



Committee Week One

2007 Legislative Session
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The first committee week of the 2007 Legislative Session took place from January 8 – 12, 2007. The committee meetings primarily consisted of introduction of committee members, committee staff, discussion of interim projects and committee goals. Several Committees received presentations by newly appointed department secretaries and agency chiefs.

Most of the substantive discussion was debated in the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee regarding property insurance and in preparation for the Special Session on Property Insurance that will convene on Tuesday, January 16th and is scheduled to adjourn on Tuesday, January 23rd. The Senate has introduced a draft bill and the House has introduced six draft bills. The proposed legislation will delay implementation of some of the provisions of the property insurance legislation, HB 1980, that was passed during the 2006 regular session, in addition to addressing windstorm provisions of the Florida Building Code and many other measures to offer relief to Florida homeowners. Attached is a list of the bills introduced thus far for consideration.

Other committees of interest included the House Workgroup on Affordable Housing which reviewed affordable housing recommendations, including a discussion on Portability, and the Senate Finance and Tax Committee which discussed current property tax reform efforts. As an Interim Report, the Florida Senate provided an analysis of how many states share state revenues and to what level those revenues are shared with

local governments. Florida is above the national average. A copy of the Interim Report will be forwarded to you under separate cover.

An update of Medicaid Reform was provided at several committee meetings and included information that Broward has enrolled approximately 77,594 in ten HMO organizations and five provider networks as of January 1st.

The House and Senate will be holding meetings on Property Tax Reform around the state. Two meetings that have been scheduled are as follows:

January 25th in Panama City
February 8th in Jacksonville.

Additionally, the Governor's Property Tax Reform Committee will be meeting in Broward County in the Commission Chambers on January 29th. Staff is compiling information to be presented to the Committee and a copy of the presentation will be forwarded to the Board next week.

Legislative Committees will meet again following the adjournment of special session on January 23rd.