



2021 Legislative Session Update

The 2021 Legislative Session is in full swing!! Our Legislative Committee Chair, Stephen Timberlake, has created an overview to help you understand the issues and to see how FGFOA works with lobbyists from the Florida League of Cities to effect change in Tallahassee.

Today we enter the home stretch of the 2021 Legislative Session. Tuesday is the last day for committee meetings and many bills are still sitting in their assigned committees awaiting action. Bills that do not make it out of committee are likely to die in committee. The session remains relatively quiet for an impact in our areas. As a reminder, the final action on all legislation should occur, hopefully, by April 30th. There are some rumblings of a Special Session related to Gaming.

The most impactful bill to FGFOA members continues to be House Bill 1.

HB 1 Combating Public Disorder – This bill was signed by the Governor today. The enrolled bill is available here: [h0001er.docx \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

Update on bills of note previously reported:

HB 35 Legal Notices – This bill allows for a governmental agency to publish legally required advertisements on a website instead of newspaper. It has already passed the House and was received in the Senate and referred to the Appropriations Committee and continues to be pending in that committee. Its companion, SB 402, is moving in Committee, and is scheduled for a hearing April 19th in the Senate Appropriations Committee after approval by an Appropriations Subcommittee last week.

SB 84 Retirement – This bill provides for compulsory membership in the Florida Retirement System (FRS) Investment Plan for new employees. Governmental entities participating in the FRS should pay close attention to this bill. It passed the Senate on April 8th and was referred to two Committees in the House.

SB 50 Taxation – This bill requires that “out-of-state retailers and marketplace providers with no physical presence in Florida (i.e., online sales) to collect Florida’s sales tax on sales of

taxable items delivered to purchasers in Florida if the out-of-state retailer or marketplace provider makes a substantial number of sales into Florida.” (Florida Senate Analysis of SB 50, March 8, 2021) This bill would include both state and local sales taxes. It is projected to increase local government revenue by more than \$229 million annually. SB 50 passed out of the Senate. The House companion bill was laid on the table and was replaced by SB 50. SB 50 was passed by the House of Representatives on April 8th, was signed by the Presiding Officers and presented to the Governor on April 12th. The Governor has until April 19th to sign or veto the bill. The Governor is expected to sign this bill.

SB 1924 Emergency Management Powers of Political Subdivisions – This bill is still in committee. It was scheduled to be heard by the Senate Rules Committee on April 6th, but was postponed. Two comparable bills, HB 7047 and SB 2006, have moved over the past week. HB 7047 was approved by its last committee of reference today. SB 2006 was placed on the Special Order Calendar today and will likely be considered by the Senate this week. Both of these bills make changes to local Emergency Powers.

HB 337 Impact Fees – This bill would add layers to how Impact Fees can be collected and increased. The bill was placed on the Special Order Calendar for this week.

This is just a sampling of the bills currently under consideration that may have an impact of FGFOA members.

To keep informed, the FGFOA’s Legislative Committee recommends you subscribe to email blasts sent by The Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association of Counties, and the Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers.

If you have any questions, feedback, or concerns please let us know.

