

2002-2004



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



JAMES E. "JIM" KING, JR.  
*President of the Senate*

Dear Fellow Floridian:

Welcome to the Florida Senate! I am honored to serve the people of the State of Florida as the 84th Senate President in leading this accomplished and dedicated class of state Senators.

Each Senator represents a constituency which encompasses its own unique and diverse population, and it is that diversity which makes the Florida Senate a vibrant and adept body.

While our state will certainly face some challenging issues over the next two years, we remain deliberative and committed to doing what is right for all Floridians. All forty members of the Florida Senate hold true to the principles and traditions which have guided this body for over a century and will continue the tradition of statesmanship and collegiality set by our predecessors.

I strongly encourage you to read this booklet, which explains the Florida Legislature's rich history and tradition. Please take a moment to find out how you can become more involved in Florida government – your visit here today is a good first step. Please remember that when you bring your ideas to Tallahassee, this in turn allows us to better serve you.

Thank you for giving each of us the opportunity to serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim King". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

# The Florida Senate

When the first Senate was convened on January 7, 1839 — six years before Florida became a state — no business could be transacted because only seven of the sixteen Senators were present. There was no quorum of Senators for three of the first four days, and it was not until the fifth day of the first session that Territorial Governor Richard Keith Call addressed the Senate and the House of Representatives in joint session.

Since the beginning days, the Senate has evolved into a highly organized, smoothly functioning legislative body that meets annually to conduct the people's business. The year-round staff conducts vital research and prepares for the legislative sessions.

“Once a Senator, always a Senator” is a catchy phrase of good fellowship that conveys something of the philosophy of the Senate.



The Florida Senate today has 40 members, each elected from a single-member district and each representing approximately 400,000 Florida citizens. Each Senator is elected for a four-year staggered term. He or she may be elected for more than one term, but may not serve for more than eight consecutive years (see Article VI, Section 4, State Constitution). The Constitution of the State of Florida specifies that Senators must be at least 21 years of age, must be registered voters, must be residents of the district from which they are elected, and must have resided in Florida for two years prior to their election.

While members of the other branches of government work full time in public service, the Legislature maintains its identity as the “citizen” branch. Almost all of the Senators are occupied in a business or profession when they are not carrying out their legislative duties.

The 2002-2004 Senate membership includes 30 men and 10 women. There are 26 Republicans and 14 Democrats whose professions or occupations include law, medicine, banking, business, agriculture, and industry. The average Senator is about 51 years old, is married, and has children. Thirty-three of the Senators have college degrees and 15 have held other public offices before they were elected to the Senate. Thirty-three Senators served in the House of Representatives prior to their election to the Senate. Others have served in local governments. The Senate is presided over by a President elected by the members of the Senate. Also elected is the President Pro Tempore. The President for the 2002-2004 term is Senator James E. “Jim” King, Jr. from Jacksonville. The President Pro Tempore is Senator Alex Diaz de la Portilla from Miami.

Additional information on these officers and the other members of the Senate is contained on the following pages of this handbook. The handbook also further outlines and describes the Senate, its operations, and its relationship to the House of Representatives and the other two branches of Florida government.

## President of the Florida Senate

The Senate President is a constitutional officer who leads the Florida Senate for a two-year term. The President, who is elected by members of the Senate, manages the operations of the Senate and presides over its sessions. The President's many duties include: selecting a Majority Leader, appointing Senators to standing Senate committees, appointing committee chairs, and appointing citizens to a variety of boards and commissions.



**James E. "Jim" King, Jr.**  
**Republican, District 8**

Owner, Personnel Recruiting, Temporary Help, Employee Leasing, Consulting, and Testing Firms **born** October 30, 1939 in Brooklyn, New York. Moved to Florida in 1945 **education** St. Petersburg Junior College, A.A., 1959; Florida State University, B.S.B.A., 1961; M.B.A., 1962; Alpha Delta Sigma Advertising, Honorary President; Delta Sigma Pi Business, Honorary President; FSU Chapter, American Marketing Association President **wife** Linda Braddock of Orange Park **children** Monta Michele, Laurie Anne **legislative service** elected to the Senate on March 9, 1999, reelected subsequently, Majority Leader, 2000-2002; House of Representatives: 1986-1999, Majority Leader, 1996-1998; House Republican Policy Committee Chair, 1992-1994; Republican Legislature Leadership Committee and Republican Leadership Team, 1986-1994; Minority Floor Whip, 1988-1990; Duval Delegation Chair, 1992 **military service** U.S. Coast Guard, 1962-1968 **religious affiliation** Episcopal **recreation** scuba diving, boating, sport fishing, and gardening **addresses** (district) Suite 108, 9485 Regency Square Boulevard, Jacksonville 32225-8145 (Tallahassee) 409, The Capitol 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 904/727-3600 or 888/861-9761 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5229, 850/487-5030.

## President Pro Tempore

The role of the President Pro Tempore is defined by the President and the Senate Rules. Additionally, he or she may preside over sessions during the absence of the President.



**Alex Diaz de la Portilla**  
**Republican, District 36**

Political Consultant, Winning Strategies, Inc. **born** August 25, 1964 in Miami **education** University of Miami **legislative service** elected to the Senate, January 25, 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1994-2000 **historical** Grandfather, Angel Pio de la Portilla, deceased, mentor and inspiration for social and political involvement; paternal great-grandfather served in Cuban Senate, while two of his sons served simultaneously in the Cuban House of Representatives; maternal great-grandfather served as Cuban Minister of Justice (Attorney General); long family history of political and civic involvement in Cuba and the United States, including brothers Renier, former Florida State Representative; and Miguel, former Miami-Dade County Commissioner **religious affiliation** Roman Catholic **recreation** reading, traveling, bicycling **addresses** (district) 1555 S.W. 8th Street, Miami 33144-4132 (Tallahassee) 404 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 305/643-7200, 643-7201 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5109.

# MEMBERS OF THE SENATE



**JD Alexander**  
**Republican, District 17**

Citrus grower **born** July 16, 1959 in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Moved to Florida in 1961 **education** University of Florida, B.S., Agriculture, 1981 **wife** Cindy Monroe of Augusta, Georgia **children** Britton, Keaton **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 1998-2002 **historical** Ben Hill Griffin, Jr., grandfather, Florida House of Representatives 1956-1963, Senate 1965-1968 **religious affiliation** Presbyterian **addresses** (district) 391 Avenue A, Southwest, Winter Haven 33880-2931 (Tallahassee) 312 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 863/298-7677 or 800/444-9747 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5044.



**Dave Aronberg**  
**Democrat, District 27**

Attorney **born** May 4, 1971 in Miami **education** Harvard University: B.A., 1993; J.D., 1996 **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002 **religious affiliation** Jewish **recreation** golf, exercise, guitar, driving back and forth on State Road 80 **addresses** (district) 3900 Woodlake Boulevard, Suite 301, Greenacres 33463 (Tallahassee) 220 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 561/433-2627 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5356.



**Nancy Argenziano**  
**Republican, District 3**

State Senator **born** January 1, 1955 in Brooklyn, New York. Moved to Florida in 1971 **education** Broward Community College, pre-veterinary medicine; Gold Coast Real Estate School, Florida Real Estate License, 1986 **child** Joseph Hall **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 1996-2002 **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** freshwater fishing, mountain climbing, hiking, kayaking **addresses** (district) 6216 West Corporate Oaks Drive, Crystal River 34429-2694 (Tallahassee) 311 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Statewide 1-866-538-2831 (district) 352/860-5175 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5017.



**Jeffrey H. (Jeff) Atwater**  
**Republican, District 25**

Banking **born** April 8, 1958 in St. Louis, Missouri. Moved to Florida in 1962 **education** University of Florida, Finance, 1981 **wife** Carole Funkhouser of Topeka, Kansas **children** Amy, John, Amanda, Courtney **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 2000-2002 **historical** Great-grandfather, Napoleon B. Broward, served as Governor of Florida from 1905-1909 **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** golf, tennis **addresses** (district) 10337 North Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens 33410-4639 (Tallahassee) 212 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 561/625-5101 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5100.



**Michael S. (Mike) Bennett**  
**Republican, District 21**

Electrical Contractor **born** January 1, 1945 in Brainard, Minnesota. Moved to Florida in 1955 **education** Drake University, B.A., 1975; Drake University, M.B.A., 1976 **wife** Diane M. (Dee) of Des Moines, Iowa **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 2000-2002 **military service** 1963-1967 U.S. Navy, 4 Tours Vietnam **recreation** fishing, golf **addresses** (district) Wildewood Professional Park, Suite 90, 3653 Cortez Road West, Bradenton 34210 (Tallahassee) 216 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 941/727-6349 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5078.



**Walter G. (Skip) Campbell, Jr.**  
**Democrat, District 32**  
**Minority (Democratic) Caucus Chair**

Attorney **born** November 12, 1948 in Rockaway Beach, New York. Moved to Florida in 1961 **education** St. John Vianney Seminary, A.A., 1968; University of Florida: B.A., 1970; J.D., 1973 **wife** Lynn Satin of Miami Beach **children** Christina, Daniel **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1996, reelected subsequently; Democratic Whip, 1998 **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** golf, flying **addresses** (district) 10094 McNab Road, Tamarac 33321 (Tallahassee) 414 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 954/346-2813 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5094.



**Larcenia J. Bullard**  
**Democrat, District 39**

Housewife **born** July 21, 1947 in Allendale, South Carolina. Moved to Florida in 1980 **education** Nova University, M.S., 1991; Antioch University, B.A., 1973 **husband** State Representative Edward (Ed) Bullard of Nassau, Bahamas **children** Vincent, Dwight, Edwina **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 1992-2000 **historical** First female to be elected in Florida House District 118 **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** reading, swimming, traveling, skating, pinochle, card playing, collecting butterfly-shaped objects **addresses** (district) 8603 S. Dixie Highway, Suite 304, Miami 33143 (Tallahassee) 218 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Statewide: 1-866-234-3734, (district) 305/668-7344 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5127.



**Lisa Carlton**  
**Republican, District 23**

Co-owner/manager cattle and citrus business **born** May 7, 1964 in Sarasota County **education** Stetson University, B.A., Sociology, 1986; Mercer University School of Law, J.D., 1989 **husband** Robert (Rob) Robinson of Lake Wales **children** Carlton Elaine, Mabry Robert, Savell Louise **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1998, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1994-1998 **historical** Mabry Carlton, Jr., father, Sarasota County Commissioner, 1980-1989; Mabry Carlton, Sr., grandfather, Hardee County Tax Assessor for 18 years; Doyle E. Carlton, great-uncle, Florida Senator: 1917, 1919, Florida Governor: 1929-1933; Doyle E. Carlton, Jr., uncle, Florida Senator: 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1965, 1966; Fran Carlton, cousin, Florida Representative: 1976-1988 **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** tennis **addresses** (district) 2127 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey 34229-9695 (Tallahassee) 412 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 941/486-2032 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5081.



**Charlie Clary**  
**Republican, District 4**

Architect **born** June 24, 1950 in Crestview **education** Auburn University: B.A., Architecture, Environmental Design, 1977 **wife** Beth Graham of Ft. Walton Beach **children** Joanna, Laura **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1996, reelected subsequently; Majority Whip, 2001-2002 **military service** U.S. Navy: Submarine service, 4 years active and 2 years inactive **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** fishing, pen and ink sketching, photography **addresses** (district) 1241 Airport Road, Suite A, Destin 32541 (Tallahassee) 420 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 850/833-9159 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5009.



**Anna P. Cowin**  
**Republican, District 20**

Educator **born** May 23, 1946 in Brooklyn, New York. Moved to Florida in 1980 **education** College of New Rochelle, New York, B.A., 1968; Fordham University, New York, M.S. **husband** Dr. John A. Cowin of Leesburg **children** David, Lynda, Scott **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1996, reelected subsequently **religious affiliation** Catholic **addresses** (district) 716 West Magnolia Street, Leesburg 34748 (Tallahassee) 416 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 352/315-9335 or 352/360-6750 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5014.



**Lee Constantine**  
**Republican, District 22**

Real Estate Consultant and Broker **born** November 6, 1952 in Wilmington, Delaware. Moved to Florida in 1958 **education** University of Central Florida: B.A., Communications, with honors, 1974, Florida State Council of Student Body Presidents, Chair 1973-1974 **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1992-2000 **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** beach volleyball, snow skiing, charitable activities **addresses** (district) Suite 1268, 378 Centerpointe Circle, Altamonte Springs 32701-3442 (Tallahassee) 320 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 407/331-9675 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5050.



**Victor D. Crist**  
**Republican, District 12**

President of Metropolitan Communications Inc. (an advertising agency) **born** June 21, 1957 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Moved to Florida in 1968 **education** St. Petersburg Junior College, A.A., 1980; University of South Florida, B.A., Communications with Minor in Business Administration and graduate studies in Communication, 1980-1983 **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1992-2000 **historical** Son of a retired U.S. Military Officer; descendant of U.S. President Zachary Taylor, 1849-1850 **religious affiliation** Presbyterian **recreation** nonprofit organizations, performing arts, traveling, boating, water sports, bicycling, home projects, gardening, music **addresses** (district) 11961 N. Florida Avenue, Suite B, Tampa 33612 (Tallahassee) 208 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 813/975-6658 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5068.



**M. Mandy Dawson**  
**Democrat, District 29**

Consultant/Legislator **born** July 18, 1958 in Fort Lauderdale **education** Florida A&M University; Barry University, B.S., Social Work **children** Shaterreas, Colongie, Ashley; grandchild: Jalen Omari Weems **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1998, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives: 1992-1998; Freshman Majority Whip, 1992 **historical** First woman elected to the Florida Senate from Broward County; First black woman elected to the Florida Legislature from Broward County **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** traveling, reading, swimming, writing short stories for children **addresses** (district) 33 N.E. 2nd Street, Suite 209, Ft. Lauderdale 33301-1033 (Tallahassee) 410 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Statewide 1-877-632-9766 (district) 954/467-4317 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5112.



**Mike Fasano**  
**Republican, District 11**

Associate Vice President, Morgan Stanley/Investments **born** June 11, 1958 in Long Island, New York. Moved to Florida in 1971 **education** St. Petersburg Junior College, 1987-1990 **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives: 1994-2002; Majority Leader, 2000-2001; Majority Floor Leader, 1998-2000; Majority Whip, 1996-1998 **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** golf, tennis **addresses** (district) 8217 Massachusetts Avenue, New Port Richey 34653-3111 (Tallahassee) 310 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 727/848-5885 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5062.



**Paula Dockery**  
**Republican, District 15**  
**Majority (Republican) Whip**

Reinsurance, citrus, and cattle **born** June 6, 1961 in Queens, New York. Moved to Florida in 1968 **education** University of Florida: B.A., Political Science, 1983; M.A., Mass Communications, 1987 **husband** C. C. (Doc) of North Carolina **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives: 1996-2002, appointed as Majority Whip for 1998-2000 legislative sessions **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** fishing, hiking, traveling, volleyball **addresses** (district) Post Office Box 2395, Lakeland 33806-2395 (Tallahassee) 326 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Statewide 1-866-248-6487 (district) 863/413-2900 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5040.



**Rudy Garcia**  
**Republican, District 40**

Businessman **born** April 15, 1963 in Miami **education** Miami-Dade Community College **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives: 1984-1988, 1989-2000; Cuban-American Caucus, Chair, 1991-1992 **historical** Youngest elected member to the Florida House of Representatives, 1984 **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** fishing, sailing, diving, reading, cycling, motorcycling **addresses** (district) 7475 West Fourth Avenue, Hialeah 33014-4327 (Tallahassee) 314 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 305/364-3191 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5106.





**Steven A. Geller**  
**Democrat, District 31**

Attorney **born** November 4, 1958 in Bronx, New York. Moved to Florida in 1965 **education** Florida State University: B.A., 1979; J.D., 1982 **wife** Laurel Leffler of West Palm Beach **children** Marc Isaac, Benjamin Jacob **legislative service** elected to the Senate March 17, 1998, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives: 1988-1998; Deputy Majority Leader, 1992 **religious affiliation** Jewish **addresses** (district) 400 South Federal Highway, Suite 204, Hallandale Beach 33009 (Tallahassee) 406 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 954/893-5089 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5097.



**Anthony C. (Tony) Hill, Sr.**  
**Democrat, District 1**  
**Minority (Democratic) Floor Leader**

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 1199/Florida Community Organizer **born** September 9, 1957 in Jacksonville **education** Lincoln University, 1975-1977; Edward Waters College, 1995, Honorary Doctorate; National Labor College, 2001, B.A., Labor Studies **children** Anthony C. Jr., Cicely, Tiffany **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 1992-2000 **military service** U.S. Army, 1977-1983, Baumholder, West Germany, two honorable discharges **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** youth track coach, track **addresses** (district) 5600 New Kings Road, Suite #5, Jacksonville 32209 (Tallahassee) 226 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 904/924-1646 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5024.



**Mike Haridopolos**  
**Republican, District 26**

College Professor, Author **born** March 15, 1970 in Huntington, New York. Moved to Florida in 1990 **education** Stetson University, B.A., 1992; University of Arkansas, M.A., 1993 **legislative service** elected to the Senate March 25, 2003; House of Representatives, 2000-2003 **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** golf, NASCAR **addresses** (district) 2955 Pineda Causeway, Suite 215, Melbourne 32940-7307 (Tallahassee) 318 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 321/752-3131 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5056.



**Dennis L. Jones, D.C.**  
**Republican, District 13**  
**Majority (Republican) Leader**

Chiropractic Physician **born** April 5, 1941 in Erie, Pennsylvania. Moved to Florida in 1950 **education** St. Petersburg Junior College; Lincoln Chiropractic College, D.C., 1963 **wife** Susan Davis, Ph.D., of Brandon **children** Rod, D.C., Jill (deceased); grandchildren: Jacob, Jaxon **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002, House of Representatives: 1978-2000; Speaker Pro Tempore, 1998-2000 **historical** Aaron Arnold, great-great-grandfather, Circuit Judge of Kane County, Pennsylvania, 1840's **religious affiliation** Methodist **recreation** boating, fishing, traveling **addresses** (district) 8940 Seminole Boulevard, Seminole 33772 (Tallahassee) 330 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 727/549-6411 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5065.



**Ron Klein**  
**Democrat, District 30**  
**Minority (Democratic) Leader**

Attorney **born** July 10, 1957 in Cleveland, Ohio. Moved to Florida in 1985 **education** Ohio State University: B.A., Political Science, 1979; Case Western Reserve University, J.D., 1982 **wife** Dori Dragin of Cleveland, Ohio **children** Brian, Lauren **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1996, reelected subsequently; Minority (Democratic) Whip, 1998; House of Representatives, 1992-1996 **religious affiliation** Jewish **recreation** tennis, racquetball, water sports, camping **addresses** (district) 3333 South Congress Avenue, Suite 305A, Delray Beach 33445 (Tallahassee) 200 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 561/274-4777 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5091.



**Tom Lee**  
**Republican, District 10**

Vice President, Sabal Homes of Florida, Inc. **born** January 21, 1962 in San Antonio, Texas. Moved to Florida in 1969 **education** Hillsborough Community College, A.A., 1982; University of Tampa, B.S., Business, 1984 **children** Regan, Brandon **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1996, reelected subsequently **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** golf, travel **addresses** (district) P.O. Box 2743, Brandon 33509; Suite E, 915 Oakfield Drive, Brandon 33511 (Tallahassee) 400 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 813/744-8683 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5072.



**Alfred (Al) Lawson, Jr.**  
**Democrat, District 6**

Insurance Agent; President, Lawson and Associates, Inc. (Marketing Firm) **born** September 21, 1948 in Tallahassee **education** Florida A&M University, B.S., 1970, Student Government; Florida State University, M.S.P.A., 1973 **wife** Delores J. Brooks of Tallahassee **children** Alfred J. III, Shani A. **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1982-2000 **religious affiliation** Episcopal **recreation** basketball, reading, gardening **addresses** (district) 20 East Washington Street, Suite E, Quincy 32351 (Tallahassee) 210 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 850/921-6620, 850/921-8446 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5004.



**Evelyn J. Lynn**  
**Republican, District 7**

Legislator, Consultant, Retired Educator **born** February 2 in Astoria, New York. Moved to Florida in 1960 **education** Queens College, B.A.; Stetson University, M.A.; University of Florida, Ed.D. **children** Karen Jans, Robert Grimm; grandchild: Sara Jans **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 1994-2002 **religious affiliation** Methodist **recreation** travel, watercolor, reading **addresses** (district) 140 South Atlantic Ave., #201, Ormond Beach 32176 (Tallahassee) 324 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Statewide: 1-866-831-2665 (district) 386/676-4000 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5033.



**Gwen Margolis**  
**Democrat, District 35**

Realtor and Developer **born** October 4, 1934 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Moved to Florida in 1960 **education** Temple University, 1952-1954; University of Tampa; Dade Junior College, special real estate and appraisal courses **children** Edward, Ira, Karen, Robin; grandchildren: Sarah, Jeffery, Jordan, Leah, Jarred, Daniel, Ariel **legislative service** elected to the Senate, 1980-1992, Senate President 1990-1992, reelected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 1974-1980 **historical** First woman to serve as President of the Florida Senate **religious affiliation** Jewish **addresses** (district) HSBC Bank Building, 301 41st Street, 3rd Floor, Miami Beach 33140 (Tallahassee) 213 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 305/535-5432 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5121.



**Durell Peaden, Jr.**  
**Republican, District 2**

Physician (retired) **born** August 24, 1945 in DeFuniak Springs **education** Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, B.A., 1968; Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, Mexico, M.D., 1973; Jones School of Law at Faulkner University, Montgomery, Alabama, J.D., 1987 **wife** Nancy Green of DeFuniak Springs **children** Durell III (Trey), Tyler, Taylen **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1994-2000 **historical** John Wilkinson, cousin: Legislative Council House, Santa Rosa, 1844: House, Santa Rosa, 1848-1850, 1860. John Wilkinson, Jr., cousin: House, Santa Rosa, 1885: Senate, District 1, 1889. A.J. Peaden, cousin: House, Santa Rosa, 1905, 1907, 1909; R.W. Peaden, cousin, House, District 2, 1972-1976: John W. Kennedy, grandfather, Okaloosa County Commission Chair **religious affiliation** Methodist **addresses** (district) 598 North Ferdon Boulevard, Crestview 32536-2753 (Tallahassee) 306 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 850/689-0556, 850/484-9898 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5000.



**Lesley (Les) Miller, Jr.**  
**Democrat, District 18**  
**Minority (Democratic) Leader**  
**Pro Tempore**

Executive, Tampa General Hospital **born** April 21, 1951 in Tampa **education** University of South Florida, B.A., 1978, President of Student Government, student on Florida Board of Regents **wife** Gwendolyn M. (Gwen) Martin of Tampa **children** Le’Jean M., Lesley J. III **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; Democratic Whip, 2001-2002; House of Representatives: 1992-2000; Democratic Leader, 1998-2000 **military service** U.S. Air Force 1971-1974 **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** reading, singing, traveling **addresses** (district) P.O. Box 5993, Tampa 33675-5993; 2109 Palm Avenue, Suite 302, Tampa 33605-3620 (Tallahassee) 222 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Statewide: 1-866-254-6892 (district) 813/272-2831 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5059.



**Bill Posey**  
**Republican, District 24**

Realtor **born** December 18, 1947 in Washington, D.C. Moved to Florida in 1956 **education** Brevard Community College, A.A., 1969 **wife** Katie Ingram of Rockledge **children** Pam, Cathi; grandchildren: Billy Carson, Clarke Carson, Katie Householder **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1992-2000 **religious affiliation** Methodist **recreation** stock-car racing, coaching youth athletics **addresses** (district) Suite 108, 1802 South Fiske Boulevard, Rockledge 32955-3007 (Tallahassee) 316 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 321/690-3484 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5053.



**Ken Pruitt**  
**Republican, District 28**

Real Estate; State Certified Water Well Contractor **born** January 24, 1957 in Miami **education** Indian River Community College, Water and Wastewater Treatment Certification, 1984; TREEO Center - University of Florida, Water Distribution Certification, 1987 **wife** Aileen Kelly **children** Kenneth Jr., Steven, Ashley, Michelle, Mark **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1990-2000 **religious affiliation** Disciples of Christ **recreation** Civil War history **addresses** (district) Suite 110, 2400 S.E. Midport Road, Port St. Lucie 34952-4806 (Tallahassee) 214 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 772/335-8000 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5088.



**Jim Sebesta**  
**Republican, District 16**  
**Majority (Republican) Whip**

Real Estate/Broker/Developer **born** August 24, 1935 in Pontiac, Illinois. Moved to Florida in 1959 **education** Loyola University, Chicago, B.Sc.; DePaul University, M.B.A., Florida Metropolitan University, Doctor of Humane Letters, Honorary Ph.D., 2001 **wife** Jean **children** Jim, Anne Comber, Steve, Mike, Bob, John **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1998, reelected subsequently **military service** U.S. Navy Reserve (8 years) **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** family time, fishing, golf **addresses** (district) Gateway Corporate Center, 9887 4th Street North, Suite 319, St. Petersburg 33702 (Tallahassee) 322 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Hillsborough County: (813) 221-6044 (district) 727/563-0377 or 727/217-7088 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5075.



**Burt L. Saunders**  
**Republican, District 37**

Attorney, "Of Counsel", Woodward, Pires, & Lombardo, P.A. **born** November 7, 1948 in Hampton, Virginia. Moved to Florida in 1978 **education** University of South Florida, B.A., Physics, 1969-1972; William and Mary Law School, J.D.; University of Miami Law School, LL.M., Ocean and Coastal Law, 1978-1979 **wife** Dr. Lillian Love of Whaleyville, Maryland **children** Frank, Jonathan, Matthew **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1998, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1994-1998 **religious affiliation** Jewish **recreation** backpacking, snow skiing, hiking **addresses** (district) 3301 E. Tamiami Trail, Administration Building, Suite 304, Naples 34112-4902 (Tallahassee) 418 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 239/417-6220 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5124.



**Gary Siplin**  
**Democrat, District 19**

Attorney **born** October 21, 1954 in Orlando **education** Johnson C. Smith University, B.A., Political Science; University of Pittsburgh, M.A., Public & International Affairs; Duquesne University, J.D. **wife** Victoria Pierre **children** Gary Jr., Angelika, Joshua **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 2000-2002 **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** sports, dancing **addresses** (district) 5020 Silver Star Road, Orlando 32808 (Tallahassee) 205 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 407/297-2071 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5190.



**Rod Smith**  
**Democrat, District 14**  
**Minority (Democratic) Caucus Policy**  
**Committee Co-Chair**

Attorney **born** November 15, 1949 in Southwest City, Missouri. Moved to Florida in 1954 **education** University of Tulsa, B.A., Political Science, 1971; University of Florida, College of Law, J.D., with honors, 1974 **wife** DeeDee Cain of Alachua, FL **children** Alison, Jesse, Dylan **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** golfing, fishing, hunting **addresses** (district) 2727 N.W. 43rd Street, Suite 2A, Gainesville 32606 (Tallahassee) 405 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** District-wide 1-866-778-2300 (district) 352/375-3555 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5020.



**Debbie Wasserman Schultz**  
**Democrat, District 34**  
**Minority (Democratic) Caucus Policy**  
**Committee Co-Chair**

Legislator **born** September 27, 1966 in Forest Hills, New York. Moved to Florida in 1984 **education** University of Florida, B.A., Political Science, 1988; M.A., Political Science, 1990; Graduate Assistant to Senator Lawton Chiles; Certificate in Political Campaigning Graduate Program **husband** Steve Schultz of Boston, Massachusetts **children** Rebecca, Jake **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives: 1992-2000; Democratic Floor Leader, 1998-1999; Democratic Leader Pro Tempore, 2000 **historical** Youngest woman ever elected to the Florida Legislature **religious affiliation** Jewish **recreation** bowling, politics, old houses, animals **addresses** (district) Building B, 2nd Floor, 10100 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines 33026-3900 (Tallahassee) 202 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 954/704-2934 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5103.



**J. Alex Villalobos**  
**Republican, District 38**

Attorney **born** November 2, 1963 in Miami **education** University of Miami, B.A., 1985; Florida State University, J.D., 1988 **wife** Barbara **child** Katharine **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2000, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives: 1992-2000; Cuban-American Caucus Chair, 1995-1996, Vice Chair 1993-1994 **religious affiliation** Catholic **recreation** taekwon do, fishing, hunting, skiing **addresses** (district) Suite 202-A, 2350 Coral Way, Miami 33145-3500 (Tallahassee) 305 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 305/222-4160 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5130.



**Daniel Webster**  
**Republican, District 9**

Owner, Webster Air Conditioning and Heating, Inc. **born** April 27, 1949 in Charleston, West Virginia. Moved to Florida in 1956 **education** Georgia Tech, B.S.E.E., 1971 **wife** Sandy Jordan of Orlando **children** David Lee, Brent Alan, Jordan Daniel, Elizabeth Anne, John Elliott, Victoria Suzanna **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 1998, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1980-1998: Minority Floor Leader, 1982-1984; Minority Whip, 1988-1990; Republican Leader Pro Tempore, 1992-1994; Republican Leader, 1994-1996; Speaker of the House of Representatives, 1996-1998; **religious affiliation** Baptist **addresses** (district) 315 S. Dillard Street, Winter Garden 34787 (Tallahassee) 408 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 407/656-0066 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5047.



**Frederica S. Wilson**  
**Democrat, District 33**  
**Minority (Democratic) Whip**

Executive Director, Office of Alternative Education and Dropout Prevention, Miami-Dade County Schools **born** November 5, 1942 in Miami **education** Fisk University, B.S., 1963; University of Miami, Master's Degree **children** Mrs. Nicole St. Hilaire, Lakesha, Paul **legislative service** elected to the Senate in 2002; House of Representatives, 1998-2002; **religious affiliation** Episcopal **addresses** (district) 18425 N.W. 2nd Avenue, Suite 310, Miami 33169 (Tallahassee) 224 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** (district) 305/654-7150 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5116.



**Stephen R. Wise**  
**Republican, District 5**

Educator **born** December 11, 1941 in Canton, Ohio. Moved to Florida in 1959 **education** Florida Southern College, B.S., 1963; Middle Tennessee State University, M.Ed., 1968; University of Alabama, Ed.D., 1970 **wife** Kathryn (Kathy) Beeman of Melbourne **children** Kelly Anne Legg, Tara Elizabeth Thompson **legislative service** elected to the Senate on September 25, 2001, reelected subsequently; House of Representatives, 1988-2000 **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** swimming, tennis **addresses** (district) 3520-2 Blanding Boulevard, Jacksonville 32210-5253; (Tallahassee) 413 Senate Office Building 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephones** Statewide: 1-866-365-2124 (district) 904/573-4900, 904/573-4901 (Tallahassee) 850/487-5027.

## Secretary of the Senate

At its organization session every two years, the Senate elects a Secretary of the Senate pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida. This non-member constitutional officer publishes the journal and the calendar, keeps all Senate records, and authenticates each act and resolution passed by the Senate.

Other operations within the Secretary's Office include: bill and amendment filing, duplication and distribution of documents, recording of actions taken by the Senate, and the performance of support services for the Senate. Special chamber computer programs, such as the vote system and the Chamber Automation System, are designed and operated by the Secretary's Office.

As liaison to the Office of Legislative Information Technology Services, the Secretary serves as the Senate coordinator for the development and maintenance of computer applications used by Senate staff as well as for investment in and allocation of hardware and software resources. The Secretary's Office maintains Senate information included on the Florida Senate's official website and on the Legislature's Online Sunshine homepage.

The Secretary speaks to various visiting civic and student groups during the year. The Secretary's Office hosts numerous mock sessions throughout each year. Staff and facilities are provided for the YMCA Youth Legislature, Boys State, Girls State, the Silver-Haired Legislature, and others.



**Faye W. Blanton**  
**Secretary of the Senate**

**born** November 9, 1946 in Tallahassee **education** Jones Business College, Jacksonville, 1967 **Married** Edwin F. "Ed" Blanton of St. Petersburg **children** Wade, Doug and Laurel McDaniel; Garrett and Travis Blanton; **grandchildren** Zachary Gillis; Davis and Taylor McDaniel; Megan and Garrett Blanton, Jr.; and Kai Blanton **legislative service** elected Secretary of the Florida Senate, November 1996, and reelected subsequently. Secretary and Parliamentarian of the 1997-1998 Florida

Constitution Revision Commission; Assistant Secretary of the Senate, 1984-1996; Assistant to the Secretary, 1974-1984; staff, the 1977-1978 Florida Constitution Revision Commission; Assistant to the Director of Management and Staff, 1972-1974; staff assistant in the Governmental Efficiency Committee, 1970-1972; lecturer on the legislative process; facilitator for mock sessions for civic, student, international, private groups; an Advisor and Counselor for Girls State, Boys State, the YMCA Youth Legislature, and the Silver-Haired Legislature **highlights** First woman elected Secretary of the Florida Senate for a two-year term **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** gardening, walking, reading **address** Suite 405, The Capitol 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephone** 850/487-5270.



## Sergeant at Arms

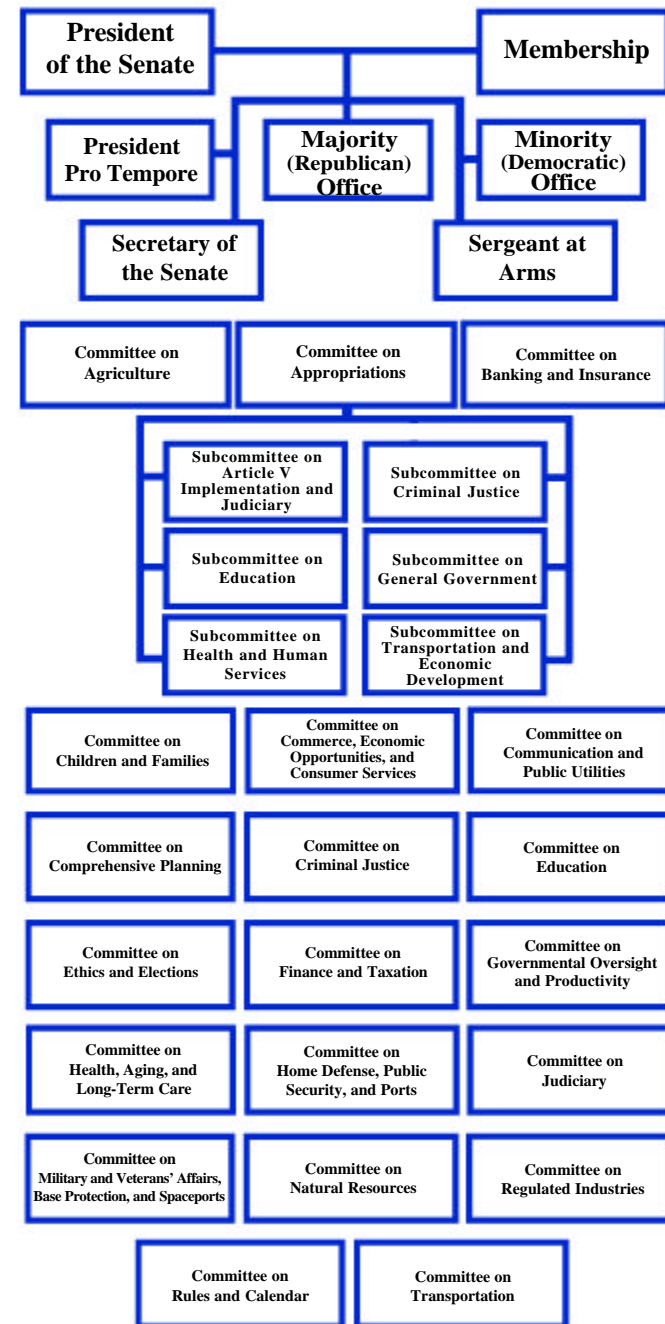
The President appoints a Sergeant at Arms who attends the Senate during its sessions; maintains order under the direction of the President; executes the commands of and serves Senate process as directed by the President of the Senate and by the Senate; has charge of all property of the Senate to the extent as is delegated to the Sergeant at Arms by the President; has general charge of the security of the Chamber, committee rooms, and gallery of the Senate and maintains order therein in cooperation with the Division of Capitol Police; and has general supervision of the doorkeepers and maintenance staff.



### Donald Severance Senate Sergeant at Arms

**born** September 24, 1954 in Live Oak **education** Suwanee High School; Tallahassee Community College; Lively Law Enforcement Academy; U.S. Marshal's State and Local Court; Non-commissioned Officer's School/Florida National Guard **wife** Sherry Gregg of Tallahassee **child** Chelsey **legislative service** appointed Sergeant at Arms, 1999-present; Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms, 1998-1999; National Legislative Services and Security Association, 1994-present; NLSSA 3rd Trustee, 1999-present; NLSSA Chairman, Region 4, 1997-1999 **military service** Florida National Guard, 1972-1994 **religious affiliation** Baptist **recreation** hunting, fishing, softball **address** Suite 403, The Capitol 404 South Monroe Street, 32399-1100 **telephone** 850/487-5224.

## SENATE ORGANIZATION



# THE FLORIDA SENATE 2002-2004

## PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE



**JIM KING**

## The Secretary's Desk



**KING (R)**  
DISTRICT 8  
JACKSONVILLE



**LAWSON (D)**  
DISTRICT 6  
TALLAHASSEE



**CLARY (R)**  
DISTRICT 4  
DESTIN



**PEADEN (R)**  
DISTRICT 2  
CRESTVIEW



**DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA (R)**  
DISTRICT 36  
MIAMI  
*PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE*



**LEE (R)**  
DISTRICT 10  
BRANDON  
*RULES CHAIR*



**HILL (D)**  
DISTRICT 1  
JACKSONVILLE



**ARGENZIANO (R)**  
DISTRICT 3  
CRYSTAL RIVER



**WISE (R)**  
DISTRICT 5  
JACKSONVILLE



**LYNN (R)**  
DISTRICT 7  
ORMOND BEACH



**MILLER (D)**  
DISTRICT 18  
TAMPA



**SEBESTA (R)**  
DISTRICT 16  
ST. PETERSBURG



**SMITH (D)**  
DISTRICT 14  
GAINESVILLE



**CRIST (R)**  
DISTRICT 12  
TAMPA



**KLEIN (D)**  
DISTRICT 30  
DELRAY BEACH  
*MINORITY LEADER*



**JONES (R)**  
DISTRICT 13  
SEMINOLE  
*MAJORITY LEADER*



**WEBSTER (R)**  
DISTRICT 9  
WINTER GARDEN



**FASANO (R)**  
DISTRICT 11  
NEW PORT RICHEY



**DOCKERY (R)**  
DISTRICT 15  
LAKELAND



**ALEXANDER (R)**  
DISTRICT 17  
WINTER HAVEN



**PRUITT (R)**  
DISTRICT 28  
PORT ST. LUCIE



**HARIDOPOLOS (R)**  
DISTRICT 26  
MELBOURNE



**POSEY (R)**  
DISTRICT 24  
ROCKLEDGE



**CONSTANTINE (R)**  
DISTRICT 22  
ALTAMONTE  
SPRINGS



**COWIN (R)**  
DISTRICT 20  
LEESBURG



**SIPLIN (D)**  
DISTRICT 19  
ORLANDO



**BENNETT (R)**  
DISTRICT 21  
BRADENTON



**CARLTON (R)**  
DISTRICT 23  
OSPREY



**ATWATER (R)**  
DISTRICT 25  
PALM BEACH  
GARDENS



**ARONBERG (D)**  
DISTRICT 27  
GREENACRES



**DAWSON (D)**  
DISTRICT 29  
FT. LAUDERDALE



**GARCIA (R)**  
DISTRICT 40  
HIALEAH



**VILLALOBOS (R)**  
DISTRICT 38  
MIAMI



**WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (D)**  
DISTRICT 34  
PEMBROKE PINES



**CAMPBELL (D)**  
DISTRICT 32  
TAMARAC



**GELLER (D)**  
DISTRICT 31  
HALLANDALE  
BEACH



**WILSON (D)**  
DISTRICT 33  
MIAMI



**MARGOLIS (D)**  
DISTRICT 35  
MIAMI BEACH



**SAUNDERS (R)**  
DISTRICT 37  
NAPLES



**BULLARD (D)**  
DISTRICT 39  
MIAMI

## SECRETARY OF THE SENATE



**FAYE W. BLANTON**



**DONALD SEVERANCE**



## CONTACTING YOUR SENATOR

Your Senator is interested in hearing your opinions concerning the issues on which he or she will vote. This section will provide you with guidelines on how to approach legislators and how best to express your ideas so that they will be read, or listened to, and understood.

Most people communicate with their Senator by letter (increasingly by email), but you can also try to speak directly with him or her by telephone or even in person. No matter which method you choose, the same guidelines apply:

- Know your subject matter well, and have data to back up your point of view.
- Inform yourself about the full name and address of your Senator and about the positions he or she has taken on the issues that concern you.
- Do not use form letters; instead, if you are working from a form letter, rewrite the essential points in your own words.
- If you represent others from your community, formally or even informally, indicate that to the Senator.
- Be brief and to-the-point in your presentation. Attach supporting data or documents and refer to them in your cover letter.
- Be courteous.
- Be completely fair in your presentation of the facts.
- If you are interested in a specific bill, refer to that bill by its number. You can find out this information by accessing the Senate's homepage at [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov) or by calling the Division of Legislative Information Services at 1-800-342-1827. Note that Senate Bills use even numbers and House Bills use odd numbers.
- Always provide your address (street and/or email) and your telephone number so that your Senator or his or her staff assistants can contact you for further data or discussion.
- If you are going to meet personally with your Senator, prepare carefully for the meeting and be on time. If he or she asks you for more information than you have brought with you, be prompt in responding to the request.

You can build an effective relationship with your Senator on a series of issues and make considerable contributions to the process of creating public policy. Your Senator will be grateful for your participation.

## COMMITTEE TESTIMONY

You may want to keep track of your bills as they proceed through the legislative process. To find out which committees your bills have been assigned to, access the Florida Senate's homepage ([www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)), contact your Senator's office, or call the Division of Legislative Information Services (1-800-342-1827).

You may have an opportunity to appear before a committee that is hearing the bill by contacting the committee as soon as the bill has been referred to the committee. The committee's chairman controls his or her committee's agenda and schedules the bills.

If your bill is scheduled for a public hearing, keep these guidelines in mind:

- When signing up to testify on a bill, the committee may require you to present written testimony for distribution to committee members and staff. Written testimony should be submitted to the appropriate office at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled committee hearing.
- Generally, each committee chairman follows the order of the bills listed on the agenda.
- Prepare your oral testimony in advance and be brief unless asked to elaborate.
- Be specific and to-the-point regarding the bill you are testifying on.
- Be prepared to answer questions from committee members on your testimony or on the position you have taken on each bill. If you do not know the answer to a question, just say so.



## THE SENATE CHAMBER

The Senate Chamber, also known as the “floor,” is the room on the fourth floor of the Capitol where Senators debate the merits of proposed legislation. The current chamber is the fourth used since the first session of the Senate was called to order in 1839. The first session held in this chamber occurred in 1978.

On the floor above the chamber is the gallery. Citizens may sit in the gallery to observe the Senate in session. From the gallery, attention is drawn to the rostrum where the President is presiding.

The President occupies the “chair,” pacing the flow of legislation, deciding who will speak, and ruling on parliamentary disputes. The President may call on other Senators to preside while he or she works out the details of legislative proposals.



President King addressing the Florida Senate.

The portraits hanging below the gallery commemorate past Presidents of the Senate. After each President’s term, a portrait is painted and hung in this area. The portraits are arranged in chronological order with the most recent one on the presiding officer’s right. Each time the newest one is added, the oldest one is taken down and moved to the Historic Capitol, keeping 100 years of past Presidents on display in the “new” chamber. The Chamber Automation System, designed to display amendments and information on bills, allows Senators the flexibility of accessing legislative information from their Tallahassee offices and in the Senate Chamber on their laptop computers.

In front of the President’s rostrum is the Secretary’s “desk,” which is staffed by the Secretary of the Senate. Legislative business is not properly before the Senate until it is “on the desk.” Clerks at this desk read the bills and amendments before the body and record Senate actions. These actions are published in the Journal, the official record of Senate proceedings. A Senator who wishes to “approach the well” to make a speech speaks from one of the reading podiums at the Secretary’s desk.

Voting boards on each side of the chamber record a member’s green “yea” or red “nay” vote. (The amber lights you see next to some names indicate that the Senator wants a “page” to deliver a message or retrieve a file from his or her office.) The voting boards also display the number of the bill or amendment being debated and other information related to the proceedings. Electronic voting was first used in the Senate in 1966, and now nearly all votes are recorded electronically.

The seating arrangement in the chamber is determined by the President. At one time, the chamber desk was a member’s only desk. Members’ secretaries sat beside them in the chamber, even during sessions. Now adequate office space is provided for the Senators and their staff; telephones at each chamber desk provide direct communication with the staff. Today, only members of the Senate and designated staff members are allowed in the chamber while the Senate is in session. Certain present and past state officials and guests invited by the President may also enter the chamber during a session. All men in the chamber must wear coats and ties.

Senators are addressed by their district number when they are recognized to speak. Custom decrees that a Senator may not be addressed as a gentleman or lady. He or she is “the Senator from the fifth,” for example, but never “the gentleman or lady from the fifth.” During debate, the members are always formally addressed as “Senator,” not by their given names.

Just above the main entrance is the press gallery, where members of Florida’s press corps record Senate actions. The remainder of the gallery is open to the public at all sessions, except that a portion of the gallery is usually reserved for the Senators’ families and other sections are often reserved for visiting students.

Robotic cameras from the Florida Channel are positioned in the chamber to provide live, televised coverage of all Senate sessions. Each weekday evening during the session, The Florida Channel and Florida’s public television affiliates broadcast “Capitol Update,” a live half-hour news program explaining and analyzing each day’s most significant legislative developments. The broadcasts are funded by the Legislature, but all editorial content is determined by the group of professional journalists who produce the programs. Florida’s legislative telecasts were used as a model for a similar system installed in 1979 in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition, live and unedited feeds of some legislative events can be found at [www.wfsu.org](http://www.wfsu.org).

# PRESIDENTS OF THE SENATE

<b>Session</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>President</b>
<i>Territorial</i>		1877-1879	Noble A. Hull	1925	John S. Taylor	1967	Verle A. Pope
1839-1840	John Warren	1881-1885	L.W. Bethel	1927	Samuel W. Anderson	1968-1970	John E. Mathews, Jr.
1841	William P. DuVal	1885-1887	Milton Mabry	1929	Jesse J. Parrish	1970-1972	Jerry Thomas
1842	William H. Brockenbrough	1889*	Patrick Houstoun	1931	Patrick C. Whitaker	1972-1974	Mallory E. Horne
1843-1844	George Walker	1889	Joseph B. Wall	1933	Truman G. Futch	1974**	Louis de la Parte
<i>Statehood</i>		1891	Jefferson B. Browne	1935	William C. Hodges	1974-1976	Dempsey J. Barron
1845	James A. Berthelot	1893	William H. Reynolds	1937	D. Stuart Gillis	1976-1978	Lew Brantley
1846	Dennitt H. Mays	1895	Frederick T. Myers	1939	J. Turner Butler	1978-1980	Philip D. Lewis
1847	Daniel G. McLean	1897	Charles J. Perrenot	1941	John R. Beacham	1980-1982	W.D. Childers
1848	Erasmus D. Tracy	1899	Frank Adams	1943	Philip D. Beall	1982-1984	N. Curtis Peterson, Jr.
1850-1852	Robert J. Floyd	1901	Thomas Palmer	1945	Walter W. Rose	1984-1986	Harry A. Johnston II
1854-1855	Hamlin V. Snell	1903	Frank Adams	1947-1948	Scott Dilworth Clarke	1986-1988	John W. Vogt
1856	Philip Dell	1905	Park M. Trammell	1949	Newman C. Brackin	1988-1990	Robert B. Crawford
1858-1859	John Finlayson	1907	William H. Harris	1951	Wallace E. Sturgis	1990-1992	Gwen Margolis
1860-1861	Thomas Jefferson Eppes	1909	Frederick M. Hudson	1953	Charley E. Johns	1992-1993	Ander Crenshaw
1862-1863	Enoch J. Vann	1911-1912	Frederick P. Cone	1955-1956	W. Turner Davis	1993-1994	Pat Thomas
1864	Abraham K. Allison	1913	Herbert J. Drane	1957	William A. Shands	1994-1996	James A. Scott
1865-1868	William W. J. Kelly	1915	Charles E. Davis	1959	Dewey M. Johnson	1996-1998	Toni Jennings
1868-1870	William H. Gleason	1917-1918	John B. Johnson	1961	W. Randolph Hodges	1998-2000	Toni Jennings
1870	Edmund C. Weeks	1919	James E. Calkins	1962-1963	F. Wilson Carraway	2000-2002	John M. McKay
1871-1873	Samuel T. Day	1921	William A. MacWilliams	1965	James E. Connor	2002-2004	James E. "Jim" King, Jr.
1873-1874	Marcellus L. Stearns	1923	Theo. T. Turnbull				

\* Extraordinary Session

\*\*As President Pro Tempore, served as Acting President from July 1, 1974 when President Horne resigned until November 6, 1974

Note: From 1865 through 1887 the Lt. Governor served as President.

## SENATE PAGE PROGRAM

You can be a part of history! The Senate Page Program gives Florida students the rare opportunity to observe and participate in the legislative process.

During regular sessions of the Legislature, participating students come to Tallahassee for one week to work in the Senate Chamber, distribute materials, and deliver messages to Senators and staff. Each Senator may sponsor four pages (ages 15-18). Senators may also submit applications for alternate pages, who serve on an as-needed basis.

Sponsoring Senators give an application to the students they wish to sponsor. Senators submit completed applications by February 1 of each year. The Office of the Senate President schedules each page for one week of service during the upcoming session.

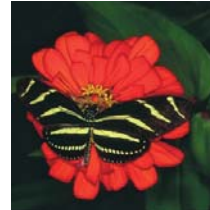
Pages receive a minimum-wage stipend for participating in the program. Students are expected to provide their own transportation, housing, and meals while in Tallahassee.

During each week of session, pages discuss the legislative process and participate in a “mock session.” Students act as Senators, debating and voting on bills. Other educational opportunities and Capitol tours are planned during session.



## OFFICIAL STATE DESIGNATIONS

Butterfly:  
*Zebra Longwing*



Bird:  
*Mockingbird*



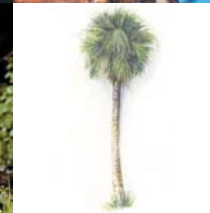
Shell:  
*Horse conch*



Wildflower:  
*Coreopsis*



Animal:  
*Florida panther*



Tree:  
*Sabal Palmetto palm*



Beverage:  
*Citrus sinensis*  
*(orange juice)*



Marine mammal:  
*Manatee*

*Air fair: Central Florida Air Fair*

*Freshwater fish: Florida largemouth bass*

*Gem: Moonstone*

*Pageant: “Indian River”*

*Play: “Cross and Sword”*

*Reptile: American alligator*

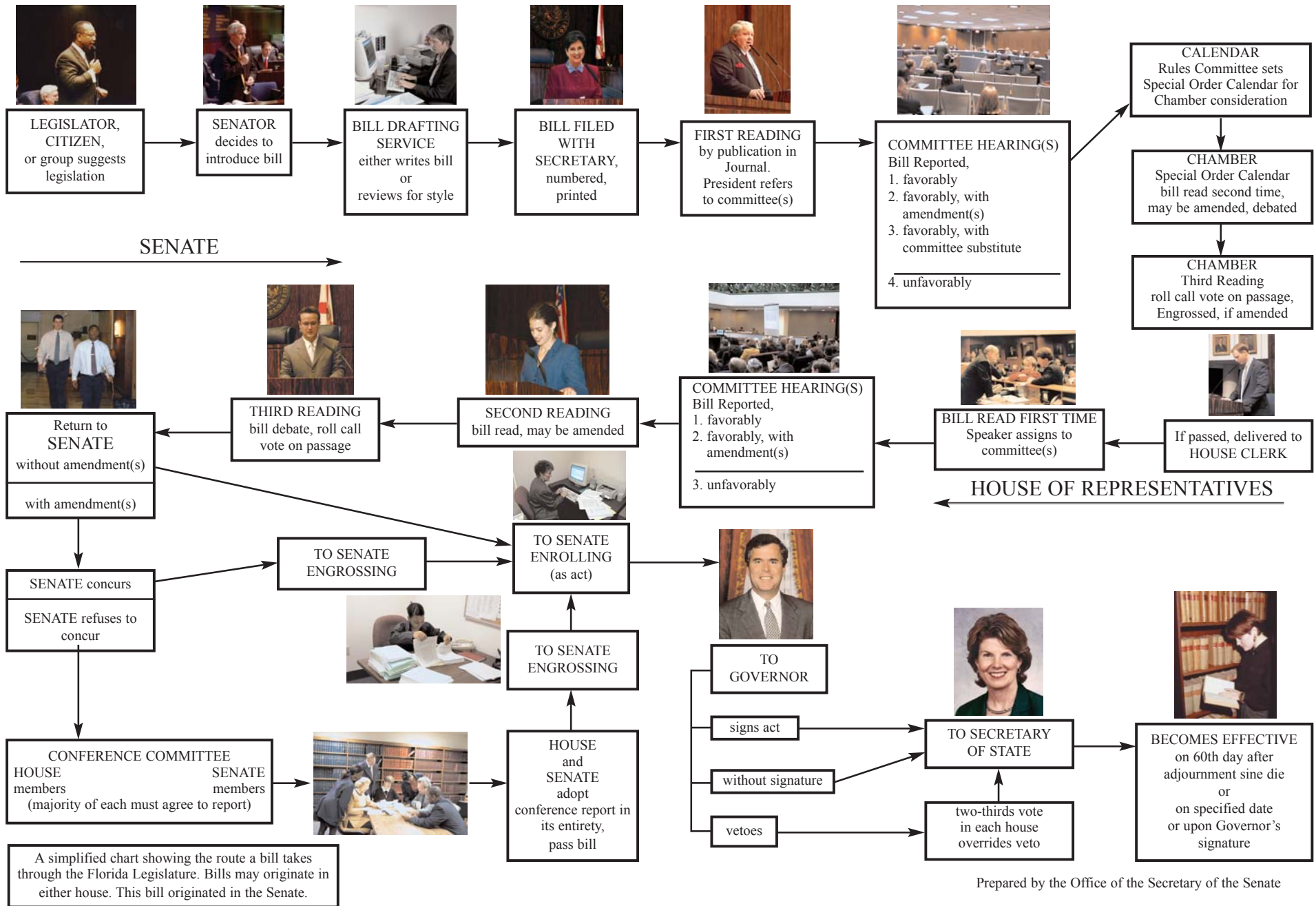
*Rodeo: Silver Spurs Rodeo*

*Saltwater fish: Atlantic sailfish*

*Saltwater mammal: Porpoise*

*Stone: Agatized coral*

# The Florida Senate – How an Idea Becomes a Law



## THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

Florida's Constitution, in the traditional American pattern of "separation of powers," divides state government into three separate and independent branches. This division of powers creates a system of "checks and balances" ensuring that all three branches properly perform their constitutional duties in the administration of state affairs. Tallahassee is the seat of Florida's state government.



The Historic Capitol

## THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The Florida Constitution vests the supreme power of the state in the Governor and provides that he or she shall ensure that the laws are faithfully executed. It provides for a Lieutenant Governor to be elected in a joint candidacy with the Governor. The Lieutenant Governor works with the Governor and performs such duties pertaining to the office of the Governor as assigned by the Governor, or as otherwise provided by law. The Constitution also provides that the Governor shall be assisted by an elected Cabinet consisting of an Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer, and a Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and members of the Cabinet are elected to four-year terms. They take office on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following their election in November of non-presidential election years. The Governor may succeed himself or herself in office unless he or she has served more than six years in two consecutive terms. Cabinet members may not seek re-election if by the end of their current term they will have served in that office for eight consecutive years.



The Governor and the Cabinet: Attorney General Charlie Crist, Commissioner of Agriculture Charles H. Bronson, Governor Jeb Bush, and Chief Financial Officer Tom Gallagher

## THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

The Judicial Branch interprets the law and applies the Constitution. Florida's court system consists of a series of circuit and county courts, district courts of appeal, and the state Supreme Court.

County courts preside over criminal trials of misdemeanors and some civil cases. They also have the power to issue warrants of arrest. There is one county court located in each of Florida's 67 counties. The number of judges in each county court varies with the population and caseload of the county. County judges are elected to four-year terms.

Circuit courts are located in each of Florida's 20 judicial circuits. Some circuits contain only one county, but most are multi-county. The circuit courts are at the top of the trial system, and they also hear limited appeals from county courts. Circuit judges are elected by the voters of the circuits to serve six-year terms.

The District Courts of Appeal are intermediate appellate courts that receive most of the appeals from trial courts. There are five judicial districts in Florida, with courts located in Tallahassee, Lakeland, Daytona Beach, West Palm Beach, and Miami. Appointed by the Governor to serve in each district court, these judges must be reconfirmed by the voters every six years.

The Supreme Court is at the top of Florida's court system and is the final state court of appeal. The Supreme Court determines the constitutionality of statutes, has the authority to issue advisory opinions to the Governor, and has administrative responsibilities over all lower courts. There are seven Supreme Court justices, each appointed by the Governor and retained by a popular vote every six years.



## THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH



The Legislative Branch has exclusive law-making power and determines the general policies by which the problems of society are to be met. It may delegate limited rulemaking power to some executive agencies.



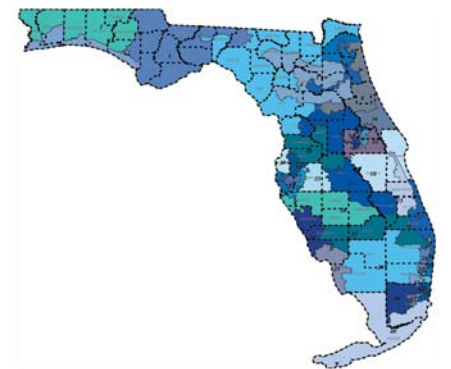
### Composition and organization.

The Constitution of the State of Florida requires that members of the Legislature be elected at the general election in November of even-numbered years. Florida's Legislature is composed of two houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives. Each house is the sole judge of the qualifications and elections of its members and has the power to choose its own officers and establish its own rules of procedure. All legislative sessions are open to the public, except when appointments or suspensions of public officials are considered in executive session. Either house of the Legislature may initiate legislation on any subject.

The State Constitution provides that the Legislature shall be apportioned into 30 to 40 senatorial districts, and 80 to 120 representative districts. The 1972 Legislature established 40 Senate districts and 120 House districts. Senators serve four-year terms and representatives serve two-year terms. While a legislator may be elected for more than one term, he or she may not seek reelection if at the end of his or her current term he or she has served for eight consecutive years.

### Reapportionment and Redistricting.

During the 2002 Regular Session, the Florida Legislature realigned districts to account for Florida's two new seats in the United States Congress and for uneven population growth during the past decade among Florida Senate and House of Representatives districts.



**Legislative sessions.** Two weeks after each general election, the Legislature convenes for the exclusive purpose of organization and election of officers. No legislation is considered during the organization session.



Regular sessions of the Legislature begin on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March in odd-numbered years and continue for 60 consecutive days, which may be extended by a three-fifths vote of each house. The Legislature may change its convening date in even-numbered years, but generally the date remains the same as in odd-numbered years, except once every 10 years when the Constitution requires the Legislature

to reapportion the state's voting districts. Special sessions may be called by the Governor, or may be convened by joint proclamation of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Special sessions may not exceed 20 days, unless extended by a three-fifths vote of each house. Each "call" for a special session outlines the business to be considered. The Senate may resolve itself into executive session to consider appointment to or removal from public office, even when the House of Representatives is not meeting.

**Rules.** During the organization session, each house adopts its rules of procedure to be followed for the next two years. The rules provide for orderly proceedings and determine how each house will conduct its business.

**Committees.** A committee functions to study, research, and plan solutions to "people problems." The Senate and House rules provide for certain standing committees, special or select committees, and subcommittees. The presiding officers name the chairs and members of all committees.

Bills are assigned to one or more committees for study. Committees may hold public hearings where committee members hear sponsoring legislators and others who are interested in the bill. The committee may vote to recommend the bill favorably; favorably, with a committee substitute; unfavorably; or favorably with amendments to be considered when the bill is debated on the floor by the respective house.

When the Senate and House are unable to agree on the final content of a bill, it goes to a conference committee. This committee, composed of members of both houses, tries to resolve the differences between the Senate and House versions of a bill.



Other committees commonly used are joint committees, which are composed of members from each house, and select committees, which are usually appointed to make recommendations on special or unique problems.

**Lobbying.** A lobbyist is anyone who tries to influence legislation. Unless exempt, all persons who seek to influence legislation must register

with the Division of Legislative Information Services before they begin lobbying. Every lobbyist must also state any direct business association or partnership with any current member of the Legislature and make periodic reports on moneys spent lobbying.

**Journals and Calendars.** The Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House each publish daily journals and calendars during the legislative session. Each journal details the proceedings on the floor, committee reports, and related actions of the previous day. The calendar is a schedule of business to be taken up that day and the next two days, including committee meetings and bills to be considered.

**Forms of legislation.** Legislative proposals may be in the form of bills, resolutions, concurrent resolutions, joint resolutions, or memorials. A bill is a proposed law, and it may be either a general bill or a local bill. A general bill would have a general impact within the state; a local bill would affect only a particular county, city, or town named in the bill. A majority vote is required to pass a bill unless otherwise provided in the Constitution. Companion bills are often used as a timesaving device. These are identical bills introduced in both

houses, which allow simultaneous committee study in each body. The appropriations bill is one of the most important bills considered by the Legislature. This bill is the state's budget and it specifies the amount of money available to various state agencies during the next year. The appropriations bill follows the same course as other general bills, but because it is difficult



to get both houses to agree on all items in the bill, a conference committee is usually appointed to resolve the differences.





## GLOSSARY OF LEGISLATIVE TERMS

**Act.** A bill passed by the legislature.

**Adjourn.** To end a legislative session, a day's session, or a committee meeting.

**Adopt.** To vote to accept.

**Amendment.** A proposal to change the original terms of a bill.

**Bicameral.** Consisting of two houses. All states have bicameral legislatures except Nebraska, which has only one house (unicameral).

**Bill.** A draft of a proposed law.

**Budget.** A bill that states how much money will be spent on government programs and services.

**Calendar.** List of bills awaiting action.

**Chair.** A legislator who presides over a committee meeting or a session.

**Chamber.** Also known as the "floor," it is the room in which the Senate or the House of Representatives meets.

**Clerk of the House of Representatives.** The person designated by the House of Representatives to assist the members of the House in the detailed processes of enacting laws and to record that history.

**Committee.** A group of Senators or Representatives appointed by the presiding officer to consider an issue or question and to submit a report on its recommendations for action by the body that originated it.

**Constitution.** The written instrument, embodying the fundamental principles of the state, that establishes power and duties of the government and guarantees certain rights to the people.

**Constituent.** A citizen who resides in the district of a legislator.

**Convene.** To meet in formal legislative session.

**Debate.** To argue the merits of a bill, for and against.

**Decorum.** Appropriate behavior and conduct.

**District.** That area of the state represented by a legislator, determined on the basis of population.

**Gallery.** The seating area for visitors located above the chambers (on the fifth floor of the Capitol).

**Governor.** The highest ranking state official.

**Journal.** The official record of the proceedings of the Senate or the House of Representatives.

**Law.** The final product of the legislative process. It is the end result of the introduction of a bill, its passage by both houses, its approval by the Governor (or the overriding of his veto by the legislature), and its recording by the Secretary of State.

## GLOSSARY OF LEGISLATIVE TERMS

**Majority party.** The political party having greater than a majority of seats in a house.

**Minority party.** The political party having fewer than a majority of seats in a house.

**Motion.** A proposal, usually oral, made to the presiding officer and relating to procedure or action before a legislative body.

**Oath of Office.** An oath or vow taken by a public official prior to taking up his or her official duties.

**Order of Business.** The defined routine of procedure in the legislative body each day. It can be deviated from only by waiver of the rules.

**Passage.** Favorable action on a measure before the legislature.

**President of the Senate.** The presiding officer of the Senate. He or she is designated as President by the majority party in caucus and then elected by the full membership of the Senate for a term of two years.

**President Pro Tempore of the Senate.** Literally, president "for a time." He or she performs specified duties as prescribed by the Senate Rules or the Senate President.

**Quorum.** The number of members required for the conduct of business.

**Repeal.** The removal of a provision from the law.

**Roll call.** To determine a vote on a question by the taking of names in favor of and opposed to.

**Rules.** Provisions for the procedure, organization, officers, and committees of each house of the legislature.

**Secretary of the Senate.** The person elected by the Senate to assist Senate officers, members, and staff in the detailed processes of enacting laws and to record that history.

**Sergeant at Arms.** The person in each house who is responsible for the security of the legislative house and the maintenance of that house's property.

**Session.** The period during which the legislature meets.

**Sine die.** Refers to final adjournment of a legislative session. The term is sometimes used to denote the ceremony involving the dropping of white handkerchiefs which symbolizes the end of a regular session.

**Speaker of the House of Representatives.** The presiding officer of the House of Representatives. He or she is designated as Speaker by the majority party in caucus and then elected by the full membership of the House for a term of two years.

**Veto.** Return by the Governor to the legislature of a bill without his or her signature; the veto message from the Governor usually explains why he or she thinks the bill should not become a law.

**Vote.** A decision on a question, either affirmative or negative.



Washington, D.C. is the seat of the nation's government. The names and addresses of Florida's representatives in the legislative branch may be found on a separate page in many Florida telephone directories.

Further information on each Member of Congress may be found at the official websites for The United States Senate ([www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)) and The United States House of Representatives ([www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)).



### United States Senate

The Senate is composed of 100 Members, two from each state, elected by the people pursuant to the 17th Amendment to the United States Constitution. A Senator must be at least 30 years of age, have been a citizen of the United States for nine years, and, when elected, be a resident of the state from which the Senator is chosen. The term of office is six years, and one-third of the total membership of the Senate is elected every second year. The terms of both Senators from a particular state are so arranged that they do not terminate at the same time. Of the two Senators from a state serving at the same time, the one who was elected first (or if both were elected at the same time, the one elected for a full term) is referred to as the "senior" Senator from that state. The other is referred to as the "junior" Senator. Senators Bob Graham and Bill Nelson represent Florida in Washington.



### United States House of Representatives

The House of Representatives is composed of 435 Members elected every two years from among the 50 states, apportioned according to their total populations. Today there is one representative for approximately every 646,952 residents, a much larger figure than the 30,000 residents the Constitution of the United States originally required for a Congressional district.

A Representative must be at least 25 years of age, have been a citizen of the United States for seven years, and, when elected, be a resident of the state in which the Representative is chosen.

In addition to the Representatives from each of the states, there is a Resident Commissioner from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and Delegates from the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The Resident Commissioner and the Delegates have most of the prerogatives of Representatives, with the important exception of the right to vote on matters before the House.

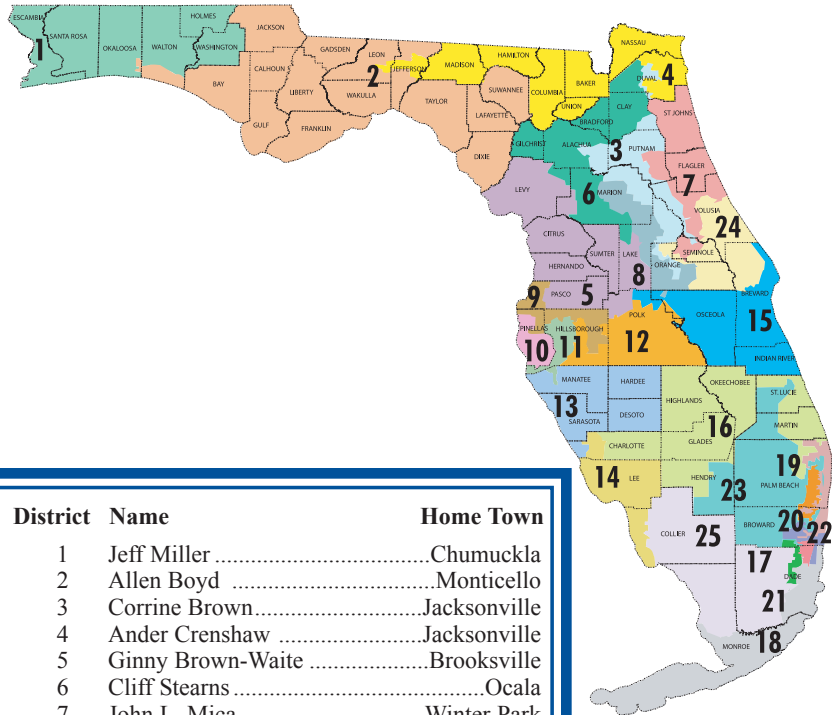
Under the provisions of Section 2 of the 20th Amendment to the United States Constitution, Congress must assemble at least once every year, at noon on the third day of January, unless by law it appoints a different day. A Congress lasts for two years, commencing in January of the year following the biennial election of Members, and is divided into two sessions.

Unlike some other parliamentary bodies, both the Senate and the House of Representatives have equal legislative functions and powers (except that only the House of Representatives may initiate revenue bills), and the designation of one as the "upper" House and the other as the "lower" House is not appropriate.

The United States Constitution authorizes each House to determine the rules of its proceedings. Pursuant to that authority, the House of Representatives adopts its rules on the opening day of each Congress. The Senate, which considers itself a continuing body, operates under standing rules that it amends from time to time.

The chief function of Congress is the making of laws. In addition, the Senate has the function of advising and consenting to treaties and to certain nominations by the President. In the matter of impeachments, the House of Representatives

presents the charges – a function similar to that of a grand jury – and the Senate sits as a court to try the impeachment. Following a presidential election, both Houses meet in joint session on the sixth day of January, unless by law they appoint a different day, to count the electoral votes.



District	Name	Home Town
1	Jeff Miller	Chumuckla
2	Allen Boyd	Monticello
3	Corrine Brown	Jacksonville
4	Ander Crenshaw	Jacksonville
5	Ginny Brown-Waite	Brooksville
6	Cliff Stearns	Ocala
7	John L. Mica	Winter Park
8	Ric Keller	Orlando
9	Michael Bilirakis	Tarpon Springs
10	C. W. Bill Young	Indian Rocks Beach
11	Jim Davis	Tampa
12	Adam H. Putnam	Bartow
13	Katherine Harris	Sarasota
14	Porter J. Goss	Sanibel
15	Dave Weldon	Palm Bay
16	Mark Foley	West Palm Beach
17	Kendrick B. Meek	Miami
18	Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	Miami
19	Robert Wexler	Boca Raton
20	Peter Deutsch	Ft. Lauderdale
21	Lincoln Diaz-Balart	Miami
22	E. Clay Shaw, Jr.	Ft. Lauderdale
23	Alcee L. Hastings	Miramar
24	Tom Feeney	Oviedo
25	Mario Diaz-Balart	Miami

## DID YOU KNOW . . . .



- The current Senate Chamber, first used in 1978, is the fourth chamber used since the first session of the Senate was called to order in 1839.
- Florida has had six Constitutions since it became a state. The first Constitution was drafted in Saint Joseph, now known as Port St. Joe. Presently Florida is governed by the Constitution of 1968, as subsequently amended.
- Florida's first Legislative Council, which was supposed to meet in Pensacola on June 10, 1822, did not meet until 44 days later due to hazardous and time-consuming travel.
- Tallahassee was named the state capital in 1824 by Florida's first territorial governor, William P. DuVal.
- The total land area of Florida is 54,252 square miles. The total water area is 4,308 square miles.
- In 1824, three log cabins were erected in Tallahassee to accommodate the Legislative Council. This was Florida's first Capitol.
- In the 1890s, several efforts were made to move the state capital from Tallahassee. Choices included Jacksonville, Ocala, and St. Augustine.
- After the last attempt to move the capital, Florida's fourth and present Capitol was officially opened on March 31, 1978, by Governor Reubin Askew.
- The word "Tallahassee" is of Creek derivation and is frequently translated as "old town" or "old fields." The name may have been taken from the Seminole Indians who occupied the area.
- Construction of Florida's fourth and present Capitol required 3,700 tons of structural steel and 2,800 tons of reinforcing steel.\*
- The present Capitol contains 25,000 cubic feet of concrete, the equivalent of 16 football fields, each one foot thick.\*
- Florida has been home to such famed writers as Ernest Hemingway, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, and Tennessee Williams.

Photo of Seminole Woman Tommy Jumper "Squirrel" Courtesy of the Florida State Archives

## DID YOU KNOW . . . .



- In 1990, Senator Gwen Margolis of Miami became the first woman in Florida's history to be elected to serve as President of the Senate.
- Toni Jennings was the first Senator in Florida to be elected President of the Senate for two consecutive terms, presiding from 1996-2000. In 2003, she was chosen by Governor Jeb Bush to become Florida's first female Lieutenant Governor following the resignation of Frank Brogan.
- The first reusable spacecraft, the space shuttle Columbia, was launched on its maiden voyage on April 12, 1981.
- The State saltwater fish, the Atlantic sailfish, resembles a torpedo when swimming, and can reach speeds of 60 mph.
- Juan Ponce de Leon came ashore on the northeast coast of Florida sometime between April 2 and April 8, 1513. He called the area *la Florida*, in honor of *Pascua florida* ("feast of the flowers"), a popular celebration held in Spain around Easter.
- The 1868 Constitution provided the Seminole Tribe was entitled to a member in the House and the Senate.
- When Florida was granted statehood on March 3, 1845, its population was 59,721.
- Snow fell in Dade County on January 20, 1977.
- Dr. John Gorrie of Apalachicola patented the process of making ice artificially in 1851.
- The Buckman Act of 1905 consolidated the state's institutions of higher learning into three: the University of Florida at Gainesville, the Florida State College for Women, and the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College for Negroes at Tallahassee.
- Explorer I, the free world's first earth satellite, was placed in orbit from Cape Canaveral in 1958.

## DID YOU KNOW . . . .



- Making frozen concentrates of citrus juices became a major industry in 1950.
- In 1937, Amelia Earhart took off from Miami for an around-the-world flight and was never seen again.
- The first commercial airline service between two U.S. cities was established between St. Petersburg and Tampa in 1914.
- Six student athletes from Florida universities have won the Heisman Trophy between 1966 and 2000.
- The unified government of Florida was established March 30, 1822, when President Monroe signed into law the act which provided for a Governor and a Legislative Council of 13 citizens. Florida was the 27th state to be admitted to the United States (March 3, 1845).
- Founded in 1973 by Rhea Chiles as Florida's "embassy" in our nation's capital, Florida House is owned by the people of the state of Florida. Florida is the only state to have such a facility. It enjoys approximately 10,000 visitors a year. Florida House serves as "home base" for tourists as well as the business community. ([www.flahouse.org](http://www.flahouse.org))
- In anticipation of statehood, 56 commissioners elected from Florida's 20 counties gathered at Saint Joseph, now known as Port St. Joe, to draft a constitution. The convention lasted from December 3, 1838, until January 11, 1839.
- The capital is the city or town that is the seat of government in a state or nation. The capitol is the building in which the state legislature meets.

\* Selected items were taken from *The Florida Handbook*, 1997-1998 by Allen Morris, published by The Peninsular Publishing Company, Tallahassee, FL.



## Hey Kids visit us on the web!

We have games, puzzles, fun facts, and more about our state.

[www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)



This Internet site introduces younger Floridians to the Florida Legislature. Designed to be educational, it appeals to children of all ages. This site is easily accessed (interface is not browser specific) and low-resolution graphics allow for ease of use. Online Sunshine for Kids is always under construction. Keep checking for new features.



## LEGISLATIVE BUZZ WORDS

Search for these legislative terms in the letters below. They may appear in all directions forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally in the puzzle. Find each word and draw a circle around it.

C A U C U S T P P N N  
 H S T A T U T E A A A  
 A K Y S C T W N G S Y  
 M N E B H L X O E E S  
 B I A P B R K I S S E  
 E E L W P O K T E S A  
 R L L F A I L O M I T  
 E A T N F T N M T O N  
 R D E Q U O R U M N T  
 G J R Q Y B N D K J N  
 C O M M I T T E E S E  
 F U M A J O R I T Y M  
 L R L L A C L L O R D  
 O N O E L E C T I O N  
 T S T S C S R O I B E  
 E O W Y T I R O N I M  
 V N J O U R N A L K A

ADJOURN  
 AMENDMENT  
 CAUCUS  
 CHAMBER  
 COMMITTEE  
 ELECTION

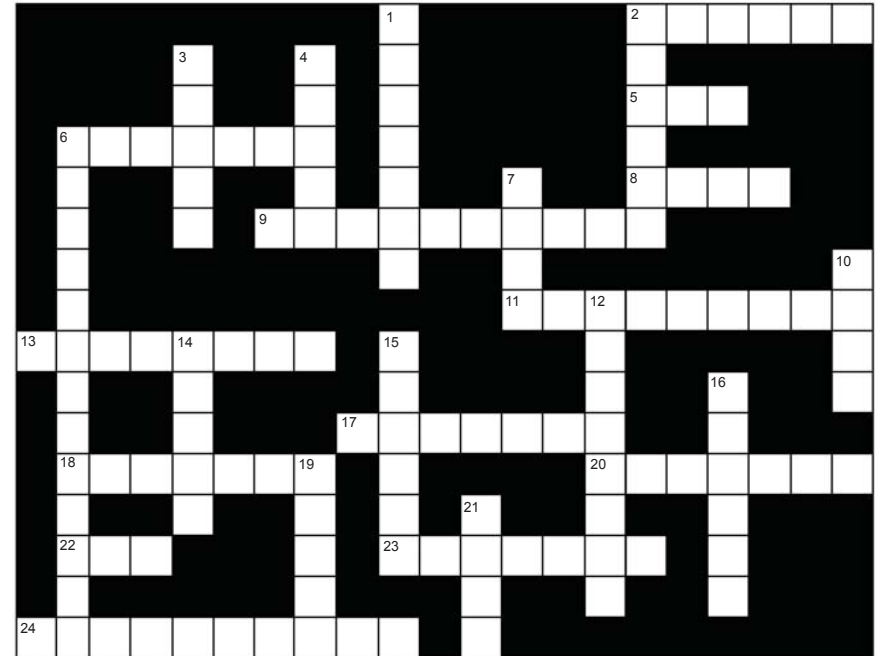
FAIL  
 JOURNAL  
 LOBBY  
 MAJORITY  
 MINORITY  
 MOTION

NAY  
 PAGES  
 PASS  
 QUORUM  
 ROLL CALL  
 SEAT

SESSION  
 STATUTE  
 TERM  
 VETO  
 VOTE  
 YEA

## CROSSWORD

Take the crossword puzzle challenge. See how many of these legislative terms you can figure out. Have fun.



Across

Down

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 2) Discussion on a bill                                      | 1) Appropriate behavior                     |
| 5) What a passed bill becomes after the Governor approves it | 2) Explorer who named Florida               |
| 6) Legislator who serves a 4-year term                       | 3) Legislator who presides over a committee |
| 8) _____ of Office   | 4) Number of branches of government         |
| 9) Party's symbol is an elephant                             | 6) State nickname                           |
| 11) Create legislation                                       | 7) Name of proposed law                     |
| 13) Area represented by legislators                          | 10) A state symbol                          |
| 17) To meet for regular session                              | 12) Highest ranking state official          |
| 18) End of session   | 14) Set of guidelines for the legislature   |
| 20) Consideration of a bill                                  | 15) Passes a resolution                     |
| 22) A passed bill  | 16) State operating dollars                 |
| 23) Legislator who introduces a bill                         | 19) To pass a bill                          |
| 24) Party's symbol is a donkey                               | 21) Action taken on a bill (for passage)    |

## CAPITOL SQUARES

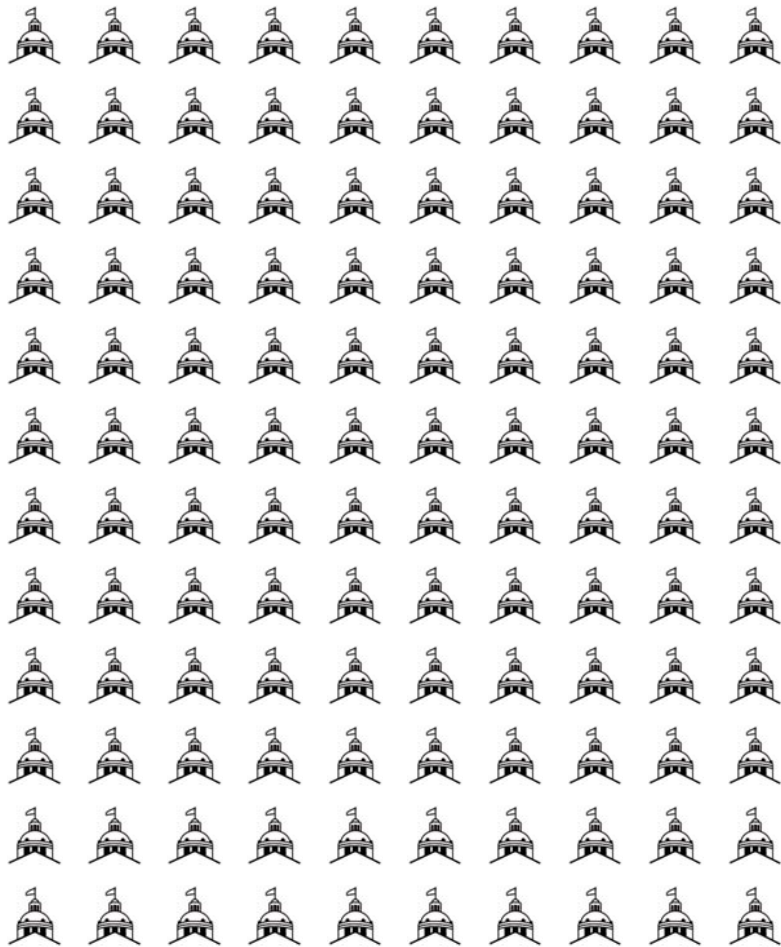
**Players:** One to Four

**Each Player:** Each player will need a different color pen, pencil, or crayon.

**Object:** Complete more squares than the other player(s).

**Rules:** Each player takes a turn drawing one vertical or horizontal line between two domes. When a player completes a square with all four sides drawn in the same color, he/she will place his/her initial in the square. The player with the most completed squares at the end of the game wins.

**Tip:** You can block players from completing their square by drawing in on one side.

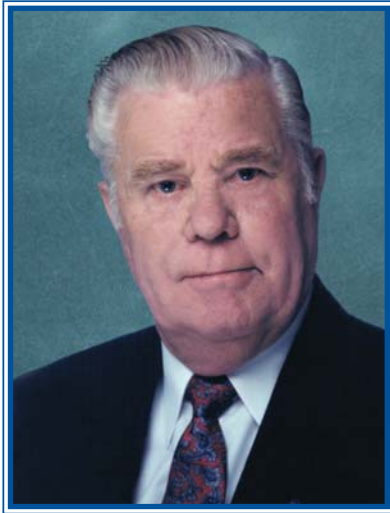


## MATCHING

Match the following legislative terms at the top of the page with the definitions at the bottom.

- |    |                                  |
|----|----------------------------------|
| A. | Number of branches of government |
| B. | Roll call                        |
| C. | Quorum                           |
| D. | Debate                           |
| E. | “In God We Trust”                |
| F. | Sunshine State                   |
| G. | Explorer who named Florida       |
| H. | Term                             |
| I. | 40                               |
| J. | Speaker of the House             |
| K. | Sine Die                         |
| L. | Floor                            |
| M. | President of the Senate          |
- 
- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| [ ] | Ponce de Leon  |
| [ ] | Place where legislators debate issues                  |
| [ ] | State Nickname   |
| [ ] | An end-of-session ceremony                             |
| [ ] | Presiding officer of the Senate                        |
| [ ] | Attendance   |
| [ ] | Discussion of issues                                   |
| [ ] | Number of members required for the conduct of business |
| [ ] | Three  |
| [ ] | Length of time a legislator serves                     |
| [ ] | State Motto  |
| [ ] | Number of Senate districts                             |
| [ ] | Presiding officer of the House                         |





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**This 2002-2004 Senate Handbook is dedicated to the Memory of  
Senator Howard E. Futch of Indialantic, Senate District 26**

Senator Futch was elected to the Senate in a special general election on August 21, 2001, was subsequently reelected, and died in office on January 23, 2003.



### **About This Handbook**

This Florida Senate Handbook is published by the Secretary of the Senate. It is distributed free of charge to Capitol visitors and other interested Floridians to enhance their knowledge and understanding of Florida's government, and particularly, the Florida Senate.

*Faye W. Blanton*  
Secretary of the Senate

Visit the Florida Senate's home page:  
<http://www.flsenate.gov>

