

House of Representatives

2014-2016 Proposed Committee and Subcommittee Structure

Appropriations Committee

The Appropriations Committee produces the House's proposed budget and conforming and implementing legislation. The committee provides legislative oversight regarding agency and judiciary implementation of the budget, also reviews the Governor's budget recommendations and agency legislative budget requests, and analyzes trust funds for creation, termination or modification. Additionally, legislation with a fiscal impact is typically heard by the Appropriations Committee or one of its respective subcommittees. Budgetary issues dealing with education fixed capital outlay, state information technology, and state employee pay, benefits, and retirement issues are also within the purview of the committee.

Appropriations subcommittees recommend budgets for their respective areas to the Appropriations Committee. The purviews of the subcommittees are primarily delineated by agency and are listed below.

Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee

The Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Department of Citrus.

Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee

The Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Revenue, the Department of Financial Services, the Department of Management Services, the Department of the Lottery, the Department of Business & Professional Regulation and the Public Service Commission.

Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

The Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children & Families, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Elder Affairs, and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Education Appropriations Subcommittee

The Education Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes funding for Florida's K-12 education system, the Department of Education, the State Board of Education, the Voluntary Pre-K program, school readiness, state universities, state and community colleges, private

colleges and universities, the Board of Governors, the Division of Blind Services' and the workforce education and vocational rehabilitation programs in the Department of Education.

Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

The Justice Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of Legal Affairs (Attorney General), the court system, the Justice Administration Commission, and the Parole Commission.

Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

The Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Transportation, the Department of State, the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and the Department of Military Affairs.

Economic Affairs Committee

The Economic Affairs Committee considers a variety of matters related to Florida's economy, including economic and community development, workforce development, unemployment compensation, tourism, affordable housing, transportation planning and financing, highway and waterway safety, and the sale, ownership, and operation of vehicles. The committee's jurisdiction also includes issues related to growth management and emergency management.

Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee

The Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee considers matters related to economic and community development, workforce development, unemployment compensation, tourism, affordable housing, growth management, and emergency management. The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Economic Opportunity, Enterprise Florida, Inc. (statewide economic development), Workforce Florida, Inc. (statewide workforce training and 24 Regional Workforce Boards), Visit Florida, Inc. (tourism), Space Florida (space and aerospace), the Florida Sports Foundation (pro and amateur sports), the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (affordable housing), and the Division of Emergency Management in the Executive Office of the Governor. The subcommittee also has oversight over the historical, cultural, and library activities of the Department of State and the department's Division of Corporations for various corporate filings.

Transportation & Ports Subcommittee

The Transportation & Ports Subcommittee considers matters related to highway and public transportation system infrastructure and services. The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Transportation.

Highway & Waterway Safety

The Highway & Waterway Safety Subcommittee considers matters related to highway and waterway safety and the sale, ownership, and operation of vehicles. The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Education Committee

The Education Committee considers matters related to Florida's education system from prekindergarten to graduate school (PreK-20). Agencies monitored include the Florida Department of Education, the Office of Early Learning, and the Florida Board of Governors. In addition to the primary focus on students and their families, constituent groups and entities covered include:

- Early Learning Coalitions, programs (both school readiness and Voluntary Pre-K) and providers
- Public K-12 school district programs and personnel
- Charter school programs, providers, and personnel
- Private and home school K-12 programs
- Online education programs and providers at all levels
- Technical centers and workforce, career, and adult education programs and providers
- Private postsecondary institutions
- State colleges
- State universities

Choice & Innovation Subcommittee

This Choice & Innovation Subcommittee focuses on Pre K-12 issues that encourage regulatory flexibility and foster school choice. Specifically, the subcommittee considers issues related to:

- Early learning, school readiness, and Voluntary Prekindergarten
- Home education
- K-12 private schools
- McKay Scholarship Program
- Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program
- Opportunity Scholarship Program
- Controlled open enrollment
- Virtual instructional programs (private, district run, and the Florida Virtual School)
- Student athletics
- Charter schools

K-12 Subcommittee

The K-12 Subcommittee addresses topics pertaining to public schools, grades K-12. Specifically, the subcommittee considers issues related to:

- Compliance with, and implementation of, federal law
- Student curriculum, conduct, and attendance requirements
- Student performance and services
- Exceptional student and English language learner education

- Assessment and accountability
- Promotion, acceleration, and graduation requirements
- School district and state board governance
- Personnel evaluation systems, contracts, performance pay, recruitment, and training
- Educational planning, performance, and improvement

Higher Education & Workforce Subcommittee

The Higher Education & Workforce Subcommittee focuses on post-high school graduation education policy issues. Specifically, the subcommittee considers issues related to:

- Public and nonpublic universities
- Public and nonpublic colleges
- Career and technical centers
- Tuition and fees
- Student financial aid
- Residency for tuition purposes
- Accreditation
- Articulation and transfer
- Graduate and professional education
- Student government

Finance & Tax Committee

The Finance & Tax Committee's purview encompasses issues concerning all state and local taxes and select non-tax revenue sources, and addresses statutory and constitutional policy regarding tax rates, tax base design, and collection and enforcement parameters. The committee may also consider debt financing policy, the furtherance of economic development goals, easing tax administration burdens for state and private entities, and enhancing enforcement capabilities.

Health & Human Services Committee

The Health & Human Services Committee considers matters related to programs, regulations and systems that purchase or provide health care, health care coverage, social services, and financial assistance for Floridians and their families. The Committee's oversight responsibilities cover the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Elder Affairs, the Department of Health, and the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Health Innovation Subcommittee

The Health Innovation Subcommittee considers matters related to programs under the jurisdiction of the Agency for Health Care Administration, including the Medicaid program and health facility licensure and regulation, and health related programs and services administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The subcommittee also has jurisdiction over the general area of health insurance.

Health Quality Subcommittee

The Health Quality Subcommittee considers matters under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health, including the licensure and regulation of health care professions and the state's public health system.

Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee

The Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee considers matters under the jurisdiction of the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Elder Affairs, and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

Judiciary Committee

The Judiciary Committee considers matters related to a broad range of civil and criminal law issues, including public safety and the fair and efficient administration of justice through the court system.

The Committee's oversight responsibilities in the criminal law area cover the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Corrections, the Florida Parole Commission, and other criminal justice entities such as state attorneys, public defenders, regional conflict counsel, capital collateral regional counsel, and local law enforcement/jails.

In the civil law area, the Committee's oversight responsibilities cover the judicial branch, including courts, clerks of court, and related court entities such as the Justice Administration Commission, the Judicial Qualifications Commission, the Judicial Nominating Commissions, the Office of State Courts Administrator, the Florida Bar, and the Department of Legal Affairs (Attorney General).

Civil Justice Subcommittee

The Civil Justice Subcommittee considers matters related to civil litigation, business law, family law, constitutional amendments, real property and probate law, guardianship, and trust law.

The subcommittee also considers matters related to the legislative claim bill process. This includes claim bills filed to compensate a particular individual or entity for injuries or losses occasioned by the negligence or error of a public officer or agency of any local or state government.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the court system in general, including court rulemaking, clerks of court, and related entities such as the Justice Administrative Commission and the Judicial Qualifications Commission, the Judicial Nominating Commissions, the Office of State Courts Administrator, and the Florida Bar. The subcommittee also has oversight of the Department of Legal Affairs (Attorney General) and has historically been the lead subcommittee in investigations that may lead to impeachment of a justice or judge.

Criminal Justice Subcommittee

The Criminal Justice Subcommittee considers matters related to criminal justice, juvenile justice, and corrections.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Corrections, and the Florida Parole Commission. The subcommittee also has oversight of other criminal justice entities such as state attorneys, public defenders, regional conflict counsel, capital collateral regional counsel, and local law enforcement/jails.

Local & Federal Affairs Committee

The Local & Federal Affairs Committee considers matters related to Florida's local governments, Florida's veterans, the Florida National Guard, and the military. The committee also considers matters related to state/federal relations, including federal policy that encroaches on issues traditionally reserved to the states, negatively affects the state's economy or taxpayers, or infringes on the personal freedoms of Floridians guaranteed by the Florida and U.S. Constitutions.

Local Government Affairs Subcommittee

The Local Government Affairs Subcommittee considers a variety of issues related to local government and has primary responsibility for the local bill process. This process is designed to ensure that each local bill complies with constitutional and statutory local bill requirements and House local bill policies and procedures, including requirements relating to public notice, public hearing, and economic impact analysis.

Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee

The Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee considers matters related to Florida's community of veterans and military personnel. The subcommittee's responsibilities cover oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Military Affairs, and the Florida National guard.

Regulatory Affairs Committee

The Regulatory Affairs Committee considers matters related to business and professional regulation, energy, utilities and telecommunications regulation, the regulation of insurance companies and financial entities, and gaming.

Business & Professions Subcommittee

The Business & Professions Subcommittee oversees the state's regulation and licensing of business and professional entities, consumer regulatory programs, and the regulation of alcoholic beverages and tobacco. The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Business & Professional Regulation and the consumer service activities of the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services.

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

The Energy & Utilities Subcommittee considers matters related to energy efficiency standards, utilities regulation and telecommunications oversight, and environmental regulations associated with energy production and transportation.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Florida Public Service Commission, the Office of Public Counsel, the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Utility Siting Board, energy related programs and activities within the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (including the Office of Energy Policy), the Department of Business & Professional Regulation (including the Florida Building Commission), the Department of Management Services, the Department of Financial Services, and the Florida Energy Systems Consortium comprised of the 11 state universities.

Insurance & Banking Subcommittee

The Insurance & Banking Subcommittee has oversight over policies affecting insurance companies and financial entities in Florida. Oversight areas also include the Department of Financial Services, which administers a number of programs relating to insurance companies and agents, insurance fraud, workers' compensation, state fire marshal, and funeral, cemetery and consumer services.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Office of Financial Regulation, the entity that regulates financial institutions (banks, trust companies, and credit unions), securities and investments, loan originators, mortgage brokers, debt settlement companies, collection agencies, and various lenders such as consumer finance companies, title loan companies, retail installment sales providers, pawnbrokers, and money transmitters. The subcommittee also oversees the Office of Insurance Regulation, the entity that regulates insurance companies and insurance agents.

Rules, Calendar & Ethics Committee

The Rules, Calendar & Ethics Committee submits Special Order and Consent Calendars for adoption by the House. The committee recommends special amendment deadlines and procedures for the management of amendments and debate on particular bills on second and third reading. The committee also considers matters relating to ethics standards for public officials and employees and may handle legislation affecting constitutional prerogatives of the Legislature.

Rulemaking Oversight & Repeal Subcommittee

The Rulemaking Oversight & Repeal Subcommittee considers matters related to the authority, process, review and oversight of rulemaking and regulation by government officials and agencies. This includes the operation of the state Administrative Procedures Act, special procedures that replace or supplement the APA, and delegations of legislative authority through grants of rulemaking power. Some oversight of the Division of Administrative Hearings can be expected, as well as an emphasis on matters of state and local regulation of private commercial activities.

State Affairs Committee

The State Affairs Committee considers matters related to Florida's agriculture and citrus industries, environmental protection, the conservation of Florida's natural resources, state agency governance, and elections.

Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

The Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee considers matters related to Florida's agriculture and citrus industries, environmental protection, and the conservation of Florida's natural resources, including issues related to water quality and supply.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (excluding consumer affairs issues), the Department of Citrus, the Department of Environmental Protection, the state's five water management districts, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Government Operations Subcommittee

The Government Operations Subcommittee considers matters related to state agency governance, including organization and structure, operating procedures and staffing, oversight and accountability, public records and open meetings, collective bargaining and impasse, state and local public employee retirement and pensions, and elections.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Agency for Enterprise Information Technology, the Department of Management Services, the Department of the Lottery, the State Board of Administration, the Division of Elections within the Department of State, and the Florida Elections Commission. In addition, the subcommittee assists with initiatives designed to evaluate agency spending and delivery of services.