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Florida House of Representatives

THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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VISIT TALLAHASSEE



Liberty Magnet Elementary School and Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF



This week the Economic Affairs Committee passed Home-
stead Assessment Limitation/Senior Citizens. **HJR 55**
proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to
authorize counties and municipalities to freeze the
assessed value of the homesteads of certain low-income
senior citizens. This legislation passed unanimously out of the House last year.

The bill would limit the freeze to those low-income seniors who currently
qualify for the double homestead exemption, with an annual adjusted gross income
of less than \$26,000, therefore ensuring it would appropriately target those who
are least able to pay for even modest increases in property taxes. Furthermore, this
joint resolution also places a ceiling on the value of the homestead property. It
must be equal to or less than 150% of the average just value in the county.

Economic Affairs members also approved **HJR93**, which provides homestead
property tax exemptions for surviving spouses of veterans or first responders killed
in the line of duty,

The Finance & Tax Committee, of which I am a member, approved
unanimously **HB 7113**. The bill updates the list of military operations for which
service members deployed outside of the United States can receive an additional
homestead tax exemption.

Email Representative

Sponsored Bills

Terms to Understand

Appropriations Bill – a general appropriations bill or any other bill the title text of which begins "An act making appropriations,"

"An act making special appropriations," or "An act making supplemental appropriations."

Implementing Bill – a bill, effective for one fiscal year, implementing an appropriations bill.

Conforming Bill – a bill designated as such by the Speaker that amends the Florida Statutes to conform to an appropriations bill.

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HEALTHCARE APPROPRIATIONS



Key Points

The Health Care Appropriations budget reflects the House's commitment to provide health care services

The proposed **\$29.8 billion budget** reflects the House's commitment to providing access to essential health services for Florida's growing population including but not limited to Medicaid programs, Florida KidCare, Early Steps, Services to our Elderly Population, the Developmentally Disabled and individuals with brain and spinal cord injuries.

- Managing the health care needs of Florida's most vulnerable is achieved without reducing or eliminating any category of Medicaid eligibility.
- By adjusting provider rates and improving the management of Medicaid services, the growing program remains fully funded.
- The community substance abuse programs and mental health services remain intact. Community beds have been increased while the number of state institutional beds has been reduced.
- Funding is provided for increased waiver availability in the nursing home diversion program, PACE, Assisted Living, Aged and Disabled Waiver, and Community Care for the Elderly Program.

EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Key Points

Pre-K - 12

The Florida House continues to prioritize education as evidenced by the **\$1.1 billion or 9.5% increase** over last year's PreK-12 base budget.

- The FEFP (Florida Education Finance Program) **increases by \$1 billion** from the current year which provides an **increase in per student funding of 2.27%**
- Funding for class size compliance is \$2.986 billion.
- **Increases** funding for the growing Voluntary Prekindergarten program by **\$28.5 million or 7.4%** over last years budget.



Higher Education

In order to maintain the most competitive and beneficial programs, state universities, public Florida Colleges, and Workforce Education programs will be permitted to make 8% adjustments to tuition or fees.

These tuition adjustments will be allowed only if enrollment in the underlying program is voluntary and the fees are part of the overall actual cost of the program.