



Legislative Report for January 26, 2024

SUPPORT

[HB 619: Sovereign Immunity for Professional Firms](#)

Senate Companion Bill: [SB 1534](#)

GENERAL BILL by Tuck

Sovereign Immunity for Professional Firms; Provides that professional firms or their employees when performing specified services for certain public projects are considered agents of state or its applicable subdivision when acting within scope of their contract; requires that contracts with such firms must, to extent permitted by law, provide indemnity to state or its applicable subdivision.

Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Civil Justice Subcommittee (Passed 1/11/24)**
- **Transportation and Modals Subcommittee (Passed 1/25/24 - Amended)**
- Judiciary Committee

[SB 1534: Sovereign Immunity](#)

House Companion Bill: [HB 619](#)

GENERAL BILL by [Bradley](#)

Sovereign Immunity; Providing that professional firms or their employees when performing specified services for certain public projects are considered agents of the state or its applicable subdivision when acting within the scope of their contract; requiring that contracts with such firms must, to the extent permitted by law, provide indemnity to the state or its applicable subdivision, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Judiciary Committee (On agenda, 1/29/24)**
- Community Affairs Committee
- Rules Committee

OPPOSE

[CS/HB 149: Continuing Contracts](#)

Senate Companion Bill: [SB 656](#)

GENERAL BILL by Rep. Alvarez

Revises maximum estimated construction cost of construction projects for which governmental entity may enter into continuing contract; revises definition of term "continuing contract"; requires DOT to select certain number of qualified firms & authorize work in specified manner for certain continuing contracts. Effective Date: 7/1/24

Committee Referrals:

- **Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee (Passed 1/11/24)**
- **State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee (Passed 1/25/24)(Amended)**
- State Affairs Committee

[SB 656: Continuing Contracts](#)

House Companion Bill: [HB 149](#)

GENERAL BILL by [DiCeglie](#)

Continuing Contracts; Revising the maximum estimated construction cost of construction projects for which a governmental entity may enter into a continuing contract; revising the definition of the term “continuing contract”; requiring the Department of Transportation, for specified testing continuing contracts, to select a certain number of qualified firms and assign such testing in a specified manner, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee (On Agenda 1/29/24)**
- Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government
- Fiscal Policy Committee

[CS/SB 382: Continuing Education Requirements](#)

House Companion Bill: [HB 497](#)

GENERAL BILL by Regulated Industries ; [Hooper](#)

Continuing Education Requirements; Requiring, rather than authorizing, a board, or the Department of Business and Professional Regulation when there is no board, to allow by rule that distance learning may be used to satisfy continuing education requirements; revising the requirements that such continuing education must satisfy; requiring the board, or the department when there is no board, to exempt certain individuals from completing their continuing education requirements; authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Regulated Industries Committee (Passed 12/13/23)**
- **Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee (Passed 1/16/24, Engineers Removed)**
- Rules Committee

[HB 497: Continuing Education Requirements](#)

Senate Companion Bill: [CS/SB 382](#)

GENERAL BILL by Melo

Continuing Education Requirements; Requires, rather than authorizes, board, or DBPR when there is no board, to provide by rule that distance learning may be used to satisfy continuing education requirements; revises requirements that continuing education must satisfy; requires board, or DBPR when there is no board, to exempt certain individuals from completing their continuing education requirements; requires DBPR & each affected board to adopt rules. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- Regulatory Reform and Economic Development Subcommittee
- State Administration and Technology Appropriations Subcommittee
- Commerce Committee

[HB 479: Alternative Mobility Funding Systems](#)

Senate Companion Bill: [SB 688](#)

Analysis: [HB 479](#)

GENERAL BILL by Rep. Robinson

Alternative Mobility Funding Systems; Revises requirements relating to agreements to pay for or construct certain improvements; authorizes local governments to adopt alternative mobility planning & fee system; prohibits alternative system from imposing responsibility for funding existing transportation deficiency on new development; prohibits local governments that do not issue building permits from charging for transportation impacts; prohibits local governments from assessing multiple charges for same transportation impact; revises requirements for calculation of impact fees; requires local governments transitioning to alternative funding systems to provide holders of impact fee credits with full benefit of intensity & density of prepaid credit balances as of specified date. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Local Administration, Federal Affairs, and Special Districts Subcommittee (Passed 1/10/24)**
- **Ways and Means Committee (Passed 1/17/24)**
- Commerce Committee

[SB 688: Alternative Mobility Funding Systems](#)

House Companion Bill: [HB 479](#)

GENERAL BILL by [Martin](#)

Alternative Mobility Funding Systems; Authorizing certain local governments to adopt an alternative mobility planning and fee system or an alternative system in certain circumstances; prohibiting an alternative system from imposing responsibility for funding an existing transportation deficiency upon new development; providing that only local governments issuing building permits may charge for transportation impacts; revising requirements for the calculation of impact fees by certain local governments and special districts, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Community Affairs (Passed 01/09/24)**
- **Transportation Committee (On Agenda, 1/30/24)**
- Rules Committee

[SB 472: Sovereign Immunity](#)

House Companion Bill: [HB 569](#)

GENERAL BILL by Sen. Brodeur

Sovereign Immunity; Increasing the statutory limits on liability for tort claims against the state and its agencies and subdivisions; prohibiting an insurance policy from conditioning payment of benefits on the enactment of a claim bill; specifying that the limitations in effect on the date a final judgment is entered apply to that claim, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee (On Agenda, 1/29/24)**
- Appropriations Committee
- Rules Committee

[HB 569: Suits Against the Government](#)

Senate Companion: [SB 472](#)

GENERAL BILL by McFarland

Suits Against the Government; Abolishes common-law doctrine of home venue privilege with respect to action against state; increases statutory limits on liability for tort claims against state & its agencies & subdivisions; authorizes subdivision of state to settle claim in excess of statutory limit without further action by Legislature regardless of insurance coverage limits; prohibits insurance policy from conditioning payment of benefits on enactment of claim bill; specifies limitations in effect on date final judgment is entered apply to that claim; requires DFS to adjust limitations on tort liability every year after specified date; revises period within which certain claims must be present to certain entities; revises exceptions relating to instituting actions on tort claims against state or one of its agencies or subdivisions; revises period after which failure of certain entities to make final disposition of claim shall be deemed final denial of claim; revises limit on certain attorney fees; revises statute of limitations for tort claims against state or one of its agencies or subdivisions & exceptions thereto.

Effective Date: 10/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- **Civil Justice Committee (Passed 1/11/24)**
- Appropriations Committee
- Judiciary Committee

UNDECIDED

[SB 266: Department of Transportation](#)

House Companion Bill: [HB 287](#)

GENERAL BILL by Sen. Hooper

Department of Transportation; Prohibiting the department from annually committing more than a certain percentage of revenues derived from state fuel taxes and motor vehicle license-related fees to public transit projects; replacing the term “public-private partnership agreement” with the term “comprehensive agreement”; prohibiting additional metropolitan planning organizations from being designated in this state after a specified date; creating within the department a local agency program for a specified purpose, etc.

Committee Referrals:

- **Transportation Committee (1/17/24)**
- Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
- Appropriations Committee

[CS/HB 287: Department of Transportation](#)

Senate Companion Bill: [SB 266](#)

GENERAL BILL by Rep. Esposito

Department of Transportation; Prohibiting the department from annually committing more than a certain percentage of revenues derived from state fuel taxes and motor vehicle license-related fees to public transit projects; replacing the term “public-private partnership agreement” with the term “comprehensive agreement”; prohibiting additional metropolitan planning organizations from being designated in this state after a specified date; creating within the department a local agency program for a specified purpose, etc.

Committee Referrals:

- **Transportation & Modals Subcommittee (Passed 1/11/24)**
- Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee
- Infrastructure Strategies Committee

[SB 1032: Transportation](#)

House Companion: [HB 7049](#)

GENERAL BILL by [Gruters](#)

Transportation; Deleting provisions related to appointment, powers, and duties of the Florida Transportation Commission; prohibiting the designation of additional metropolitan planning organizations (M.P.O.'s) after a specified date, with an exception for certain urbanized areas; requiring each M.P.O. to report its quality performance score annually to the district secretary and to publish the score on its website, beginning on a specified date; requiring M.P.O.'s that do not achieve the minimum acceptable quality performance score within a certain timeframe to be placed under the control of the Secretary of Transportation, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- Transportation Committee
- Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development
- Appropriations Committee

[HB 7049: Transportation](#)

Senate Companion: [SB 1032](#)

GENERAL BILL by Transportation & Modals Subcommittee ; McFarland

Transportation; Revises membership of certain advisory boards; revises requirements for designation of additional M.P.O.'s; revises provisions relating to M.P.O.'s long-range transportation plan & transportation improvement program; requires DOT to convene M.P.O.'s of similar size to exchange best practices; authorizes committees or working groups; requires training for new M.P.O. governing board members; requires DOT to create M.P.O. quality performance scoring mechanism; provides requirements relating to quality performance scores; removes provisions relating to Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council; requires report to Governor & Legislature; requires redesign of registration license plate by DHSMV. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- Infrastructure and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee
- Infrastructure Strategies Committee

[SB 1226: Department of Transportation](#)

House Companion: [HB 1301](#)

GENERAL BILL by [DiCeglie](#)

Department of Transportation; Deleting the requirement that the secretary of the department appoint the department's inspector general; limiting the percentage of the total contract amount which may be allocated for the purchase of plant materials based on the monetary size of the contract; requiring each public transit provider to certify that its actual administrative costs are no greater than a certain amount; requiring the department to preserve a rail corridor within the right of way of Interstate 4 between Orlando and Tampa for a specified purpose, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

Committee Referrals:

- Transportation Committee
- Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development
- Rules Committee

[HB 1301: Department of Transportation](#)

Senate Companion: [SB 1226](#)

GENERAL BILL by Abbott

Department of Transportation; Removes provisions requiring DOT secretary to appoint inspector general; revises provisions relating to allocation of funds for purchase of plant materials, acceptance & processing of electronic payments to Florida Turnpike Enterprise, & inactive prepaid toll accounts; prohibits DOT from expending certain state funds to support certain projects or programs; authorizes DOT to enter into service contracts to finance certain projects; prohibits DOT from considering certain nonpecuniary factors when developing transportation plans; creates Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program within DOC; requires DOC & DOT to consider applications & select grant awardees; requires funds appropriated from State Transportation Trust Fund for New Starts Transit Program to revert to trust fund; revises provisions relating to public transit provider responsibilities. Effective Date: 7/1/2024

- **Transportation and Modals Subcommittee (Passed 1/25/24)**
- Infrastructure and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee
- Infrastructure Strategies Committee

