



# THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

<i>2010-2011 State Budget</i>	1
<i>High Performance Government</i>	2
<i>Visitors to the Tallahassee Office</i>	2
<i>911 Call Victims' Privacy Protected</i>	2

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*This week my colleagues and I received an updated economic forecast from the state's Revenue Estimating Conference. State economists revealed Tuesday in their forecast of tax collections that for the year ahead, although the state economy is showing a slight improvement, Florida will continue to face a budget shortfall of as much as \$3.2 billion.*

*With those facts in mind, I remain committed to continuing our work in the House to craft a responsible, common-sense budget that reflects Florida's economic realities without burdening Florida's families or businesses with new taxes.*

*-Rep. Debbie Mayfield*



Ladies from the Catholic Diocese of Vero Beach, Sebastian, Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie visited with Rep. Mayfield on Wednesday in the Tallahassee office.

## STATE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

With the state economy struggling, House Speaker Larry Cretul recently released budget allocations for the House. Budget allocations are the building blocks of the state budget that dictate how many of the taxpayers' dollars are spent in each area of the budget. Budget areas include items such as education, health care, public safety, and transportation.

Budget estimates anticipate a shortfall this year of \$3.2 billion which means that state budget will have to be reduced this year. Over the past 3 years the state budget has been reduced by over \$7 billion. In his memo to House Members, Speaker Cretul acknowledged that crafting this year's budget will be more difficult than in previous years.

While still early in the process, it is already clear that balancing the budget will be a challenge. However, I remain committed to prioritizing funding on core issues like health care, classroom education, and public safety.



Florida's Old and New Capitols

Should you have any state constituent issues, please do not hesitate to contact Sandi Harpring in my Vero Beach office at (772) 778-5077.

### Constituent Milestones

Congratulations to Helen Glenn & Alma Lee Loy who were recently awarded Lifetime Achievement Awards by the Veterans Council of Indian River County.

### Technology Corner:

#### Twitter

I will be posting updates on my Twitter account and you can stay up to date by following me at [www.twitter.com/debbie\\_mayfield](http://www.twitter.com/debbie_mayfield)

#### WQCS Interview

I was honored to be recently asked to outline my 2010 Legislative Priorities. [Click here to listen.](#)

#### Session Live:

You can follow daily events in the House of Representatives at [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov).



## HIGH PERFORMANCE GOVERNMENT

This week I will be discussing a portion of Speaker Cretul's agenda that we have continued to address each week in our committees. We also saw our first set of repeal bills passed out of the House this week.



**State Law Made Clear:** We must ensure that Florida's laws are clear and concise to guarantee the viability of our statutes. We have started this process by performing a comprehensive review of the Florida Statutes and identifying and repealing outdated or unnecessary statutes. We then introduced legislation to identify and correct statutes where the Legislature has improperly or poorly delegated rulemaking authority to the state agencies.

Transparency Florida was created to provide the public with unprecedented access to state government spending. To find out more about this new initiative click the Transparency Florida logo at the top or follow the following link: [www.transparencyflorida.com](http://www.transparencyflorida.com).

## VISITING THE DISTRICT 80 TALLAHASSEE OFFICE



I routinely receive visitors from back home. We are starting to receive more than we can put in the newsletter weekly, but be assured we will include all photos from visits in futures newsletters. This week representatives from the Florida Cattleman's Association (left) and the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce (right) made the trip to Tallahassee. Thank you to (left to right) Sean and Sharon Sexton and Tommy Clay from the FL Cattleman's Association and Helene Caseltine, Erin Grall and Heather Grall from the Chamber for visiting my Tallahassee office.

## 911 CALL VICTIMS' PRIVACY PROTECTED

Too often, we see tabloid reporting on personal tragedies involving victims of crimes who call Florida's emergency 911 call system. When someone calls 911, they are not auditioning for a reality show; they are pleading for help. Although the constant replaying of the calls makes for lively TV, the victims of tragedy are subjected to the agony of reliving the event in the public realm. Not only is this public release of the calls recording an invasion of privacy, it also shows a dismal lack of compassion. To end this cruel and sensational practice, the House Governmental Affairs Policy Committee passed with my support, a bill Wednesday seeking to protect the dignity of victims of crimes or traumas from having their situation exploited by the release of their recorded 911 calls.