



Special Edition 4  
February 7, 2022

IN THIS EDITION:

2022 LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION UPDATE -  
WEEK 4

TOURIST  
DEVELOPMENT TAX

VISIT FLORIDA

VACATION RENTALS

DATA PRIVACY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

FLORIDA TIMESHARE  
ACT

CFHLA ADVOCACY DAY  
AT THE CAPITOL

DONATE

IN THE NEWS

LINKS OF INTEREST

[Florida Governor Ron  
DeSantis](#)

[State of Florida Senate](#)

[State of Florida House of  
Representatives](#)

[Orange County](#)

[Osceola County](#)

[Seminole County](#)

This Newsletter is Proudly Sponsored By:



## THE INSIDER - SPECIAL EDITION

### 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE - WEEK 4

Last week, marked the completion of week four of the 2022 Florida Legislative Session. As the session begins to pick up the pace, lawmakers are continuing to consider key issues this session such as the extension of the scheduled repeal date for VISIT FLORIDA, property insurance reforms, and the new House and Senate legislative maps.

While the proposed Congressional maps have been stalled for a potential review by the Florida Supreme Court, the State House and Senate maps are nearly complete. After the Senate passed its map two weeks ago, the House moved its proposal forward earlier in last week, onto [Joint Resolution 100](#) by a 77-39 vote. The amended House legislative map has the potential to increase the Democratic seats to 49, while decreasing the Republican majority to 71. The Senate map will likely give Republicans a 23-17 lead over Democrats, after the 2022 election cycle. The joint resolution (SJR 100) now incorporates both the House map (H 8013) and Senate map (S 8058) and awaits final review by the Florida Supreme Court. The Court will have 30 days to conduct a high-level review, to determine if the maps are in compliance with the state and federal voting laws.

Lastly, the House and Senate budget proposals were unveiled throughout the week and were ultimately published on Friday afternoon. In the proposed budget plans, the Florida Senate ([SB 2500](#)) has proposed a \$108.5 Billion state budget for the FY 2022-23 and the Florida House ([APC 1](#)) has proposed a \$105.2 Billion state budget for the upcoming

[City of Orlando](#)[City of Kissimmee](#)[City of Sanford](#)

---

fiscal year. Good news is that both chambers have suggested a \$50 million appropriation for VISIT FLORIDA. However, only the Senate has proposed the funding to be recurring (annual), while the House has proposed the funding to be non-recurring (this year, one time).

## TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX (TDT)

A bill in each chamber proposing changes to the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) statute that would remove a provision that would require a specific percentage of all tourist development tax revenues to be used to promote and advertise tourism.

[HB 6075](#) - Representative Eskamani - **No action** taken in the House last week.

[SB 1898](#) - Senator Farmer Jr. - **No action** taken in the Senate last week.

[HB 673](#) - Representative Shoaf - The bill was filed on November 19, 2021. **The bill is now on the agenda for the House Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee on Tuesday, February 8, 2022.**

[SB 1542](#) - Senator Gainer - **No action** taken in the Senate last week.

## CFHLA OPPOSES

---

## VISIT FLORIDA

A bill filed in each chamber that revises the scheduled repeal date of Florida's Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation (VISIT FLORIDA) **until at least October 1, 2028.**

[HB 489](#) - Representative Cheney and Co-Sponsored by Morales - **No action** taken in the House last week. **The bill is now ready for a final vote on the House floor.**

[SB 434](#) - Senator Hooper - The bill **passed the full Senate, by a vote of 36-2**, on February 3, 2022. The bill is now awaiting for the House to vote on their version of the bill.

We are grateful for the support of Governor DeSantis, Senator Hooper and Representative Cheney, in moving this incredibly important VISIT FLORIDA reauthorization legislation forward!

Additionally, as mentioned earlier, Governor Ron DeSantis' budget recommendation included a \$50 million funding request for VISIT FLORIDA. This week, the Senate and House released their initial budgets and both chambers have suggested a **\$50 million appropriation for VISIT FLORIDA** in FY 2022-23. However, only the Senate has proposed the funding to be recurring (annual), while the House has proposed the funding to be non-recurring (this year, one time).

We are optimistic about the future of tourism in Florida, and **CFHLA will continue to advocate for VISIT FLORIDA funding to be recurring in the FY 2022-23 budget and beyond.**

## CFHLA SUPPORTS

---

## VACATION RENTALS

A bill in each chamber to require advertising platforms, such as **Airbnb** and **Vrbo**, to remit specified taxes imposed on some transactions. It also requires all licenses issued by the Division of Hotels & Restaurants of DBPR to be displayed conspicuously. Additionally, these bills would preempt regulation of vacation rentals to the State of Florida, which would prohibit local law, ordinance, or regulation from allowing or requiring inspections or licensing of public lodging establishments.

**HB 325** - *Representative Fischer and Co-Sponsored by Morales* - **No action** taken in the House last week. The bill was passed by a vote of 10-6 in the Regulatory Reform Subcommittee on January 27th, and is now awaiting a hearing in the House Commerce and Ways & Means Committee.

**SB 512** - *Senator Burgess* - The bill was **passed by a vote of 6-3** in the Senate Community Affairs Committee on **February 2, 2022**. The bill has now been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee for its final committee stop.

## CFHLA SUPPORTS

---

### DATA PRIVACY

A priority of Governor DeSantis, this bill would allow consumers to control how their personal data is shared and sold. Last year, business interests strongly opposed this bill, stating it would cause substantial operational and legal expenses. Ultimately, the bill died last Session, however it has been filed again in 2022.

**HB 9** - *Representative McFarland* - **No action** taken in the House last week. This bill was filed in the Florida House on January 10, 2022 and it **includes a private right of action clause that we oppose**. The bill has been referred to the House Commerce and Judiciary Committees.

**SB 1864** - *Senator Bradley* - **No action** taken in the Senate last week. The bill was filed in the Florida Senate on January 7, 2022 and it has been referred to the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee, the Senate Regulated Industries Committee and the Senate Rules Committee.

## CFHLA MONITORING

---

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A bill in each chamber, named the Human Trafficking Reduction Act, that proposes a slew of provisions, including a prohibition of hourly rate offerings at hotels and motels, seeks to raise Florida's criminal penalties, and establishes a statewide human trafficking data repository at the University of South Florida. We are working with our legislators to ensure that the measures in this bill, if passed, are fair and tailored to meet their objectives.

**HB 1439** - *Representative Toledo* - The bill was **passed unanimously** by the House House Commerce Committee on **February 1, 2022**, after the provision requiring patrons to provide a photo ID at hotels, motels and vacation rentals was removed from the bill. **The bill has now been referred to the House Judiciary Committee and is on the agenda for Tuesday, February 8, 2022.**

**SB 1852** - *Senator Bradley* - **No action** taken in the Senate last week. **The bill is now on the agenda for Tuesday, February 8, 2022 in the Senate Regulated Industries Committee.**

## CFHLA MONITORING

---

### FLORIDA TIMESHARE ACT

A bill filed in each chamber that seeks to clarify and modernize several provisions in the **Florida Timeshare Act**. The bill includes beneficial revisions for owners' associations include the option for meetings to be held virtually, an exemption from current requirements to deliver notices to an owner's unit rather than address of record, clearer authority to act in an emergency, and streamlining the trustee foreclosure process to make it less time consuming. The proposal would also allow developers to deliver certain documents to purchasers electronically and clarify provisions regarding the delivery and filing of other required documents. These proposed changes would help bring the statute up to date relative to the current business model and available technology.

**HB 575** - *Representative McClain* - The bill was **passed unanimously** by the House Regulatory Reform Subcommittee on **February 3, 2022** and now heads to the House Civil Justice & Property Rights Subcommittee.

**SB 1216** - *Senator Hutson* - **No action** by the Senate last week. The bill was passed unanimously by the Senate Regulated Industries Committee on January 25th, and is now awaiting a hearing in the Senate Community Affairs Committee.

## CFHLA SUPPORTS

---

### CFHLA ADVOCACY DAY AT THE CAPITOL

**[Register Today and Make Your Voice Heard!](#)**



## CFHLA Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Join CFHLA for a one-day Legislative trip to Tallahassee, as we advocate on behalf of the Central Florida hospitality and tourism industry.

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022**

6:00AM Bus Departs from the CFHLA Office

9:00PM Bus Returns to the CFHLA Office (Estimated)

**Cost: \$40 per person**

\*Registration includes transportation, meals, reception and materials.

**PLEASE NOTE REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE AT 12:00PM ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022 OR WHEN THE BUS REACHES CAPACITY.**

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Robert Agrusa, President/CEO at 407-313-5022.

## DONATE

**CFHLA MEMBERS** - Please consider making a donation of \$50 via the link below to the CFHLA PAC/PC. All contributions help CFHLA continue its efforts in supporting and endorsing Hospitality-Friendly candidates for local and state offices.

[DONATE NOW](#) 

As a reminder, all CFHLA Board Members, PAC/PC Board Members, and ARC Board Members have committed to contributing \$100 to the CFHLA PAC/PC in 2022. If you are a part of one or more of these groups, please consider fulfilling your commitment today.

## IN THE NEWS

[Senate votes to extend VISIT Florida until 2031 \(Florida Politics\)](#)

[Lawmakers line up bills to fight human trafficking \(WFSU\)](#)

[Florida Lawmakers Could Ban Hourly Rates At Hotels To Reduce Human Trafficking \(CBS 4 Miami\)](#)

[Orange County resort taxes get holiday boost to record high in December \(Orlando Business Journal\)](#)

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



PROVIDING 30 YEARS OF LANDSCAPE EXPERIENCE  
RIGHT HERE IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

**Landscape:** Design • Installation • Renovation • Maintenance

**Irrigation:** Modification • Installation • Repair

**Erin Sims • [erin@landforminc.com](mailto:erin@landforminc.com)**

**p: 407-298-3036 • c: 407.468.0561 • [www.landforminc.com](http://www.landforminc.com)**

CFHLA eNews is a subscription-based email publication from the Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association to its members. If you would prefer not to receive the newsletter anymore, simply click the unsubscribe link.  
Copyright 2006 Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association. All rights reserved.