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Florida House of Representatives

THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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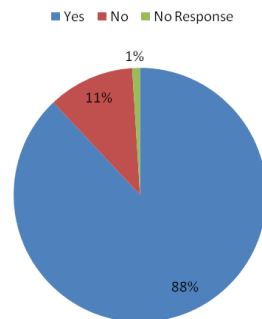


Florida's Old and New Capitols

*As we head into the third week of session I wanted to say thank you to those of you who took the time to complete and return our **2011 Citizens' Issue Survey**. Your thoughtfulness and diligence in responding to the issues facing our state was greatly appreciated. I have read and evaluated each of the surveys and will use this knowledge to help guide me during the 2011 Legislative Session. Below I have provided a brief summary of the data from the returned surveys.*

I think it is important to understand this was a survey and not a referendum. The issues facing Floridians are important and they elicit passionate arguments on both sides and I respect all of the opinions expressed. If you find that you disagree with the survey responses on a particular issue, rest assured I appreciate hearing your concerns and will keep your comments in mind as we move forward in the legislative session this year.

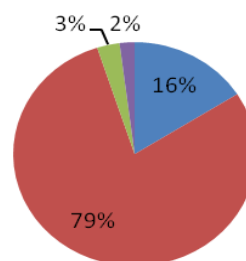
Pre-session Survey Question 2: Limit State Spending Increases



CITIZEN SURVEY RESULTS

Pre-session Survey Question 1: Raise Taxes or Reduce Spending

- Taxes should be raised so that government programs such as healthcare and education can be maintained at the same levels
- Spending by state government should be reduced or eliminated to cut costs and lower spending, even if it means reductions to education and healthcare programs.
- Both
- Neither





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JANUARY 2011

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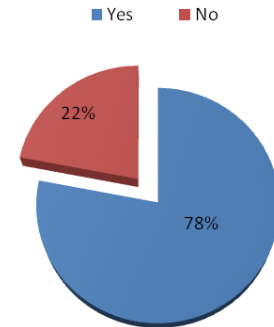


STUDENT SUCCESS & TEACHER QUALITY

CS/CS/SB 736, Education Personnel, addressing student success and teacher quality passed the House Floor on Wednesday, March 16th with a vote of 80-39. The student success and teacher quality bill revises provisions relating to instructional personnel and administrator performance evaluations, compensation and salary schedules, and employment contracts. The House has forwarded the bill to Governor Scott for his signature.

Our students and schools have made significant gains in the past ten years, and we have many great teachers to thank for that progress. It is time to reward teachers by increasing their pay for their proven successes. We can build more and more schools, we can make class sizes smaller, but if we don't have quality teachers leading our classrooms – teachers that can ensure that our students are making learning gains each year – then Florida's children will be unprepared to compete with students worldwide.

**Pre-session Question #4:
Performance-Based Pay**



[CLICK HERE TO REVIEW FAQ AND BACKGROUND](#)

SESSION WEEK THREE

The projected schedule for week three indicates that the House will be in session on Thursday, March 24, 2011, from 2:45 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. and Friday, March 25, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. I will be in Committee and Subcommittee meetings this week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

There are Budget Workshops this Tuesday in the following Appropriations Subcommittees:

- Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee
- Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee
- PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee
- Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

A large number of bills will be moving through the House this week and I would encourage you to visit the House website at www.myfloridahouse.gov to get the most up to date information. You can even watch committee meeting and session live.

Lastly, if you have not had a chance to participate in the “**Build Your Own Budget**” program I have provided the link again in this issue (click the logo below or visit the House website). This program allows the public to participate in the same budget exercises that the legislators use. I encourage you to try your hand at balancing Florida's budget and please share the results with my office.

