

PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FY2018-19 CLOSE IN AMOUNT, BUT SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES REMAIN

At the halfway mark of the 2018 Legislative Session, the House and Senate approved their proposed state budgets for FY2018-19. Both spending plans top \$87 billion, exceeding current spending by more than \$2.2 billion (2.7 percent). The House increases current General Revenue (GR) spending by \$530 million (1.7 percent), while the Senate increases GR spending by \$249 million (0.8 percent).

The budget's bottom lines are relatively close, with the Senate's \$87.3 billion plan coming in at only \$100 million more than the House. While the totals are similar, some big differences exist, particularly in education and environmental funding.

The next step is for budget negotiators to go into the budget conference process, where every number and word in the budget must be agreed upon.

COMPARING THE BUDGETS

	House Budget HB 5001	Senate Budget SB 2500	House over/(under) Senate
POLICY AREA			
Education	\$24,833,493,479	\$24,595,781,905	\$237,711,574
Human Services	\$36,892,363,712	\$36,881,158,063	\$11,205,649
Criminal Justice	\$4,636,026,478	\$4,622,461,105	\$13,565,373
Transportation	\$10,846,752,175	\$10,843,600,445	\$3,151,730
Environment/Nat. Resources	\$3,800,097,755	\$3,959,054,177	(\$158,956,422)
General Government	\$5,651,683,371	\$5,840,253,381	(\$188,570,010)
Judicial Branch	\$555,097,351	\$557,654,660	(\$18,140,190)
Total	\$87,197,374,131	\$87,297,406,427	(\$100,032,296)
FUND			
General Revenue Fund	\$32,038,602,485	\$31,757,260,736	\$281,341,749
State Trust Funds	\$25,541,837,770	\$25,895,468,154	(\$381,374,045)
Federal Funds	\$29,616,933,876	\$29,644,677,537	(\$27,743,661)
EMPLOYEE POSITIONS			
	112,669	112,964	(295)

FY2018-19 House and Senate Budget Recommendations Compared to Current Year

\$ millions

Department/Agency	House Budget	Senate Budget	House +/- Senate	Current Year Budget	House +/- Current Year	Senate +/- Current Year	House FTEs	Senate FTEs
Admin. Funds (Statewide)	\$295.1	\$255.7	\$39.4	\$95.6	\$199.5	\$160.1	-	-
Ag. & Consumer Services	\$1,750.3	\$1,899.9	\$(149.6)	\$1,757.2	\$(6.9)	\$142.7	3655.25	3,652.3
Business & Professional Reg.	\$154.7	\$155.1	\$(0.4)	\$153.5	\$1.2	\$1.6	1616.25	1,615.3
Children & Families	\$3,139.0	\$3,215.3	\$(76.3)	\$3,174.0	\$(35.0)	\$41.3	11,971.8	12,030.8
Citrus	\$28.3	\$30.9	\$(2.6)	\$33.1	\$(4.8)	\$(2.2)	41.0	35.0
Comm. on Offender Review	\$11.0	\$10.5	\$0.5	\$10.7	\$0.3	\$(0.2)	132.0	132.0
Corrections	\$2,532.3	\$2,566.9	\$(34.6)	\$2,487.4	\$44.9	\$79.5	24,238.0	24,539.0
Economic Opportunity	\$1,237.5	\$1,044.4	\$193.1	\$1,097.0	\$140.5	\$(52.6)	1,467.5	1,475.0
Education*	\$24,595.8	\$24,833.5	\$(237.7)	\$24,925.3	\$(329.5)	\$(91.8)	2,315.75	2,245.8
Elder Affairs	\$343.1	\$325.3	\$17.8	\$314.2	\$28.9	\$11.1	406.5	406.5
Environmental Protection	\$1,831.6	\$1,524.8	\$306.8	\$1,475.5	\$356.1	\$49.3	2,901.5	2,873.5
Financial Services	\$386.6	\$387.4	\$(0.8)	\$373.3	\$13.3	\$14.1	2593.5	2,580.5
Fish & Wildlife Cons.	\$377.1	\$375.4	\$1.7	\$372.4	\$4.7	\$3.0	2,128.5	2,118.5
Governor's Office	\$1,355.3	\$1,392.2	\$(36.9)	\$420.2	\$935.1	\$972.0	431.0	430.0
Health	\$2,963.6	\$2,968.5	\$(4.9)	\$2,924.1	\$39.5	\$44.4	13,746.8	13,410.7
Health Care Admin.	\$28,922.5	\$28,902.9	\$19.6	\$28,103.6	\$818.9	\$799.3	1,536.5	1,536.5
Hwy Safety & Motor Vehicles	\$479.8	\$477.1	\$2.7	\$483.0	\$(3.2)	\$(5.9)	4,374.0	4,324.0
Justice Administration	\$903.2	\$908.9	\$(5.7)	\$903.4	\$(0.2)	\$5.5	10,431.8	10,445.3
Juvenile Justice	\$578.4	\$566.1	\$12.3	\$570.3	\$8.1	\$(4.2)	3,272.5	3,260.5
Law Enforcement	\$295.2	\$284.6	\$10.6	\$295.0	\$0.2	\$(10.4)	1,891.0	1,891.0
Legal Affairs	\$302.4	\$299.1	\$3.3	\$298.7	\$3.7	\$0.4	1,396.5	1,313.5
Legislature	\$209.0	\$209.2	\$(0.2)	\$208.3	\$0.7	\$0.9	-	-
Lottery	\$179.2	\$175.7	\$3.5	\$168.0	\$11.2	\$7.7	418.5	418.5
Management Services	\$733.8	\$714.4	\$19.4	\$683.6	\$50.2	\$30.8	1,285.5	1,279.5
Military Affairs	\$61.1	\$67.0	\$(5.9)	\$72.8	\$(11.7)	\$(5.8)	451.0	453.0
Persons with Disabilities	\$1,398.7	\$1,366.5	\$32.2	\$1,288.7	\$110.0	\$77.8	2,702.5	2,702.5
Public Service Commission	\$25.5	\$24.9	\$0.6	\$25.0	\$0.5	\$(0.1)	272.0	265.0
Revenue	\$586.3	\$585.2	\$1.1	\$580.1	\$6.2	\$5.1	5,047.0	5,036.8
State	\$108.2	\$132.3	\$(24.1)	\$118.3	\$(10.1)	\$14.0	413.0	408.0
State Courts	\$555.1	\$537.0	\$18.1	\$536.2	\$18.9	\$0.8	4,264.0	4,290.5
Transportation	\$10,843.6	\$10,846.8	\$(3.2)	\$10,853.8	\$(10.2)	\$(7.0)	6,299.0	6,236.0
Veterans Affairs	\$114.3	\$113.8	\$0.5	\$150.6	\$(36.3)	\$(36.8)	1,263.5	1,263.5
Totals*	\$87,297.4	\$87,197.4	\$100.3	\$84,953.0	\$2,344.4	\$2,244.4	112,963.6	112,668.7

Source: Florida TaxWatch, compiled using HB 5001 and SB 2500, February 2018.

SOME OF THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES THAT REMAIN

Public School Funding – The levels of funding proposed by the House and Senate for the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) are relatively close, but how they get there is quite different. The Senate is proposing to use rising property values to require local school property taxpayers to contribute \$518 million more to the FEFP than in the current year. The House says this is a tax increase (it is right) and recommends a reduction in the millage rate to produce only \$192 million more, making up most of the difference with additional state funds.

School Policy – The House budget makes the FEFP funding contingent on the passage of HB 7055-a huge education bill with many provisions, many of which increase school choice. This indicates that if the Senate will not go along, education funding negotiations will start from scratch.

Schools of Hope and Teacher and Principal Bonuses – The Senate does not directly fund two House priorities--a program to attract proven charter schools to areas served by chronically failing public schools, the Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal Scholarship Program.

Higher Education – The Senate proposes a \$187 million increase for universities and a \$60 million reduction in college funding. The House wants to cut universities by \$304 million while increasing colleges by \$86 million. The Senate does have another \$101.5 million in a bill that would overhaul the college system.

Education Capital Outlay – The House would spend much more on charter schools while the Senate would spend much more on college and university construction projects.

Environment – The House proposes more spending for the Everglades and beach restoration. The Senate provides more for Florida Forever, spring restoration, and the St. Johns River. The House appropriates \$107 million to settle claims by homeowners whose citrus trees were cut down in a failed attempt to eradicate canker.

Hospital Funding – The House would keep the current formula, while the Senate wants to eliminate automatic increases for hospitals that have high Medicaid utilization and redistribute that money into the base allocations.

Tourism Marketing – The House funds VISIT Florida at \$76 million, while the Senate reduces funding to \$50 million, much to the consternation of the Governor.

Affordable Housing – The Senate provides \$322.1 million; the House provides only \$123.6 million and sweeps \$182.0 million from housing trust funds.

Trust Funds Sweeps – The Senate sweeps \$122.5 million from various trust funds, transferring the money into General Revenue. The House sweeps \$397.4 million.

Governor's Priorities- The House funds the Florida Job Growth Fund (\$85 million) and repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike (\$50.0 million). The Senate does not fund these directly so they are not included in the budget totals, but makes them contingent on receiving \$135 million in reimbursement from the federal government for 2017 declared states of emergency.

Member Projects - The 120-member House has approximately 315 local member projects worth \$260 million in its budget, while the 40-member Senate proposes funding approximately 620 projects worth more than \$400 million.

SUMMARY BY POLICY AREA

EDUCATION

	House	Senate	Current Spending
Public Schools (including local funds):	\$23.939 b	\$23.571 b	\$23.425 b
FL Education Finance Program	\$21.119 b	\$21.148 b	\$20.612 b
State Funds	\$11.955 b	\$11.657 b	\$11.640 b
Local Funds	\$9.165 b	\$9.490 b	\$8.972 b
Per Student	\$7,407	\$7,417	\$7,307
RLE Millage	4.117	4.308	4.308

The House proposes \$368 million more than the Senate for public schools. The higher House funding is due mostly to two major House initiatives that were funded last year but not included by the Senate in its proposed budget. Outside of the FEFP, the House provides \$200 million for “Schools of Hope,” a program to attract proven charter schools to areas served by chronically failing public schools, and \$254 million for the Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal Scholarship Program to provide bonuses to selected educators. The Senate does create a new categorical in the FEFP – the Hope Supplemental Services allocation. This \$88.0 million allocation would provide \$2,000 per student to schools implementing a district-managed turnaround plan to improve performance. In lieu of the Best and Brightest program, the Senate would put \$184.0 into the FEFP for salary increases for classroom teachers.

The two chambers are close on the amount of funding for the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), the main school funding mechanism which distributes funds to the districts. However, the FEFP is shaping up to be one of the biggest budget battles. The disagreement is over how much local revenue should go into the program. Although the Legislature does not appropriate school property taxes, it does set the amount of Required Local Effort (RLE) in the budget each year. RLE is the amount of property taxes school districts must levy in order to participate in the FEFP. The Senate proposes to keep the same RLE millage rate, which would result in \$518.0 million in additional local property taxes due to increased property values. This frees up state GR for other funding. The House says that is a tax increase and instead proposes to reduce the millage rate, resulting in only \$192.2 million in additional property taxes. The Senate plan would increase public school funding by \$110 per student (1.5 percent), \$10 more than the House.

Universities: *House - \$4.639 billion* *Senate - \$5.130 billion*

Increasing university funding is a priority of the Senate President while the House Speaker contends funding has risen too quickly. This is reflected in the budgets—the Senate proposes an increase in university funding of \$187 million, while the House would reduce spending by \$300 million. The House contends this will encourage universities to spend down some of their reserves, some of which it contends are excessive. The Senate includes \$690 million in performance based funding (\$170 million more than

the House). The House also provides \$20.0 million for preeminent universities while the Senate instead provides \$13.8 million for Startup and Enhancement Grants for Programs of Excellence. Neither chamber recommends a tuition increase.

Colleges: *House - \$1.297 billion* *Senate - \$1.151 billion*

The House provides a 7.1 percent increase over current spending for colleges, while the Senate reduces funding by 5.0 percent. The House includes \$60 million in performance funding for all schools and an additional \$10 million for students who earn industry certifications. The Senate would get closer to the House with \$101.5 million in appropriations that are included in SB 540—The College Competitiveness Act of 2018—which would make a number of changes to the college system including establishing a State Board of Colleges to refocus the primary mission of community colleges on awarding associate degrees and workforce credentials. Neither chamber recommends a tuition increase.

Private Colleges & Universities *House - \$151.7 million* *Senate - \$172.7 million*

The Senate proposes a \$12.3 million increase for private institutions, while the House proposes \$8.7 million cut. Items funded by the Senate and not the House include recurring funding for a medical training lab at the University of Miami (\$3.5 million), increasing the per student amount for the ABLE and FRAG tuition assistance grants (\$9.6 million), and 13 member projects (\$4.9 million).

Early Learning: *House - \$1.097 billion* *Senate - \$1.098 billion*

For the Voluntary Prekindergarten Program, the Senate provides a \$63 increase in per-student funding (\$54 more in the summer term) at a cost of \$10.3 million. The House would leave per-student funding unchanged.

Fixed Capital Outlay:

	House	Senate
Repair and Maintenance		
Public Schools	\$50.0 million	\$75.0 million
Charter Schools	\$120.0 million	\$25.0 million
Colleges	\$35.1 million	\$36.2 million
Universities	\$47.2 million	\$48.6 million
Construction		
Public Schools	\$31.4 million	\$36.9 million
Colleges	\$25.0 million	\$56.4 million
Universities	\$25.0 million	\$145.5 million

Financial Aid: *House - \$647.3 million* *Senate - \$717.8 million*

The Senate provides an additional \$191.4 million for Bright Futures scholarships to increase awards, provide a textbook stipend and provide summer term awards. The Senate also provides a \$121.0 million increase in Florida Student Assistance Grants,

HUMAN SERVICES

The six agencies that make up the Human Services budget would receive a total of \$36.9 billion in both the House and Senate budgets. This is \$1.0 billion more than current funding.

Agency for Health Care Administration: *House - \$28.903 billion* *Senate - \$28.922 billion*

This agency is responsible for the state's Medicaid program, the largest expenditure in the budget. Both the House and Senate fund the program at \$28.0 billion. The chambers also agree on funding for the Low Income Pool (\$1.5 billion) and the Disproportionate Share (\$309.9 million), two programs which reimburse hospitals and other providers for uncompensated (charity) care. However, many hospitals feel the required local contributions will be hard to produce. While total Medicaid funding is similar, there are differences in payments for various services. For example, the Senate provides \$130.4 million to increase nursing home payments. Another major difference is how funding would be distributed to hospitals. The House would keep the current system, while the Senate wants to eliminate automatic increases for hospitals that have high Medicaid utilization and redistribute that money into the base allocations. The Senate says this will have "the money follow the patient," but there will be winners and losers.

Agency for Persons with Disabilities: *House - \$1.367 billion* *Senate - \$1.399 billion*

The Senate provides a \$110.1 million (8.5 percent) increase to the agency while the House proposes a \$77.8 million (6.0 percent) increase. The difference is largely due to the Senate providing a \$66.1 million increase to reduce the waitlist for the Home and Community Based Services Waiver Program, while the House proposes a \$21.9 million increase.

Department of Children and Families: *House - \$3.215 billion* *Senate - \$3.139 billion*

The House provides a \$34.8 million increase to the community-based care lead agencies; the Senate has a \$23.0 million increase. The House provides \$1.8 million and \$37.2 million more than the Senate for community mental health and substance abuse services, respectively. The Senate provides \$19.9 million—\$6.7 million more than the House—for centralized receiving facilities to serve individuals needing evaluation, stabilization or crisis services.

Department of Health: *House - \$2.969 billion* *Senate - \$2.964 billion*

The House and Senate are close on total funding, providing the department with a 1.5 percent increase. The House funding exceeds the Senate for Healthy Start Coalitions (\$8.4 million) and purchasing naloxone (overdose treatment drug) for emergency responders (\$5.0 million). The Senate provides funding for Community Health Centers (\$5.0 million) and pediatric cancer research (\$5.0 million) that the House does not.

Department of Elder Affairs: *House - \$325.3 million* *Senate - \$343.1 million*

Both chambers provide \$3.0 million in additional funds to serve 264 additional elders on the waitlist for Alzheimer's respite care. The Senate provides \$5.0 million for 754 more community care for the elderly and home care for the elderly slots; the House provides \$2.7 million. The Senate funds 675 new PACE slots (\$20.1 million), the House funds 150 slots (\$4.1 million) to provide elder care.

Department of Veterans Affairs:

House - \$113.8 million

Senate - \$114.3 million

The House and Senate proposals are almost identical, except for some member projects and the Senate funding a veterans' research and marketing campaign (\$0.5 million) and preliminary engineering and feasibility studies for construction of a veterans nursing home in Marion County (\$0.5 million). The agency will receive less than last year, but only because last year's budget contained \$32.0 million for completion of a seventh State Veterans Nursing Home.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Environmental funding is a major budget difference between the two chambers. The Senate funds the Department of Environmental Protection at \$1.832 billion, \$306.8 million (20.1 percent) more than the House. Land acquisition (Florida Forever), Everglades restoration, springs protection and the Herbert Hoover Dike are just some of the differences that must be worked out.

Other Environmental Funding Highlights:

Everglades Restoration – The Senate provides \$151.5 million and the House provides \$195.5 million for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan or CERP and the regional water quality plan. Both budgets provide an additional \$31.0 million for Northern Everglades Restoration.

Herbert Hoover Dike – The House provides \$50 million in GR to expedite repair to the dike, a priority of the Governor. The Senate does not directly fund the dike, but does include a provision in the back of bill that makes \$50 million available, contingent on reimbursement from the federal government of at least \$135 million for state declared disasters in 2017.

Florida Forever – The Senate transfers \$150 million (\$50 million from GR) to the Florida Forever Trust Fund for various land acquisition projects. The House provides only \$8.0 million for Florida Forever but does provide \$35.0 million for conservation and rural land protection easements.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Revolving Loan Programs – Both budgets include \$318.0 million in trust funds for these two programs, which provide financial assistance to local governments.

Local Water Projects – The House funds 42 local member water projects with \$24.5 million and Senate provides \$38.4 million for more than 110 projects.

Springs Restoration – The Senate provides \$92.6 million and the House provides \$25.0 million, despite state law requiring at least \$50 million be provided annually. The House budget was amended in committee to transfer \$25.0 million from springs to conservation and rural lands protection easements.

Beach Restoration – The Senate provides \$50.0 million; the House provides \$54.5 million for the state's beach program. The House provides another \$25.0 million for beach hurricane recovery.

Florida Recreation Development Assistance Grants (FRDAP) – The Senate provides \$3.0 million for the top 60 local park projects on the FRDAP list and another \$4.0 million for "child friendly" parks. The

Senate also funds four local member park projects (\$1.6 million). The House funds no projects that went through the FRDAP process, instead funding three member projects (\$1.6 million).

Petroleum Tank Cleanup - The Senate provides \$100.0 million; the House provides \$85.0 million.

St. Johns River/Keystone Heights – The Senate provides \$50.0 million for continued funding of restoration and recreation projects in the region. The House provides \$5.5 million.

Citrus Canker Payments – The House provides \$107.0 million to settle claims from lawsuits filed by homeowners whose citrus trees were cut down in a failed attempt to eradicate canker. The payments are for claims in Broward, Lee and Palm Beach and Orange Counties. The Senate provides no funding, preferring to wait for a Supreme Court ruling.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Department of Economic Opportunity - The Senate provides \$1.237 billion to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). The House provides \$1.044 billion. Much of that is due to the Senate providing nearly \$200 million more for affordable housing (see below) and including \$90 million more in federal funds for the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant. Bringing the bottom lines closer is the House, providing \$26.0 million more for VISIT Florida and \$85.0 million for the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. The Senate does not directly fund the Fund, but does include a provision in the back of bill that makes \$85.0 million available, contingent on reimbursement from the federal government of at least \$85.0 million for state declared disasters in 2017.

	House	Senate
Enterprise Florida	\$16.0 million	\$16.2 million
VISIT FLORIDA	\$76.0 million	\$50.0 million
Quick Response Training	\$9.0 million	\$15.0 million
Economic Development Tools	\$26.6 million	\$28.3 million
Space Florida	\$19.5 million	\$18.5 million

The Senate also funds more local member projects in the DEO budget than the House. These include local economic development, housing, and community development projects. The House DEO budget contains 22 of these member projects worth \$13.8 million. The Senate funds 33 projects worth \$21.1 million.

Affordable Housing – The Senate provides \$322.1 million to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; the House provides \$123.6 million. The Senate provides \$100 million for areas hardest hit by the hurricanes, more than \$50 million for the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) programs, \$10.0 million for housing for persons with disabilities, \$40.0 million for low-income workforce housing and housing in the Keys, and nearly \$100 million for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP). The House funding is all dedicated to hurricane recovery related housing. The House sweeps (transfers to GR) \$182.0 million from housing trust funds, while the Senate does not sweep these trust funds.

Department of Transportation - The House and Senate budgets both fund the Department of Transportation's (DOT) work program at \$9.9 billion, which makes up most of DOT's budget. Most of

the two transportation budgets are identical. However, the Senate includes a startling number of local member transportation projects—52 projects worth \$100.4 million. The House has 20 projects worth \$21.1 million. These local projects, funded from the State Transportation Trust Fund, take funds from projects that are in the DOT work program. The \$79.3 million more spent by the Senate on local projects reduces funding for right-of-way, resurfacing, engineering contracts and construction inspection below the levels in the House budget.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CORRECTIONS AND COURTS

The funding for this area in the House and Senate budget are very close. The Senate proposes to spend \$5.178 billion in this area, only \$4.6 million (less than one-tenth of one percent) more than the House.

Department of Corrections

House - \$2.567 billion Senate - \$2.532 billion

The two chambers are close on total DOC funding but differ on several issues. The Senate proposes to transform the Blackwater River Correctional Facility into a 2,000-bed adult male mental health facility (\$43.3 million) and proposes \$10.0 million to house certain state inmates in county jails. The House funds 285 additional positions for inmate mental health and provides \$17.5 million for the department's fixed capital outlay needs that the Senate does not fund. Both chambers provide significant increases for inmate health services—the House provides a \$48.7 million increase (11.9 percent) and the Senate provides a \$33.1 million increase (8.1 percent). The Senate provides \$19.7 million for electronic monitoring, \$6.9 million more than the House.

Justice Administration

House - \$908.9 million Senate - \$903.2 million

The House provides \$10.8 million more for costs related to criminal and civil conflict, sexual predator, and child dependency cases. Both chambers fund 21 positions (\$1.3 million) for state attorneys with reassigned death penalty cases.

Department of Juvenile Justice

House - \$566.1 million Senate - \$578.4 million

The Senate funding exceeds the House for the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative by \$2.3 million, maintenance and repair of facilities by \$5.4 million, and PACE Centers by \$4.2 million.

Department of Law Enforcement

House - \$284.6 million Senate - \$295.2 million

Dept. of Legal Affairs/Attorney General

House - \$299.1 million Senate - \$302.4 million

State Courts System

House - \$537.0 million Senate - \$555.1 million

The Senate provides \$2.0 million to develop an electronic offender risk assessment tool, \$9.9 million for problem-solving courts, and \$3.3 million for county law libraries. The House provides \$8.0 million to purchase an existing facility in Tampa for the Second District Court of Appeal courthouse and funds 37.5 more positions for appellate and trial court operations. The Senate funds 18 more positions for county courts.

OTHER ISSUES

State Employee Pay Increases – The Senate provides \$159.2 million for pay increases for several classes of employees:

- **State Law Enforcement** – All sworn law enforcement officers (encompassing 11 agencies) will get a 7 percent increase, effective July 1, 2018. Officers with at least 10 years of services will get an additional 3 percent.
- **Juvenile Justice Detention and Probation Officers** – The minimum base salaries will be increased and each officer will get a 10 percent competitive pay adjustment.
- **State Firefighters** – Each firefighter (in three agencies) will receive a \$2,500 increase.
- **Assistant State Attorneys and Public Defenders** – APDs and ASAs with at least three years of service will get a \$4,000 raise. Those with less than three years will get \$2,000.

Department of Military Affairs – Members of the Florida National Guard on full-time duty will receive a raise as prescribed by applicable national pay tables. Camp Blanding firefighters will also get an increase.

The House provides \$103.5 million for agencies to develop recruitment and retention plans for law enforcement officers, provide a 10 percent raise for juvenile justice detention (but not probation) officers, and to provide pay raises for full-time National Guard (but not Camp Blanding firefighters).

Trust Funds Sweeps – The Senate sweeps \$122.5 million from various trust funds, transferring the money into General Revenue. The House sweeps \$397.4 million, including \$182.0 million from affordable housing trust funds. These funds are routinely swept; however, the Senate does not sweep housing and is considering a bill (SB 874) to prohibit sweeping these funds.

Member Projects – The 120-member House has approximately 315 local member projects worth \$260 million in its budget, while the 40-member Senate proposes funding approximately 620 projects worth more than \$400 million.

The monthly Budget Watch is written by **Kurt Wenner, VP of Research**

Robert Weissert, Executive VP & Counsel to the President & CEO

Chris Barry, Director of Publications

David Mann Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Florida TaxWatch

Dominic M. Calabro, President and CEO, Publisher & Editor

Florida TaxWatch Research Institute, Inc.

www.floridataxwatch.org

Copyright © Florida TaxWatch