



Debbie Mayfield, District 54  
Florida House of Representatives

# THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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## Inside this issue:

IRC Legislative Delegation	1
FRS	2
FL Aerospace & Aviation Industries	2

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Florida's Old and New Capitols

*This week I received my committee assignments, and am honored to have been selected as Chair of the Business & Professional Regulation Subcommittee, and to serve on the Regulatory Affairs Committee, Energy & Utilities Subcommittee, Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee, and the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee. These committee assignments offer me many opportunities to be involved in issues that I am passionate about. I am confident that, with the help of the leadership team in the House, we will make the tough decisions that are necessary to keep our economy healthy and to ensure that taxpayer money is used wisely.*

*In preparation for the 2013 Legislative Session, the Indian River County Delegation will meet on **Wednesday, December 19th, 2012 from 9am to noon** in Vero Beach City Hall, Council Chambers. St. Lucie County's Legislative Delegation will meet **Monday, December 17th, 2012 from 9am to noon** at the Ft. Pierce campus of IRSC. As Chair of the Indian River County Delegation, I have included information you will need in order to be placed on the meeting's agenda. For the St Lucie County Delegation, please contact the office of the Chair, Senator Joe Negron, at (772) 219-1665 or [lira.carrie@flsenate.gov](mailto:lira.carrie@flsenate.gov).*

*As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or if you are having an issue with a state agency, please do not hesitate to contact my district office.*

## IRC LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION MEETING

This meeting will be held in preparation for the 2013 Session, which begins on March 5, 2013. The primary purpose is to allow governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, and local citizens and businesses to address the delegation and to present local legislation.

**To Be Placed on the Agenda:** Presenters must complete and submit a "Participant Request Form" and **three (3)** copies of all printed materials to my office no later than **Wednesday, December 12th, 2012**. Please contact my office to have the request form sent to you.

**For Local Bill Requests:** All local bills must be sponsored by a member of the Legislature. Please obtain this sponsorship prior to the meeting date. Have the local bill drafted and send **three (3)** copies to my office no later than **Wednesday, December 12th, 2012**, along with the Economic Impact Statement form, and a Local Bill Certification form. A statement by an attorney indicating that the proposed bill cannot be accomplished by local ordinance or rule is required. Please be certain that the appropriate local board, district, or commission has approved the local bill and voted on the changes, and adhere to public advertising requirements in a timely manner.

**For General Bill Requests:** All general legislation must be sponsored by a member of the Legislature. Please obtain this sponsorship prior to the meeting date. At least one delegation member should have a working knowledge of your request.

**ALL PRESENTERS** will have **THREE** minutes to address the delegation. Afterward, members may ask you questions concerning your proposal. The time limit will be enforced, so please prepare your remarks to fit within these time constraints.

**All participants must make initial contact with my office before Monday, December 10th, 2012**

## Email Representative

### Important Dates

*December 3rd -7th—*  
First Committee  
Week for 2013  
Session

*December 17th—*  
St. Lucie County  
Legislative  
Delegation Mtg

*December 19th—*  
Indian River  
County Legislative  
Delegation Mtg

### Technology Corner:

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## FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM

There have been several news articles in recent months highlighting some of the concerns about the Florida Retirement System and the offering of a defined benefit (pension) plan, particularly as it relates to the DROP Program. Pension plans have been an issue for several years following the recession, because, unlike a defined contribution plan (otherwise known as investment plans), pensions are an obligations from the employer that you will receive a specified amount of money every month, regardless of market performance or the state of the economy. While Florida has one of the best pension funds in the nation, funded at 86.9%, substantial changes needs to be made now so that we continue to be stabilized for current and future generations.

I am committed to filing legislation this Session that will tackle the problems with the FRS and DROP in order to ensure that our retirement fund is fully funded. I will keep you updated as we move forward with the proposals.

## FLORIDA'S AVIATION & AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES

Gray Swoope, president of Enterprise Florida, recently highlighted the continued, steady growth of the aviation and aerospace industries in Florida. Florida is now the #2 state nationwide in aviation, aerospace, and space establishments, with more than 2,000 companies and over 87,000 employees.

The Space Coast has had its share of these industrial successes. In Palm Bay on Tuesday, I had the opportunity to attend a groundbreaking ceremony for the Harris Corporation's new six-story engineering complex at their campus. It was a successful event and included Governor Scott and other government officials alongside Harris Corporation industry leaders. This project will generate over 300 construction jobs to the region. Upon its completion in 2014, the new facility will also add 100 engineering jobs.

The Melbourne International Airport also celebrated an industrial investment this week with its addition of Embraer Aircraft's Engineering & Technology Center. The groundbreaking, which also hosted Governor Scott, revealed Embraer's new 62,500 square-foot-facility, which will bring in 100 jobs when fully operational. Additional prospects for Florida include XCOR Aerospace, which recently chose Florida as its East Coast base, adding 150 jobs. Another company, Rocket Crafters, is scheduled to leave Utah to relocate to Florida, adding 1,300 jobs. With our top-rated workforce, including tens of thousands of active military personnel and veterans, and world-class infrastructure, Florida will continue to be the prime location for aerospace and aviation.