2018
State Legislative Priorities
For
Seminole County
Florida’s Natural Choice

Seminole County Government
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PRIORITIES

During the 2018 Legislative Session, Seminole County legislative priorities shall be:

Home Rule

- Oppose legislation that interferes with home rule authority from counties and municipalities and diverts authority to state legislators substituting itself into the local decision-making process, as local municipalities provide for greater transparency and opportunities to interact with local decision makers.
- Oppose legislation that imposes unfunded mandates or diminishing local government revenue sources, including, but not limited to: non “revenue-neutral” changes to the communication services tax; property tax millage rate restrictions and reserve levels, reduction of the sales tax on commercial leases; and elimination of the “recapture rule.”

Reimbursement of DJJ Pre-Disposition

- Support legislation that reconciles the remaining debt owed by the State for predisposition juvenile detention costs.

Homelessness/Affordable Housing

- Support legislation that expands the ability of local governments to address homelessness through flexible state funding sources and provides innovative solutions to increase affordable housing programs, and guarantees appropriations through the Sadowski State and Local Housing Trust Fund vital to increasing the availability of affordable housing to homeless and low income households.

Support Legislation for:

- Statewide long-term comprehensive plans to provide resilient public infrastructure and reliable public utilities.
- Adequate emergency funding for shelters, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and group homes for emergency preparedness equipment and local Health Departments for emergency medical support.
- Prioritizing restoration of public utilities to shelters, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and group homes.
- Requirement for all public utilities to provide direct communication with the local Emergency Operations Center.
- Maintaining the strength of Florida Building Code.
- Decommissioning of two Seminole County rest area locations.
- Strengthening distracted driving related to cellphone texting to a primary offense.
- Increasing funding to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety awareness programs and facility improvements.
- Increasing annual state funding for mosquito control programs to sufficient levels in order to provide stable and predictable assistance for the ongoing efforts to control and prevent the spread of Zika and other mosquito-related disease vectors that threaten public health.
- Increasing grant funding levels for water quality and restoration projects (muck removal, shoreline restoration, internal recycling, and groundwater loading) and funding opportunities for water quality/stormwater educational outreach programs.