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Florida House of Representatives**

THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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Florida's Old and New Capitols

*As we move into week five of the 2011 Legislative Session I wanted to provide you with an update on two bills I have filed for this year. I am happy to report that **HB 19**, which would allow local elected officials like county commissioners, circuit court clerk, county tax collector, sheriff, supervisor of elections and property tax collector to reduce his or her salary on a voluntary basis received bipartisan support from the State Affairs Committee last week and is ready to be presented on the House floor.*

*Additionally, **HB 1111**—Uniform Interstate Family Support Act was also reported favorably last week in the Civil Justice Subcommittee. This bill conforms Florida's Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) to the current version of UIFSA, which was amended in 2008. The 2008 UIFSA amendments were made to fully incorporate the provisions promulgated by the 2007 Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and forms of Family Maintenance that impact existing state laws. Florida law currently has uniform standards for interstate enforcement of support orders but not international enforcement.*

MEDICAID REFORM

Florida's Medicaid system in its current form is unsustainable, and is not delivering value for either consumers or taxpayers. Funding for Medicaid is already expected to consume almost 30% of the total state budget this fiscal year, and its cost will only continue to rise. Carve outs for special populations, regions, and vendors have made our Medicaid system one of the most complicated in the nation. On Thursday of last week the Florida House passed HB 7107 & HB 7109, with my support.

- The bills will increase accountability and improves care by moving from complex fee-for-service model to statewide, integrated managed care program and sets forth a five year implementation plan;
- The bills will create a managed care program that emphasizes home and community based care for the long term care of our seniors and person with developmental disabilities;
- The bills will divide the state into seven (7) geographic regions consistent with patient referral patterns and groups rural and urban counties to ensure statewide coverage;
- The bills will provide choice counseling to ensure that individuals moving into the Medicaid managed care program have the necessary information and guidance to make informed decisions when choosing managed care plans;

The plan proposed by Chairman Schenck, and approved by the Florida House, dramatically improves our state's Medicaid program by moving patients into a statewide managed care program. This legislation will ensure costs are contained, the delivery of Medicaid services to patients is coordinated, and that Floridians receive a higher level of access to quality care.

Sponsored Bills

Email Representative

Congratulations Evan MacKay

Evan served as a Messenger for the Florida House during the week of March 14-18. Evan recently won FIRST PLACE in the Microbiology Junior Division at the 56th Florida Foundation of Future Scientists State of Florida Science and Engineering Fair held in Orlando on March 24th.



Technology Corner:

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REDISTRICTING AMENDMENTS 5 & 6

Last week the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate jointly submitted the application for pre-clearance for **Amendments 5 and 6** to the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). In this application, the Legislature is requesting that DOJ preclear these amendments, under the interpretation that they are beneficial for preserving and enhancing the rights of minority voters – a statement echoed consistently by the organizations that authored, campaigned for and supported these amendments.



In early March the Executive Office of Governor Rick Scott requested assistance from the Florida Legislature and Florida's Attorney General, regarding the application for preclearance for Amendments 5 and 6 (Article III, Sections 21 and 20, of the Florida Constitution), as adopted by Florida voters during the 2010 General Election.

The Governor requested assistance in determining who was the proper authority to actually file the preclearance application and what information should be included in that application. The original application did not substantively address the fundamental question of whether or not Amendments 5 and 6 were retrogressive to minority voters in Florida's five "covered jurisdictions," Collier, Hardee, Hendry, Hillsborough and Monroe counties.

It was determined that either the Attorney General, as the "chief legal officer" of the State, or the Florida Legislature, as the implementing authority for redistricting, should submit the application. The Legislature, House and Senate, then agreed to submit the application to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT & DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND

The new State Economic Enhancement & Development (SEED) Trust Fund will be used for infrastructure and job creation opportunities in the following program areas: transportation facilities that meet a strategic and essential economic development state interest; affordable housing programs and projects in accordance with chapter 420, F.S.; economic development incentives for job creation; workforce training associated with locating a new business or expanding an existing business; and tourism promotion and marketing services. Revenue sources will include documentary stamp tax proceeds and rental car surcharges.

Proposed Committee Bill (PCB) 01 creates the SEED Trust Fund; and PCB 02 redirects existing trust funds that will no longer be necessary, and makes conforming statutory changes. This legislation was heard on Friday, April 1st in the Select Committee on Government Reorganization. After discussion and debate, the bills passed committee and now are awaiting referral.

SESSION WEEK FIVE

This week will feature Floor Action on the General Appropriations bill and Related Implementing & Conforming Bills. The projected schedule shows that the House is in Session on Wednesday, **April 6, 2011** from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. and then again on Thursday, **April 7, 2011** from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. For greater ease in finding the many documents and bills related to Florida's budget, the House has placed them all in one location:

[2011 Appropriations Documents](#)

[House Appropriations Committee](#)