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Florida House of Representatives

# THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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As the final week kicks off, it's hard to believe session is drawing to an end. This week will be very busy and I'm looking forward to presenting [The Cancer Treatment Fairness Act](#) on the House floor. I am excited about bringing this much-needed legislation to fruition and am looking forward to a strong finish.



Last week was very productive. Not only did we have a full schedule of floor action, we also wrapped up budget conference negotiations. Below is an overview of major legislation that we passed last week. I also had the pleasure of meeting with Florida Southern College SGA College Republican Chairman Wesley Davis Jr., who was up from the district on a legislative visit.

As always it is an honor to serve you in Tallahassee.

## [HB 7169](#) - Florida Health Choices Plus

Last Friday, the House passed our alternative to Medicaid expansion—the Florida Health Choice Plus Program. This program provides eligible adults, including truly needy parents and certain adults with disabilities, access to a range of quality health care coverage options. Between Florida Health Choices Plus and the Federal Health Care Exchange, over 525,000 Floridians will be able to receive health care coverage.

The Florida Health Choices Plus program is a sustainable, free-market solution that strengthens Florida's traditional safety net for our most vulnerable citizens while protecting our taxpayers.

## [CS/SB 2](#) & [CS/SB 4](#) – Ethics Reform

On unanimous vote, the House sent the Governor two bills that bring about some of the most significant ethics reforms in our state in many years. This legislation will raise the standards public officials are held to in a number of ways. The bills give the Commission on Ethics more authority to collect fines, promote transparency by placing campaign financial disclosures online, require state officers to abstain from voting on matters that benefit them directly, mandate ethics training for constitutional officers, place greater restrictions on public employment while in office, prohibit officials from accepting gifts from political committees, and prevent legislators from lobbying for two years after leaving office.



## Email Representative

### Community Events

#### May 3rd

Relay for Life at the  
Beaches  
Riverside Park, Vero  
Opening Ceremony 6pm  
More Info: Click [Here](#)

#### May 10th

Red Cross 5th annual  
Hurricane Hangar Par-  
ty: Vero Beach Airport  
5-10pm  
More info: Click [Here](#)

### Technology Corner:

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Florida's Old and New Capitols

## Other Legislation Passed Last Week

### [CS/CS/CS/HB 569](#) - Campaign Finance Reform

The House also sent the Governor a bill that significantly reforms Florida's outdated campaign finance laws. Current law is fundamentally flawed because it encourages donors to contribute to less accountable third-party groups instead of directly to the candidate or party.

This bill will make our system more transparent and accountable by increasing the frequency of campaign finance reporting, eliminating "committees of continuous existence", and prohibiting candidates from receiving maximum contributions from the same donor if they switch races. It also increases the amount an individual can contribute directly to a candidate to: \$3,000 for statewide and Supreme Court candidates and \$1,000 for all others.

### [SB 1832](#) & Motor Vehicle Registration Fees

To provide Florida's hardworking families relief, the House Appropriations Committee unanimously passed an amendment to SB 1832 that will lower vehicle registration fees over the next five years and remove a proposed tax increase on Florida businesses.

### [HB 7015](#)- Expert Testimony

The House also passed and sent to the Governor HB 7015, which tightens the standard of admissibility of expert testimony in courts. Recognizing the need to modernize Florida's expert evidence standard, this bill requires a trial court to make a determination as to whether the science underlying offered evidence is "scientifically valid" or "reliable", and to make this determination by considering a variety of factors that have been adopted by the United States Supreme Court.

### [HB 7083](#) - Death Penalty

This bill makes important reforms to Florida's death penalty process. HB 7083 respects defendants' right to make claims of innocence and bring new evidence forward, but limits frivolous post-conviction appeals. These changes promote justice for victims and their families.

### [CS/HB 7165](#)- Early Learning

Recognizing the importance of prekindergarten education, the House unanimously passed this bill which sets new accountability measures for early learning programs. It also directs the Office of Early Learning to develop a standard contract for school readiness and voluntary prekindergarten providers.