the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission (LBC) to approve, pursuant to s. 216.177, F.S., a Department of Transportation (DOT) work program amendment that adds a new project, or a phase of a new project, in excess of \$3 million, if the LBC does not meet or consider, within 30 days of submittal, the amendment by the DOT.

**Section 82** creates s. 250.245, F.S., to establish the Florida National Guard Joint Enlistment Enhancement Program (JEEP) within the Department of Military Affairs to provide bonuses to certain guardsmen in an effort to bolster recruitment efforts and increase the force structure of the Florida National Guard.

**Section 83** amends s. 288.0655(6), F.S., to authorize rural Florida Panhandle counties to participate in the Rural Infrastructure Fund grant program as authorized in the GAA.

**Section 84** authorizes the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for projected expenditures due to federal reimbursements from federally declared disasters.

**Section 85** amends s. 282.201, F.S., to authorize the DEM to be exempt from the use of the state data center.

**Section 86** amends s. 320.08053, F.S., to provide that, notwithstanding s. 320.08053, F.S., the DHSMV is required to extend the presale period by an additional 12 months for the Florida State Beekeepers Association.

**Section 87** amends s. 112.061(4)(d), F.S., to permit a lieutenant governor who resides outside of Leon County to designate an official headquarters in his or her county as his or her official headquarters for purposes of s. 112.061, F.S. A lieutenant governor for whom an official headquarters in his or her county of residence may be paid travel and subsistence expenses when traveling between their official headquarters and the State Capitol to conduct state business.

**Section 88** requires the DMS to assess an administrative health insurance assessment to each state agency equal to the employer's cost of individual employee health care coverage for each vacant position within such agency eligible for coverage through the Division of State Group Insurance.

**Section 89** provides that, notwithstanding s. 11.13, F.S., salaries of legislators must be maintained at the same level as July 1, 2010.

**Section 90** reenacts s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., in order to implement the transfer of moneys to the General Revenue Fund from trust funds in the General Appropriations Act.

**Section 91** provides that the amendment to s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., expires July 1, 2025, and the text of that section reverts to that in existence on June 30, 2011.

**Section 92** provides that funds appropriated for travel by state employees be limited to travel for activities that are critical to each state agency's mission. The section prohibits funds from being used to travel to foreign countries, other states, conferences, staff training, or other administrative functions unless the agency head approves in writing. The agency head is required to consider the use of teleconferencing and electronic communication to meet needs of the activity before approving travel.

**Section 93** provides that, notwithstanding s. 112.061, F.S., costs for lodging associated with a meeting, conference, or convention organized or sponsored in whole or in part by a state agency or the judicial branch may not exceed \$225 per day. An employee may expend his or her own funds for any lodging expenses in excess of \$225.

**Section 94** authorizes the LBC to increase amounts appropriated to state agencies for new fixed capital outlay projects using general revenue funds.

**Section 95** amends s. 216.292, F.S., to require transfers to comply with ch. 216, F.S., maximize the use of available and appropriate funds, and not be contrary to legislative policy and intent.

**Section 96** provides that, notwithstanding ch. 287, F.S., state agencies are authorized to purchase vehicles from non-State Term Contract vendors provided certain conditions are met.

**Section 97** provides that, notwithstanding s. 255.25(3)(a), F.S., the DMS, the Executive Office of the Governor, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Attorney General are authorized to enter into a lease as a lessee not to exceed 24 months for the use of space in a privately owned building, even if such space is 5,000 square feet or more, without having to advertise or receive competitive solicitations.

**Section 98** requires the DEP to purchase lands within certain land areas; requires DEP in order to reduce land management costs to provide a lease back option to the sellers under certain circumstances.

**Section 99** authorizes the EOG to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within and between agencies in appropriation categories specifically authorized for the implementation of the state's award from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (Pub.L. 117-2).

**Section 100** amends s. 216.181(8)(b), F.S., to require salary rate to be controlled at the budget entity level for FDOC and DHSMV.

**Section 101** amends s. 339.08, F.S., to authorize the DOT to expend funds from the Discretionary Sales Surtax Clearing Trust Fund and as provided in the GAA.

**Section 102** requires the Department of Revenue to retain interest earnings associated with funds held in the Discretionary Sales Surtax Clearing Trust Fund related to the Hillsborough County surtax for the purpose of implementing the temporary suspension of surtaxes.

**Section 103** authorizes the DOT, notwithstanding s. 215, ch. 2023-239, L.O.F., to retain interest earned on funds appropriated to implement the Moving Florida Forward Plan.

**Section 104** creates s. 11.52, F.S., to require state agencies to provide information about the status of implementation of recently enacted legislation.

**Section 105** requires state agencies and the judicial branch to review all statutorily required reports and prepare a list of the reports that the agency would recommend to modify or repeal.

**Section 106** amends s. 216.013, F.S., to provide that state executive agencies and the judicial branch are not required to develop or post a long-range program plan by September 30, 2024, for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, except in circumstances outlined in any updated written instructions prepared by the Executive Office of the Governor in consultation with the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees.

**Section 107** amends s. 216.023, F.S., to require each state agency and the judicial branch, as part of their legislative budget request, to include an inventory of all ongoing technology-related projects that have a cumulative estimated or realized cost of more than \$1 million. The inventory must include specified information.

**Section 108** requires the Florida Turnpike Enterprise to establish a toll relief program.

**Section 109** specifies that no section shall take effect if the appropriations and proviso to which it relates are vetoed.

**Section 110** provides that if any other act passed during the 2024 Regular Session contains a provision that is substantively the same as a provision in this act, but removes or otherwise is not subject to the future repeal applied by this act, the intent is for the other provision to take precedence and continue to operate.

**Section 111** provides for severability.

**Section 112** provides for a general effective date of July 1, 2024 (except as otherwise provided).

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024, except where otherwise provided.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 105-3*



THE FLORIDA SENATE  
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED

## Committee on Appropriations

### **HB 5005 — Collective Bargaining**

by Appropriations Committee and Rep. Leek (SB 2504 by Appropriations Committee)

The bill directs the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Any mandatory collective bargaining issues at impasse which are not addressed by the bill or the General Appropriations Act are resolved in accordance with the personnel rules in effect on March 5, 2024, and by otherwise maintaining the status quo under the language of the applicable current collective bargaining agreement.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 108-0*

## Committee on Appropriations

### HB 5101 — Education

by PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee and Rep. Tomkow (SB 2516 by Appropriations Committee)

The bill conforms law to the appropriations provided in HB 5001, the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, for prekindergarten through grade 12 education. Specifically, the bill provides for the following:

**Section 1** amends s. 110.123, F.S., to revise definitions to include Florida College System (FCS) institutions in the State Group Health Insurance (SGHI) Program. The initial enrollment period is required to begin as soon as practicable with coverage beginning in the 2025 plan year by July 31, 2025. FCS institutions are required to participate for at least 3 plan years.

**Section 2** amends s.1002.31, F.S., to create a transportation stipend from an eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization, contingent upon a legislative appropriation, for public school students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 8 for transportation to a Florida public school that is different from the school to which the student is assigned or to a developmental research (laboratory) school. The bill specifies the scholarship is on a first-come, first-served basis, and provides priority for awards.

**Section 3** amends s. 1002.32, F.S., to modify exceptions on the limitations of one developmental research (laboratory) school (lab school) per university by adding the Florida State University Charter Lab K-12 School in Leon County and removing the Florida Atlantic University Charter Lab K-12 School in St. Lucie County. The Lab School Educational Trust Fund is removed along with a provision that allowed charter lab schools to receive funding for charter school capital outlay.

**Section 4** amends s. 1002.33, F.S., to remove a provision to hold harmless a charter school sponsor for full-time equivalent (FTE) students not included in projections due to approval of a charter school application and a reporting requirement of charter school applications. The bill modifies reporting requirements for charter schools from student membership to FTE. The bill also modifies the methodology to calculate state funds and capital outlay funds for charter schools sponsored by a state university or FCS institution, and designates that the university or FCS institution is the fiscal agent for sponsored charter schools.

**Section 5** amends s. 1002.391, F.S., to create the Bridge to Speech Program to fund auditory-oral education programs required in law.

**Section 6** amends s. 1002.394, F.S., to eliminate transportation to a public school as an eligible use of funds under the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program. The bill also eliminates reference to an award amount.

**Section 7** amends s. 1002.395, F.S., to eliminate transportation to a public school as an eligible use of funds under the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program. The bill also eliminates reference to an award amount.

**Section 8** amends s. 1002.68, F.S., to designate that the methodology for calculating the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) performance metric is required in the 2023-2024 program year and issuance of the VPK performance metric to VPK programs is required in the 2024-2025 program year. The bill retains a provision relating to loss of VPK eligibility due to program assessment that was removed in the 2023 Implementing Bill.

**Section 9** amends s. 1002.71, F.S., to increase the percentage of funds from the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program that each early learning coalition may retain for administrative expenses from 4.0 percent to 5.0 percent.

**Section 10** amends s. 1002.82, F.S., to require the Department of Education (DOE) to annually collect cost data from school readiness programs that includes federal salary information for child care personnel and certain data from child care providers. The DOE is required to provide certain school readiness cost data to the Legislature by November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter.

**Section 11** amends s. 1002.84, F.S., requiring each early learning coalition to implement a parent sliding fee scale that increases in relation to family income adopted in rule by the DOE for the school readiness program. The existing methodology for distribution of school readiness funding is removed and provides that all instructions for the distribution of funds will be provided by the policies of the Legislature.

**Section 12** amends s. 1002.89, F.S., to modify the school readiness program allocation to use unweighted full-time equivalent children instead of eligible population, and use of a “rate index” to account for differences in geographic location. A provision regarding local ordinances relating to staff-to-children ratio that were passed prior to January 1, 2022, is removed.

**Section 13** amends s. 1002.895, F.S., to modify elements of the market rate schedule for the school readiness program to remove provisions related to providers with a Gold Seal Quality Care designation and large family child care homes. The market rate schedule is required to differentiate school readiness program rates only by care levels driven by age or whether care is full-time or part-time. The elements related to the annual collection of data by the DOE and subsequent reporting of data to the Early Learning Programs Conference are removed.

**Section 14** repeals s. 1002.90, F.S., relating to school readiness cost-of-care information.

**Section 15** amends s. 1002.92, F.S., to remove an obsolete reference.

**Section 16** creates s. 1003.4206, F.S., to establish the Charity for Change program, subject to funding appropriated in the General Appropriations Act (GAA), to implement the character

education standards required in law and authorize the program to use third-party providers to deliver after-school and summer services that empower students with an evidence-based curriculum.

**Section 17** creates s. 1006.042, F.S., to establish the AMIkids, Inc., program, subject to funding appropriated in the GAA, to provide alternatives to institutionalization or commitment for youth by providing services, such as, education, behavior modification, skills development, mental health, workforce development, family functioning, and advocacy.

**Section 18** modifies s. 1006.07, F.S., to require each district school board to establish a threat management coordinator to serve as the primary point of contact regarding the district's coordination, communication, and implementation of the threat management program and to report quantitative data on its activities to the Office of Safe Schools.

**Section 19** amends s. 1006.27, F.S., to repeal the Driving Choice Grant Program.

**Section 20** amends s. 1008.25, F.S., to modify provisions for VPK students demonstrating a substantial deficiency on the coordinated screening and progress monitoring system, which requires students to be referred to a local school district and specifies that such students are eligible for participation in a 100-hour summer bridge program consisting of 4 hours of daily instruction to be provided by the school district.

**Section 21** revises s. 1009.896, F.S., to expand the Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program to include emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and firefighters, and specify eligibility criteria and authorized uses of funds. Accordingly, the bill changes the name to the Florida First Responder Scholarship Program.

**Section 22** modifies s. 1009.90, F.S., to require the DOE to have a database system to track all school bond referendums and debt incurred by a school district via referendum for capital outlay or operational purposes.

**Section 23** modifies s. 1011.62, F.S., to authorize charter schools sponsored by a state university or FCS institution to receive the state-funded discretionary contribution. The bill also requires an annual appropriation to the educational enrollment stabilization program to maintain a minimum balance of \$250 million, funds from which may be carried forward for up to 10 years.

**Section 24** modifies s. 1011.765, F.S., to specify that, for purposes of providing matching grants through the Florida Academic Improvement Trust Fund, a public school district education foundation includes each district school board direct-support organization and the education foundation established by the Florida Virtual School.

**Section 25** amends s. 1012.56, F.S., to eliminate the requirement that applicants for a temporary apprenticeship certificate must first complete the subject area content requirements established by the State Board of Education or the demonstration of mastery of subject area knowledge.

**Section 26** modifies s. 1013.62, F.S., to specify that a charter school not eligible to receive capital outlay funds includes a charter school sponsored by a state university or an FCS institution that receives state funding for capital improvement purposes as specified in law.

**Section 27** requires the taxable value for Wakulla County School District that was provided by the Department of Revenue to the DOE to be used for the remaining calculations of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 FEFP and for use in the Prior Period Adjustment Millage calculation. This section is effective until July 1, 2025.

**Section 28** provides an effective date of upon becoming law, except as otherwise provided.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

*Vote: Senate 9-0; House 108-1*

## Committee on Appropriations

### **HB 5201 — Trust Funds/Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund/FGCC**

by State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee and Rep. Busatta Cabrera (SB 2506 by Appropriations Committee)

The bill creates a Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund within the Florida Gaming Control Commission (Commission). The trust fund serves as a depository for funds to be used by the Commission. Moneys to be credited to the trust fund consist of revenues received as a result of federal criminal, administrative, or civil forfeiture proceedings and receipts and revenues received from federal asset-sharing programs.

Any unencumbered balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year and any encumbered balance remaining undisbursed on September 30 of the same calendar year remains in the Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund available for carrying out the purpose of the trust fund.

As required by the Florida Constitution, the Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund terminates on July 1, 2028, unless terminated sooner or recreated by the Legislature. Additionally, the trust fund is required to be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206, F.S., before its schedule termination.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

*Vote: Senate 38-0; House 114-0*

## Committee on Appropriations

### **HB 5203 — Property Seized by the Florida Gaming Control Commission**

by State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee and Rep. Busatta Cabrera  
(SB 2508 by Appropriations Committee)

This bill specifies that the property rights in machines and money and other things of value therein seized by the Florida Gaming Control Commission (Commission) are forfeited to the Commission and deposited into the Pari-Mutuel Wagering Trust Fund. In addition, the bill specifies sums received from a sale or other disposition of property that is seized by the Commission must be deposited into the Pari-Mutuel Wagering Trust Fund.

The bill provides an exemption from the requirement that the Commission pay excess proceeds from forfeiture proceedings to the General Revenue Fund. The bill specifies that proceeds accrued pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act are to be deposited into the Pari-Mutuel Wagering Trust Fund or into the Commission's Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund. The bill authorizes such proceeds to be used for the operation of the Commission.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

*Vote: Senate 38-0; House 113-0*

## Committee on Appropriations

### HB 5401 — Judges

by Justice Appropriations Subcommittee and Rep. Brannan and others (SB 2514 by Appropriations Committee)

The bill amends ss. 26.031 and 34.022, F.S., to establish two new circuit court judgeships (one in the First Judicial Circuit and one in the Twentieth Judicial Circuit) and seven new county court judgeships (three in Orange County, two in Hillsborough County, one in Santa Rosa County, and one in Columbia County).

The Supreme Court issued Order No. SC2023-1586, dated November 30, 2023, certifying the need for one additional circuit court judge (Twentieth Circuit) and five additional county court judges (three in Orange County and two in Hillsborough County).

The bill conforms to HB 5001, the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, which includes \$3,749,038 in General Revenue funding, and authorizes 20 full-time equivalent positions with an associated salary rate of \$2,219,713, for the newly established judgeships and associated judicial assistants and attorney staffing.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 109-0*

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED  
**Committee on Appropriations**

**CS/HJR 7017 — Annual Adjustment to Homestead Exemption Value**

by State Affairs Committee; Ways & Means Committee; and Rep. Buchanan and others

The joint resolution proposes an amendment to the State Constitution requiring the \$25,000 of assessed value that is exempt from all ad valorem taxes other than school district taxes be adjusted annually for positive inflation growth. It would also apply to any future homestead exemption applying only to ad valorem taxes other than school district taxes.

The joint resolution will be considered by the electorate at the 2024 general election and, if approved by 60 percent of the electors voting on the measure, the joint resolution would take effect on January 1, 2025.

*Vote: Senate 25-15; House 86-29*

## Committee on Appropriations

### **CS/HB 7019 — Exemption of Homesteads**

by State Affairs Committee; Ways & Means Committee; and Rep. Buchanan and others

The bill implements an amendment to Art. VII, s. 6, State Constitution proposed by CS/HJR 7017 (2024) by making conforming statutory changes. If CS/HJR 7017 is approved by the voters, this bill amends current law to add an annual positive inflation adjustment to the current exemption on the assessed value for all levies other than school district levies of \$50,000 up to \$75,000.

The bill also directs the Legislature to appropriate funds to offset reductions in ad valorem tax revenue experienced by fiscally constrained counties as a result of the annual positive inflation adjustment. To receive the offset, a qualifying county must annually apply to the Department of Revenue and provide certain documentation.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect on January 1, 2025, if the amendment to the State Constitution proposed by CS/HJR 7017 is approved by the voters at the 2024 general election or at an earlier special election.

*Vote: Senate 26-14; House 84-31*

## Committee on Appropriations

### **SB 7080 — Trust Funds/Indian Gaming Revenue Clearing Trust Fund/Department of Financial Services**

by Appropriations Committee

The bill creates the Indian Gaming Revenue Clearing Trust Fund within the Florida Department of Financial Services (DFS). The bill:

- Creates the Indian Gaming Revenue Clearing Trust Fund (trust fund) as a depository for the portion of the revenue-sharing payments received by the state under the gaming compact, as defined in s. 285.710(1), F.S.;
- Requires the funds to be credited to the trust fund as provided in s. 380.095, F.S.;
- Provides the funds received from such revenue-sharing payments and deposited into the trust fund are exempt from the service charges imposed pursuant to s. 215.20, F.S.;
- Requires the DFS to disburse funds, by nonoperating transfer, from the trust fund as provided in s. 380.095, F.S.; and
- Provides the trust fund is exempt from the termination provisions of Art. III, s. 19(f)(2), State Constitution.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect on the same date that CS/SB 1638 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in this legislative session and becomes a law.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 114-0*