



THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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Welcome to the Mayfield Minute. This publication will be released once a week until the conclusion of session the first week of May. I hope that you find this information useful and I will continue to keep you up to date on the issues being discussed in Tallahassee.

-Rep. Debbie Mayfield

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Rep. Mayfield being sworn into office on November 18, 2008

THE HISTORY OF FLORIDA'S CAPITAL

The unified government of Florida was established March 30, 1822, when President Monroe signed into law the act which provided for a Governor and a Legislative Council of 13 citizens.

Before 1823, the Legislature met alternately in Pensacola and St. Augustine. Traveling between the two cities took twenty days or more and was

often hazardous.

In 1823, Mr. John Lee Williams of Pensacola and Dr. W. H. Simmons of St. Augustine were commissioned to find a permanent setting for the seat of government of the new Territory of Florida.

They met at a midpoint between the two cities and decided to place the territory's government near a waterfall

with beautiful fields surrounding it.

Three log cabins were built to be used by the Legislative Council. The 1824 Council called the new town Tallahassee.

The word "tallahassee" is of Creek derivation and is frequently translated as "old town" or "old fields."



Florida's Old and New Capitols

2009-2010 STATE BUDGET

“Our economy is currently at a standstill and we can't expect our citizens to tighten their belts and not tighten ours.”

- Representative Debbie Mayfield

The House of Representatives is gearing up to meet regarding the current revenue shortfalls in the state budget. These shortfalls are a reflection of the Florida economy. By strengthening Florida's economy, the budget outlook will also improve.

“Our economy is currently at a standstill and we can't expect our citizens to tighten their belts and not tighten ours.” - Representative Debbie Mayfield

Getting Florida's economy moving again is our state's number one priority, and House Republicans are working on a comprehensive plan to make that happen. We are going to examine state government and stop spending taxpayer dollars on programs that have outlived their usefulness or exist only to serve the needs of some special interest

“I look forward to working with Speaker Sansom and my colleagues in the House to determine as quickly as possible the best course of action to responsibly balance the budget and help get Florida's economy back on track again.” - Representative Debbie Mayfield



Speaker of the House Ray Sansom

For more detailed information on legislative issues, please check out the Florida Legislature's website!
www.myfloridahouse.gov

HOUSE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

This week the House released committee assignments and new office locations. Rep. Debbie Mayfield was appointed to the following committees:

- Natural Resources Appropriations Committee
- Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee
- State Universities & Private Colleges Policy Committee
- Governmental Affairs Policy Committee

Our new office in Tallahassee is located at 317 House Office Building.

“I am extremely delighted with my committee assignments. I feel that these appointments will allow me to do great things for our state and our district.” - Representative Debbie Mayfield

SPECIAL SESSION JANUARY 5-16

House Speaker Ray Sansom and Senate President Jeff Atwater have decided to call a special session from January 5th – 16th to address the estimated \$2 billion-plus shortfall in the current fiscal year's budget.

The House and Senate are hoping to achieve this huge task through a combination of spending reductions and trust fund transfers.

Under current law, the legislature is required to have a balanced budget. Therefore, now is the time to thoughtfully and deliberately consider the best options available to responsibly balance the state budget for this current fiscal year.

