



**PUBLIC
POLICY**

AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS

ADOPT

Broadband

- **SUPPORT** increased efforts to promote access to broadband and provide resources to support accessibility, speed and affordability of broadband in Florida. SUPPORT improving service mapping accurately by requiring more granular data from service providers, allowing crowd sourced data to be used to inform the map, and creating an appeal process to challenge demonstrable inaccuracies.

Aquaculture

- Encourage state regulatory relief designed to encourage increased commercial production and harvest of aquacultured bivalve shellfish (e.g., clams, oysters) in state waters through review of submerged land leasing requirements and revision of restrictive or outdated regulatory policies.
- Direct the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and/or Farm Service Agency to evaluate the reestablishment of a viable crop insurance program for shellfish aquaculture producers, specifically designed to cover crop and market losses due to mortality or extended harvest moratoriums and disrupted ability to sell product after environmental perturbations (hurricanes and harmful algal blooms).
- Direct FDEP to evaluate the potential for regulatory reform which considers the use of live clams to enhance the success of seagrass impact mitigation requirements.
- Direct FDEP to evaluate implementation of a nutrient credit program to incentivize production of commercial shellfish aquaculture.
- Encourage FDEP, FWC and other relevant state agencies to advance additional grant opportunities for the scientific research required to promulgate regulatory standards for deployment of bivalve shellfish for large scale water quality improvement and nearshore habitat creation.

ADDED TO GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Food Insecurity

- **SUPPORTS** increased state funding and policies that reduce food insecurity among Floridians, in order to: 1) increase the health and productivity of those currently without consistent access to healthy food, 2) consequently reduce the demand for public health and human services, 3) improve the financial security of those in need, and 4) accelerate the recovery and increase the resiliency of Florida's economy in the aftermath of the COVID19 pandemic.



**PUBLIC
POLICY**

COMMUNITY & URBAN AFFAIRS

ADOPT

Remote Meetings

- **SUPPORT** legislation authorizing local governing bodies and other local boards and committees to meet remotely

Remote Meetings for Emergency Briefings

- **SUPPORT** legislation granting an exemption for county elected officials to be able to participate in emergency-related briefings during a declared state of emergency

Affordable Housing Impact Fees

- **SUPPORT** amending s. 163.3180, F.S. – Concurrency, to include affordable housing unit construction in the definition of capital facility, and require affordable housing units funded by impact fees to remain affordable for 30 years

Affordable Housing SHIP

- **SUPPORT** changing the formula for local housing fund distribution so that counties can allocate housing funds in a manner most effective for their local housing market, this includes reducing the percentage of funds required to be distributed for homeownership and allowing counties to increase the percentage reserved for rental housing up to 50% of the funds available

Mobile Home Regulation Review

- **SUPPORT** legislation requiring a review of state laws applicable to manufactured homes and park communities, as it relates to the clarification of state and municipal regulatory requirements, obligations, and authority

Nuisances in Unplatted Subdivisions

- **SUPPORT** legislation to expand §60.05, Florida Statutes, dealing with nuisance abatement, to allow local governments to address nuisances within unrecorded subdivisions meeting certain criteria regarding size, ownership, and noisome activities

Vacation Rental Tax Remittance

- **SUPPORT** legislation requiring taxes associated with vacation home rental to be provided in a format specified by each collection authority and/or outlined in a local ordinance pertaining to the collection of taxes



**PUBLIC
POLICY**

Fleet Electrification

- **SUPPORT** legislation to encourage the state to develop electric vehicle acquisition policies including preference for low/no emission vehicles, allowing cost to own to justify EV purchase and municipal leasing mechanisms to gain access to federal EV tax credits

M-Cores Local Service Funding

- **SUPPORT** additional funding sources for counties that are impacted by the M-CORES projects.

ADDED TO GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Community Redevelopment Agencies

- **SUPPORT** counties having effective involvement and oversight of the operation of local CRA's, including approval of how tax funds generated inside the CRA is used. Effective Involvement and Oversight can be characterized as follows:
 - Representation from the BOCC through appointments to the CRA Board.
 - Consultation and Affirmation of Ad Valorem revenues are used by the CRA.
 - Receipt of ongoing reports from the CRA regarding actions, including budget decisions.
 - Consultation and Affirmation by the BOCC of CRA priorities for expenditure of local ad valorem funds.
 - Consideration of the capping and/or transferring funds within the CRA when funds exceed the documented needs or if other areas of higher priority warrant using revenues outside the CRA.
 - Operational and Financial Audits conducted regularly to assure compliance with State statutes.



**PUBLIC
POLICY**

COVID-19 AD HOC

ADOPT

Federal Support for State and Local Governments

- Urge Congress to SUPPORT the continuation of funding to state and local governments to assist with critical local response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic.



**PUBLIC
POLICY**

FINANCE, TAX, AND ADMINISTRATION

ADOPT

Sales Tax Competitiveness

- **SUPPORT** legislation applying Florida's sale and use tax laws to online/e-commerce sales from out-of-state retailers to ensure competitiveness for Florida's in-state retailers.

Qualified Targeted Industries Refund Program

- **SUPPORT** the reauthorization of the Qualified Targeted Industries Tax Refund, which is scheduled to sunset in June 2020, for another 10 years.

Small County Surtax

- **SUPPORT** legislation that allows counties that levy the small county surtax to exceed a combined rate of more than 1% in combination of with the levy of another discretionary sales surtax.

911 Fee Increase

- **SUPPORT** an increase to the 9-1-1 fee to \$0.80 or higher.

Public Records – Emergency Shelters

- **SUPPORTS** legislation granting public records exemption to protect personal identifying given to Emergency Management information during a vulnerable time or disaster

Public Records – County Staff

- **SUPPORT** legislation granting public records exemptions to counties which allow the protection of security personnel and senior county leadership (county administration and county attorneys staff).

Public Records – County Attorney

- **SUPPORT** a public records exemption for information that could identify or locate current and former county attorneys or assistant county attorneys and their spouses and children.

Public Records Request Aggregation

- **SUPPORT** legislation clarifying the aggregation of serial public records requests and requiring requestors pay outstanding record request bills before any further requests be processed is allowable.



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TDT for Planning Studies

- **SUPPORT** the amendment to Section 125.0104, Florida Statutes, to expand the use of the Tourist Development Tax to pay for feasibility and Planning, Design and Environment (PD&E) studies for eligible projects.

Tax Reform

- **SUPPORT** Modification To Existing Laws To Allow For A Discretionary Sales Tax That Can Be Used For General Purposes, Including Operational Expenditures, Enactment Of The Transportation Sales Surtax For Non-Charter Counties And Support Indexing Local Option Fuel Taxes.



**PUBLIC
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HEALTH, SAFETY, AND JUSTICE

ADOPT

Inmate Health Care Costs

- **SUPPORT** legislation or special funding that addresses Inmate Medical Costs when the inmate is without the means to pay for costs and does not have insurance or other assets that can be recovered.

County Medicaid Cost Share Growth

- **SUPPORT** efforts to mitigate increases in Medicaid costs and requests that the provision determining the rate of overall growth of the County Medicaid cost share be modified.

Local State of Emergency Extension

- **SUPPORT** extending the duration of time local governments are authorized to declare a local state of emergency, from seven days to thirty days.



**PUBLIC
POLICY**

WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

ADOPT

Biosolids Pilot

- SUPPORT establishing a pilot program for funding new state of the art wastewater technologies to improve recover and afford more efficient use of human wastewater biosolids.

Septic Tank Permitting

- SUPPORT a change in statutory language that will better supervise and coordinate appropriate septic tank permitting between the Department of Health, County Health Departments, and local county/municipal governments.
- Suggested language change that could be added to Sec. 381.0065(4), Fla. Stat. as follows: The department may not issue a construction permit until the department has received written notice from the municipality or county with land use jurisdiction over the property where the onsite sewage treatment and disposal system is to be constructed, confirming that the type of building or structure to be served by the onsite sewage treatment and disposal system is permissible on the property under applicable local regulations.

Conversion of Private Wells and Septic Tanks

- Support continued enhanced funding opportunities for conversion programs designed to move private wells to potable drinking water and private septic tanks to public wastewater collection systems. Support greater flexibility for programs that address the costs incurred by residents connecting to sewer and the proper abandonment of septic systems.

Water-Using Appliance Standards

- Support the Model Act for Establishing State Appliance and Equipment Water Efficiency Standards (model language attached)

Energy Efficiency Standards

- Support legislation providing clarity to the Public Service Commission that it must reform its rules to reflect best practices in other states on setting efficiency goals.



**PUBLIC
POLICY**

FEDERAL

ADOPT

National Flood Insurance Program

- **SUPPORT** reauthorization of the NFIP with legislative, policy and programmatic modifications to ensure no coverage lapses and to improve the affordability, transparency, and financial stability of the program through reforms in the following areas: 1) Affordability/Rate Structure; 2) Mapping/Data Collection/Modeling; and, 3) Mitigation. **OPPOSE** any reauthorization efforts that are detrimental to policy holders, local governments, and the integrity of the program.

Water (Water Resource Development Act)

- **SUPPORT** bi-annual passage of the Water Resources Development Act that authorizes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects and policies that often have state-wide impacts to Florida, including Everglades restoration, port and inlet construction, and beach nourishment projects. **SUPPORT** restoration of congressionally directed spending.

Upper Kissimmee Basin Water Storage Projects

- **SUPPORT** the inclusion of funding in the Water Resources Development ACT (WRDA) for studies and implementation of water storage projects within the Upper Kissimmee Basin to reduce harmful discharges, enhance central Florida water supply, and to mitigate negative economic impacts on communities surrounding Lake Okeechobee.
- **SUPPORT** including the following language in the next WRDA bill: The Secretary is authorized to conduct a feasibility study for the following:
- **SUPPORT** including the following language in the next WRDA bill expanding the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Program, to the fullest extent of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program (CERP), to include the Upper Kissimmee Basin and the headwaters of the Kissimmee River at the Shingle Creek tributary.

Disaster Recovery

- **SUPPORT** increased investment in mitigation programs such as the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and other partnerships between local and federal governments to complete mitigation projects and increase resiliency to disasters. **SUPPORT** measures that ensure any supplemental disaster recovery assistance appropriated by Congress, including the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR), is expediated to states to be made available to disaster-impacted counties. **OPPOSE** programmatic changes that would increase the local cost share for disaster recovery, such as implementation of a disaster deductible.



PUBLIC POLICY

Offshore Oil Drilling

- **SUPPORT** the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GOMESA), which bans oil and gas leasing within 125 miles off Florida's Gulf Coast until 2022. **SUPPORT** keeping Florida's east coast free from offshore drilling and maintaining the Department of Interior's commitment to remove Florida from consideration in the next draft of the proposed leasing plan. **OPPOSE** any legislation that moves the ban to an earlier date.

Federal Appropriations

- **SUPPORT** the continuation of adequate funding of critical programs that provide resources for the provision of local services and local public infrastructure. These funding programs include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Corps of Engineers funds – Everglades restoration, port & inlet construction & maintenance & beach nourishment
 - Community Development Block Grant program
 - Community Services Block Grant program
 - Social Services Block Grant program
 - Economic Development Administration
 - State Criminal Alien Assistance Program

Veterans Homelessness

- **SUPPORT** legislation requiring the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide case management support to local housing authorities under the VA-supported housing program.

Infrastructure

- **SUPPORT** federal legislation that ensures funding for locally owned infrastructure, including water and wastewater facilities, preserves the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, streamlines the federal permitting process, promotes innovative financing, and ensures the long-term certainty and solvency of the Federal Highway Trust Fund.

FEMA Flood Mapping Risk Rating 2.0

- **SUPPORT** measures that ensures FEMA consults with counties as it develops its new Risk Rating 2.0 flood mapping initiative.

Health Care for Non-Convicted Persons

- **SUPPORT** the reinstatement of federal health care benefits, including those benefits awarded to veterans, for non-convicted justice involved individuals.

Digital Divide

- **SUPPORT** increasing public funding for construction and mapping of broadband infrastructure.



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Non-Domestic Sand Sources

- **SUPPORT** enabling the Secretary of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to allow counties to acquire sand by purchase, exchange or otherwise from non-domestic sources for the purpose of beach renourishment.

Restoring Resilient Reefs Act

- **SUPPORT** the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act (RRRA). This is a federal policy proposal that would provide funding to Florida to support the coral reef tract that has been plagued by the Coral Tissue Loss Disease since 2014.

COVID-19 Federal Support for State Local Governments

- **SUPPORT** the continuation of funding to state and local governments to assist with critical local response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ADOPT – 2020-2021 Adopted NACo Resolutions (Sponsored by Florida Members)

Resolution on Protecting the Health and Safety of Sober Home Residents

- Sponsor: Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Palm Beach County, FL

Resolution to Support Legal Migration to Strengthen Local Economies and Workforce

- Sponsor: Commissioner Bill Truex, Charlotte County, FL

Resolution on Streamlining State Licensing Procedures for Military Spouses

- Sponsor: Commissioner Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County, FL

Resolution Urging Congress to Provide Funding for Local Efforts to Address Coastal Water Level Changes

- Sponsor: Commissioner Sally Heyman, Miami-Dade County, FL

Resolution in Support of Affordable Beach Renourishment Projects

- Sponsor: Commissioner Sally Heyman, Miami-Dade County, FL

Resolution in Support of Research into Harmful Algal Bloom Prevention and Mitigation

- Sponsor: Commissioner Doug Smith, Martin County, FL

Resolution Supporting the Reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Act

- Sponsors: Commissioner Doug Smith, Martin County, FL; Marty Cassini, Intergovernmental Affairs Manager, Broward County, FL

Resolution on National Estuary Program Designation

- Sponsor: Commissioner Bob Cole, Santa Rosa County, FL



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Resolution Urging the Federal Government to Suspend, Instead of Terminate, Medicaid Coverage for Incarcerated Individuals

- Sponsor: Commissioner Sally Heyman, Miami-Dade County, FL

Resolution to Enhance Federal Resources for Veterans' Mental and Behavioral Health Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Sponsor: Councilwoman Heather Post, Volusia County, FL

Resolution to Maintain Local Control and Public Safety Priorities Under Federal Immigration Laws

- Sponsor: Commissioner Bill Truex, Charlotte County, FL