



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice, *Chair*
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services
Criminal Justice
Ethics and Elections
Rules

SENATOR ILEANA GARCIA

36th District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2026

Contact: Gabriella Russitano
(305) 442-6841

Senator Garcia Shares Highlights of Florida's Criminal and Civil Justice Budget *\$20 million to initiate construction of the Broward Juvenile Detention Center*

Tallahassee—As Senators concluded their work on issues related to the 2026 Session of the Florida Legislature, Senator Ileana Garcia (R-Miami), Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations, shared several highlights of Florida's balanced budget.

“This budget reflects a major investment in our public safety infrastructure for both our facilities and our corrections personnel. Prison work is difficult. We are currently losing more than half of new corrections officers within the first year. Targeted pay raises in this budget will help address recruitment and retention,” **said Senator Garcia**. “Meanwhile, reinstating a retirement cost of living adjustment for special risk employees including firefighters, state law enforcement, and corrections officers creates a huge incentive for public safety personnel to stay with state government.”

House Bill (HB) 5001-E, the General Appropriations Act, is lower than Florida's state budget for the current fiscal year, facilitating long-term financial stability with a focus on keeping taxes low, paying down debt, and saving for the future. The total budget appropriates \$114.5 billion, less than the total budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year (\$115.1 billion), as noted in Florida's Fiscal Analysis In Brief. The proposed budget also takes into account the authorization of \$150 million in early payoff of state debt.

“Last year, we appropriated \$2.4 million for the architectural and engineering design of the Broward Juvenile Detention Center. Recognizing the importance of and furthering our commitment to this project, our budget appropriates \$20 million to initiate construction. As the design phase progresses and more precise cost estimates are available, we will be in a better position next session to determine the remaining funding necessary to complete the facility,” **continued Senator Garcia**. “Investments in the Office of Wellness reinforce the Senate's commitment to the mental health and well-being of law enforcement officers. Additionally, to further increase and incentivize people to pursue careers in law enforcement, we are dedicating funds for law enforcement apprenticeships that help pay salaries while new hires are in training.”

REPLY TO:

- ☐ 2828 Coral Way, Suite 208, Miami, Florida 33145 (305) 442-6841
- ☐ 314 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5036

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

“Our criminal and civil justice budget includes funding to continue the expansion of dorms at Lancaster Correctional Institution to meet future capacity needs. We are also providing funding to plan and design a new 600-bed prison hospital. These funds will be used to identify and purchase land capable of co-locating the new prison hospital and any prospective new prison,” **said Senator Garcia.** “To proactively address future staffing needs we are requiring the new prison hospital to be located where the labor market, potential labor pool, and other factors such as commute distance and cost of living are favorable to maintaining a sufficient workforce for staffing the facility. In addition to addressing health care needs of prison inmates, a new prison hospital will help cut costs related to time and manpower DOC currently has to dedicate when transporting inmates for medical care.”

HB 5001-E provides record funding for K-12 public schools, teacher raises, and school choice opportunities for Florida parents. The budget makes major investments in Florida's transportation and public safety infrastructure. To support Florida's vital agriculture supply chain, the budget dedicates significant resources for Florida's environment, including Everglades restoration, citrus recovery, clean water resiliency, and the preservation of working farms and ranches along Florida's Wildlife Corridor. The budget heavily invests in the health care needs of vulnerable Floridians, including children, elders, those with disabilities, and foster families.

Budget Summary (HB 5001E)

Total Budget: \$114.5 billion [\$52.3 billion GR; \$62.2 billion TF]

- Reduction compared to Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in both total budget and per capita funding

Increased Reserves & Debt Reduction

Over \$14 billion in Total Reserves (*not including trust fund balances*)

- \$8.6 billion General Revenue Unallocated
- \$5.7 billion Budget Stabilization Fund
- \$150 million authorized for the Debt Reduction Program

Compensation & Benefits

Correctional Officer Minimum Salary Increase from \$22/hr. to \$24/hr.

- Additional funding provided to address compression

4% Pay Increases for:

- State Law Enforcement Officers
- State Firefighters
- Park Rangers (DEP)

Justice Administration Pay Increases:

- Assistant State Attorneys \$10,000

- Assistant Public Defenders \$3,500

Cost of living adjustment for special risk class retirement (minimum 1.5%)

State Employees and Retirees Health Insurance Premiums held constant

Summary of the Criminal and Civil Justice Budget (HB 5001E)

Total Budget: \$8.02 billion [\$6.99 billion GR; \$1.03 billion TF]; 45,269.50 positions

Major Issues

- DOC Operational Deficit - \$35.1 million
- DOC FCO - Additional Dorms - \$56.4 million
- DOC FCO – New Prison Hospital - \$50.0 million
- DOC Health Services Contract - \$60.2 million
- DJJ Residential Beds Capacity/Contracts - \$22.7 million
- DJJ FCO - Broward Detention Center - \$20.0 million
- FDLE - State Assistance for Fentanyl Eradication (SAFE) in Florida Program - \$15.0 million
- FDLE Office of Wellness Expansion - \$5.0 million; 16 positions
- FDLE Law Enforcement Apprenticeship Program - \$7.5 million
- SCS Sixth District Court of Appeal - \$13.0 million

Department of Corrections (DOC)

Total: \$4.05 billion [\$3.97 billion GR; \$79.1 million TF]; 23,380 positions

- Health Services Contract - \$60.2 million
- DOC Operational Deficit - \$35.1 million
- Food Service Contract - \$16.1 million
- Technology Restoration Plan - \$10.2 million
- Certified Officers Public Safety Initiative (Communications) - \$3.3 million
- Community Corrections Residential Substance Abuse Programs - \$1.5 million
- FCO - Additional Dorms - \$52.0 million
- FCO – New Prison Hospital - \$50.0 million

Florida Commission on Offender Review

Total: \$17.7 million [\$17.7 million GR; \$0 million TF]; 164 positions

- IT Services and Wi-Fi - \$1.8 million

Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

Total: \$813.9 million [\$646.2 million GR; \$167.7 million TF]; 3,229.50 positions

- Sustain Contracted Residential Services System - \$14.0 million
- Increased Residential Commitment Capacity - \$8.7 million

Senator Garcia Shares Highlights of Florida's Criminal and Civil Justice Budget
Page 2

- Residential Medical Services Increased Costs - \$5.4 million
- Florida Scholars Academy - \$3.7 million
- Detention Uniforms – Staff and Youth - \$1.3 million
- FCO - Broward Detention Center - \$20.0 million
- FCO Maintenance and Repair - \$5.0 million

Attorney General/ Legal Affairs

Total: \$324.5 million [\$112.4 million GR; \$212.1 million TF]; 1,275.50 positions

- Groveland Four Relief - \$4.0 million
- Recurring IT Costs - \$1.9 million
- Increased Operating Costs- \$1.0 million
- Criminal Civil Litigation Increased Contract Services - \$675,000

Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)

Total: \$569.5 million [\$375.2 million GR; \$194.3 million TF]; 2,036 positions

- State Assistance for Fentanyl Eradication (SAFE) in Florida Program - \$15.0 million
- Law Enforcement Apprenticeship Program - \$5.0 million
- Fort Myers Regional Operations Center Facility - \$4.4 million
- Alcohol Testing Program Transition to New Breath Test Instrumentation - \$3.3 million
- Drone as a First Responder Grant Program - \$2.5 million
- Office of Wellness Expansion - \$2.6 million; 8 positions
- Missing and Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Technology Upgrade - \$2.4 million
- Wastewater Testing Grant Program - \$500,000

Justice Administration

Total: \$1.4 billion [\$1.16 billion GR; \$253.0 million TF]; 10,474.50 positions

- Jury Management Funding - \$4.8 million
- Reimbursement for Statutorily Required Duties - \$1.8 million
- State Attorneys - Staffing Adjustments for Workload and Increased Judgeships - \$4.4 million; 40 positions
- Public Defenders – Staffing Adjustments for Workload and Increased Judgeships - \$1.8 million; 8 positions
- Increased Due Process Funds for State Attorneys – \$2.5 million
- Increased Due Process Funds for Public Defenders - \$575,000

State Court System (SCS)

Total: \$832.8 million [\$705.6 million GR; \$127.2 million TF]; 4,710 positions

- Trial Court Case Management Technology – \$2.7 million; 4 positions
- Problem Solving Courts Reporting - \$1.1 million; 1 position
- Judicial Security Resources - \$461,682; 2 positions

Senator Garcia Shares Highlights of Florida's Criminal and Civil Justice Budget
Page 2

- FCO – Sixth District Court of Appeal - \$13.0 million
- FCO - Maintenance and Repair - \$1.5 million

For more information, please visit www.FLSenate.gov.

###