



OVERVIEW

In Tallahassee, House Leadership [announced committee and subcommittee assignments and chairs](#). Senate legislators met for committee meetings.

The Legislature will need to come up with \$750 million for next year's state budget if lawmakers choose not to raise property taxes. The Senate and House disagree on how to address the pending gap in funding. The Senate is willing to leave the local required effort as is or possibly increase. The House is adamantly against raising it.

In Washington, DC, Legislators have left for recess. The new Congress will resume January 3rd. President-Elect Trump has announced his picks for his Cabinet and Administration.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Florida legislators face \$750 million gap in next year's budget [Read Article](#)

Budget chairman wants 'serious look' at testing [Read Article](#)

Republican lawmakers have big plans for Florida's unique process to revise Constitution [Read Article](#)

EVENT CALENDAR

Please contact us for additional details on any event/meeting below.

Event	Date	Location
Congress Reconvenes	January 3 rd	Washington, DC
District 5- Next Gen Engage	January 19 th	Plantation High School
Presidential Inauguration	January 20 th	Washington, DC
Broward Delegation Meeting	January 31 st	Broward County Governmental Center
District 2- Next Gen Engage	February 9 th	Pines Middle School
District 3- Next Gen Engage	March 9 th	Stranahan High School
District 1- Next Gen Engage	April 20 th	South Broward High School
2017 Legislative Session Convenes	March 7 th	Tallahassee, FL
BCPS Rally to Tally	March 13 th -15 th	Tallahassee, FL
Broward Days	March 15 th -16 th	Tallahassee, FL

TALLAHASSEE: THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Please find below a summary of relevant education legislation filed for the week.

Bills Filed

[SB 148 Garcia: Relating to Students Remaining on School Grounds During School Hours](#)

Students Remaining on School Grounds During School Hours; Citing this act as the "Mayra Capote Act"; requiring schools in certain districts to obtain written parental consent before permitting students to leave school grounds during the lunch period, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2017

[SB 78 Flores: Relating to Public School Recess](#)

Public School Recess; Requiring each district school board to provide students in certain grades with a minimum number of minutes of free-play recess per week and with a minimum number of consecutive minutes of free-play recess per day, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2017.

[SB 82 Steube: Relating to Postsecondary Education Tuition and Fee Waivers](#)

Postsecondary Education Tuition and Fee Waivers; Deleting a requirement that a state university, Florida College System institution, career center operated by a school district, or charter technical career center waive out-of-state fees for certain students, including certain undocumented students, who meet specified requirements, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2017.

[Senate PreK-12 Appropriations](#)

The Senate PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee met to discuss FEFP funding issues. The Legislature will need to replace \$197 million in nonrecurring funds in FEFP. The Senate will address the Lowest 300 schools and over-testing and its effect on the budget this session.

The Legislature will address and potentially revise the Best and Brightest program.

The Legislature will work to expand and provide incentive funds for charter schools that focus on "at risk" and disadvantaged students. They are also looking to provide additional sources of funding for charter school capital outlay.

WASHINGTON DC: THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Please find below a summary of Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations and the President-Elect Trump Transition.

Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations

Before adjourning for the remainder of the year, Congress late last week cleared a Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Continuing Resolution (CR) that extends current funding levels for most federal agencies through April 28, 2017. The President signed the \$1.07 trillion CR into law early Saturday morning, avoiding a partial government shutdown when current FY 2017 appropriations expired at midnight Friday. In addition to maintaining federal spending at FY 2016 levels (with an across-the-board cut of 0.19% for all accounts) until after President-elect Donald Trump is sworn in, the bill provides for additional investments to address the Flint, Michigan water crisis, as well as assistance to help victims of severe flooding in several states, along with several other specific funding needs. These include:

- \$170 million to address water infrastructure and health needs in Flint, Michigan;
- \$872 million for programs included in the 21st Century Cures Act, including \$500 million for states to combat the opioids addiction crisis;
- \$45 million to address a funding shortfall and continue health care coverage for retired coal miners past the end of the year, though it likely won't be enough to satisfy coal state lawmakers;
- \$4.1 billion in disaster relief funds to respond to major flood and hurricane damage in certain states; and,
- \$10 billion in additional uncapped war funding to combat the Islamic State terrorist group and for other military and diplomatic efforts.

While the stopgap spending bill easily cleared the House on Thursday with a bipartisan vote of 326 to 96, the possibility of a partial government shutdown loomed on Friday when Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) threatened to block the bill over concerns about specific provisions related to miner's health care benefits. At issue was the CR's funding for health care benefits and pension plans for retired coal miners and their survivors. The bill provides a four-month patch to keep benefits for the miners from lapsing, but coal-state Senators argued that the funding was insufficient and pushed for a long-term deal. Ultimately, Senator Manchin announced Friday evening that he had been assured by Senate leadership that the issue would receive renewed attention when the 115th Congress convenes in January, and that a longer-term funding solution will be negotiated. The decision cleared the way for a vote just before midnight on Friday, and the CR was approved by a vote of 63 to 36, which included support from 22 Democrats and opposition from 13 Republicans.

President-Elect Trump Transition

Administration / Cabinet Position	Nominee
Commerce Secretary	Wilbur Ross
Defense Secretary	Retired Marine Corp General James Mattis
Education Secretary	Betsy DeVos, Chair of Michigan State Republican Party
Health and Human Services Secretary	Congressman Tom Price, (R-GA)
Homeland Security Secretary	Retired Marine Corp General John F Kelly
Labor Secretary	Andrew Puzder, CKE Restaurants Executive
Secretary of State	Rex Tillerson, ExxonMobil Executive
Transportation Secretary	Elaine Chao, Former Labor Secretary, President George W. Bush
Treasury Secretary	Steven Mnuchin, Trump Finance Committee Chairman
Attorney General	Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL)
EPA Administrator	Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt
CIA Director	Congressman Mike Pompeo (R-KS)
United Nations Ambassador	South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley
Small Business Administrator	Linda McMahon
National Security Advisor*	Retired Army Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn
Chief of Staff*	Reince Priebus
Chief Strategist and Senior Counselor*	Stephen Bannon

*Does not require Senate confirmation.