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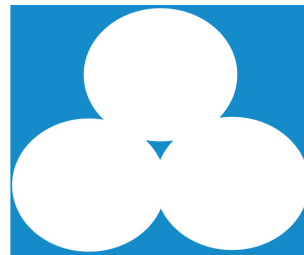
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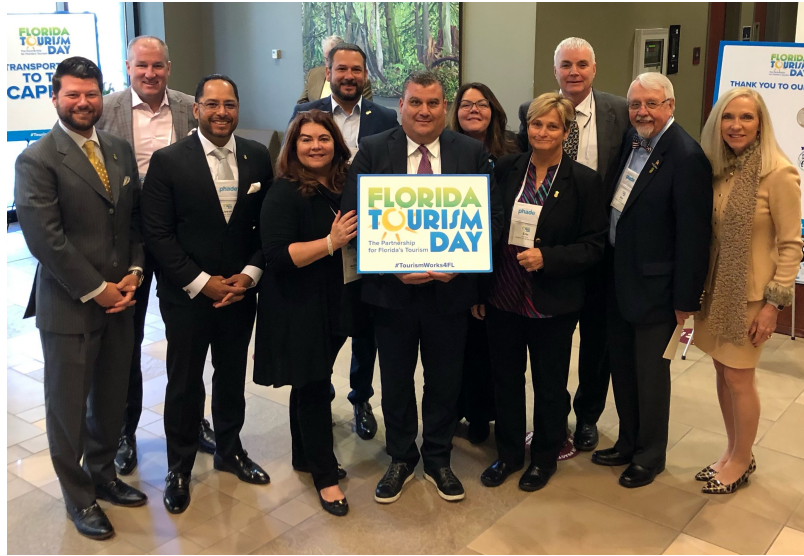
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THE INSIDER - SPECIAL EDITION

2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE - WEEK 2

Last week, Florida legislators picked right up where they left off and began the second week of 2022 Legislative Session. With 14 days passed (and 46 days left) in session, Florida legislators are attempting to accomplish their policy and budget goals before facing re-election in November.

Additionally, several CFHLA members and community leaders traveled to Tallahassee last week, in support of **Florida Tourism Day**. This annual day is devoted to bringing together industry leaders and partners from across the state, to visit with our elected leaders in Tallahassee and to advocate on behalf of the tourism and hospitality industry.

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

Thank you to all of our members and partners who supported this collaborative statewide effort, and we appreciate our elected and appointed leaders who took the time to meet with us and listen to our concerns. To view the entire Florida Tourism Day photo album, [please click here](#).

Furthermore, Governor DeSantis proposed his own congressional redistricting map last week, that would likely hand Republicans 18 seats and Democrats 10 seats. However, the Senate rejected his plan and approved [SB 8060](#) by a 31-4 vote. This congressional map is estimated to set aside 16 Republican seats and 11 for Democrats, with a good chance for them to gain an extra seat. The Florida House has yet to pass its own congressional map. Once approved by both chambers, the final congressional map will be reviewed by Governor DeSantis, where he will have the last decision on what will happen next.

Lastly, a pair of bills has caught the attention of local governments from across the state. [SB 280](#) and [SB 620](#) would place local government ordinances under the microscope if they negatively affected the profits of a business. With local governments weighing in opposition, Senator Hutson filed an amendment to SB 280 during its final committee stop (Rules) that addresses some of the concerns. The amendment maintains the requirement of counties and municipalities to provide a business impact estimate before passing any local ordinances. It also adds exemptions to this requirement for ordinances such as comp plans and zoning. Further, the amendment makes clear that government can outsource the business estimation to outside groups. The bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 14-2. SB 620, a companion bill, cleared the Senate Appropriations Committee as well. This bill allows businesses to sue local governments, if local ordinances cause up to a 15% loss of their profits. Both SB 280 and SB 620 will now be heard on the Senate floor.

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* - **No action** taken in the House last week.

[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* - Passed **unanimously** by the House Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee on January 18, 2022 and **again today (January 24, 2022) by a vote of 17-4 in the House Commerce Committee**. The bill is now ready for a final vote on the House floor.

[SB 434](#) - *Senator Hooper* - **No action** taken in the Senate last week. Passed unanimously by the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee on November 2, 2021 and is **on the Senate Appropriations Committee agenda for this Thursday, January 27, 2022**.

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* - **No action** taken in the House last week. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the House Regulatory Reform Subcommittee.

[SB 512](#) - *Senator Burgess* - **No action** taken in the Senate last week. Passed unanimously by the Senate Regulated Industries Committee on January 11, 2022. The bill is now awaiting its second stop, a hearing in Senate Community Affairs Committee.

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. Filed in the Florida House on January 10, 2022 and the bill 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. Filed in the Florida Senate on January 7, 2022. The bill 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, requires hotel operators to make guests show ID at the time of occupancy, and establishes a statewide human trafficking data repository at the University of South Florida.

HB 1439 - *Representative Toledo* - **No action** taken in the House last week. However, a Proposed Committee Substitute has been filed in the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Subcommittee and **the bill will be heard tomorrow, January 25, 2022.**

SB 1852 - *Senator Bradley* - **No action** taken in the Senate last week. The bill has been referred to the Regulated Industries, Commerce and Tourism, and Rules Committees.

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* - **No action** taken in the House last week. Filed in the Florida House on January 10, 2022. The bill has been referred to the Regulatory Reform Subcommittee.

SB 1216 - *Senator Hutson* - Filed in the Florida Senate on January 10, 2022. The bill **will be heard tomorrow, Tuesday, January 25, 2022** in the Senate Regulated Industries Committee.

CFHLA SUPPORTS

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS MEETING

On January 12th, the CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee held their monthly meeting with special guest, Osceola County Commissioner **Cheryl Grieb** at the [FantasyWorld Resort](#) in Kissimmee (**Thank you Brad Boland!**).



Commissioner Grieb briefed our members about several issues that she is championing including workforce housing and increasing partnerships between local schools and the hospitality industry. Additionally, she heard from several of our members about a variety of other tourism and hospitality related issues.

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

[Proposed bill that would expand use of tourism tax dollars gets first reading \(Orlando Business Journal\)](#)

[VISIT FLORIDA extension gets House support \(Orlando Business Journal\)](#)

[AFP-FL urges lawmakers to let the sun set on VISIT FLORIDA \(Florida Politics\)](#)

[‘That’s a problem’: Florida state agencies challenged with lack of job applicants, struggle to retain low-wage workers \(Florida Politics\)](#)

[Human trafficking bill would make paying for sex a felony in Florida \(ABC Tampa Bay WFTS\)](#)

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Erin Sims • erin@landforminc.com

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