



J. Mark Glass, Commissioner

Florida Department of

Florida Department of Law Enforcement



2025 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Session Summary

After one of the longest regular sessions in recent history, the Legislature adjourned on June 16 after approving a \$115 billion budget for FY 25/26. On June 30, the Governor vetoed \$600 million in spending and signed the budget, emphasizing fiscal restraint and aligning with his policy priorities. While the total state budget was reduced by \$3 billion, the department had another successful year receiving over \$28 million in additional funding to support FDLE operations and support our law enforcement partners. The budget included funds for a command vehicle, a 2% pay raise for all state employees, and an additional pay raise for our sworn members in eligible positions.

The department tracked over 225 pieces of legislation during the 2024 session and provided 147 bill analyses to policy makers. FDLE successfully passed two important pieces of legislation to streamline agency operations and help protect Florida's citizens and visitors. On June 10, 2025, Governor DeSantis signed HB 1351, the department's priority legislation relating to sexual offenders and predators. The legislation clarifies residency definitions and reporting requirements. It also requires local agencies to conduct address verifications of registrants not on supervision at least one time per year for sexual offenders, and at least four times per year for sexual predators.



Session Statistics

Session	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Bills Filed	3,685	1,828	1,902	1,959
Total Enrolled Bills (passed by both chambers)	285	356	325	269
Percentage of Enrolled Bills	7.7%	19.5%	17.1%	13.7%



New Funding Initiatives

- \$446,220 in general revenue funding and two FTE positions to further assist with sexual offender and predator enforcement efforts
- \$467,210 in general revenue funding for three FTE positions to expand the Office of Wellness \$5,280,970 in federal grants trust fund authority for five grants for drug investigations, criminal history records, firearms analysis, and other forensics services
- \$5,000,000 in general revenue funding for the new FMROC facility
- \$1,900,000 in general revenue funding to continue the upgrade of the Missing Endangered Person Information Clearinghouse application
- \$3,575,100 in general revenue funding for aviation operations and maintenance.
- \$500,000 in trust fund authority for maintenance contracts for laboratory equipment.
- \$460,951 in trust fund authority for contract renewals for critical CJIS systems.
- \$250,000 in trust fund authority to conduct a feasibility study for a statewide pawn data database

Substantive Legislation



SB 108 — Administrative Procedures Prohibits rules from expiring automatically unless explicitly authorized by law. Requires agencies to publish a notice of rule development within 30 days after a law takes effect, and mandates that rules be formally proposed within 180 days unless an explanation for delay is submitted and updated quarterly. Requires agencies to underline new text or strike through deleted text when updating their own incorporated documents. Mandates at least seven days between the notice of rule development and the notice of proposed rule. Broadens the scope of agency workshops. Authorizes agencies to adopt emergency rules under additional conditions, establishes procedures for renewing and publishing these rules. Creates a new rule review process requiring agencies to systematically review and evaluate existing rules, make necessary changes, and annually report progress to legislative leaders and the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee. Chapter No. 2025-189 and effective July 1, 2025.

HB 255 — Aggravated Animal Cruelty "Dexter's Law" requires FDLE to post on its website the names of certain individuals convicted of or pleading guilty or no contest to cruelty to animals under section 828.12. Provides a sentencing multiplier for specified offenses of aggravated animal cruelty, increasing the total sentence points by 25 percent. Chapter No. 2025-102 and effective July 1, 2025.

<u>HB 711 — Spectrum Alert</u> Requires FDLE, in cooperation with specified agencies, to establish & implement Spectrum Alert; develop training program & alert system for missing children with autism spectrum disorder which is compatible with existing alert systems; specifies requirements for training program. Chapter No. 2025-123 and effective July 1, 2025.

<u>HB 847 — Expedited DNA Testing Grant Program</u> Creates the Expedited DNA Testing Grant Program within FDLE; provides for annual award of grants; specifies uses of grants; requires annual report by each grant recipient;

& provides rulemaking authority. Chapter No. 2025-141 and effective July 1, 2025.

<u>HB 1121 — Unmanned Aircraft and Unmanned Aircraft Systems</u> Expands definitions and adds wired communications facilities to the list of critical infrastructure facilities. Allows drone operation over critical infrastructure if conducted for a commercial purpose. Increases the penalty for violating critical infrastructure drone prohibitions from a misdemeanor to a third-degree felony. Prohibits tampering with hardware or software to defeat federally mandated remote ID requirements, prescribing criminal penalties. Establishes new penalties for drones carrying weapons of mass destruction and further authorizes law enforcement to use drones to maintain public safety and the safety of elected officials in specified situations. Exempts state agencies, political subdivisions, or law enforcement acting in the course and scope of his or her employment. Chapter No. 2025-29 and effective October 1, 2025.

HB 1053 — Department of Law Enforcement Repeals the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council and the related Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account. Renames the Crimes Against Children Criminal Profiling Program to the Child Exploitation and Crimes Against Children Program and broadens its scope to include child exploitation. Revises the membership of Domestic Security Oversight Council and updates reporting requirements for domestic security efforts. Increases maximum annual reimbursement for retired police dog care from to \$5,000. Eliminates references to the Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee in protective service provisions, while preserving confidentiality protections for victims and witnesses. Chapter No. 2025-85 and effective July 1, 2025.



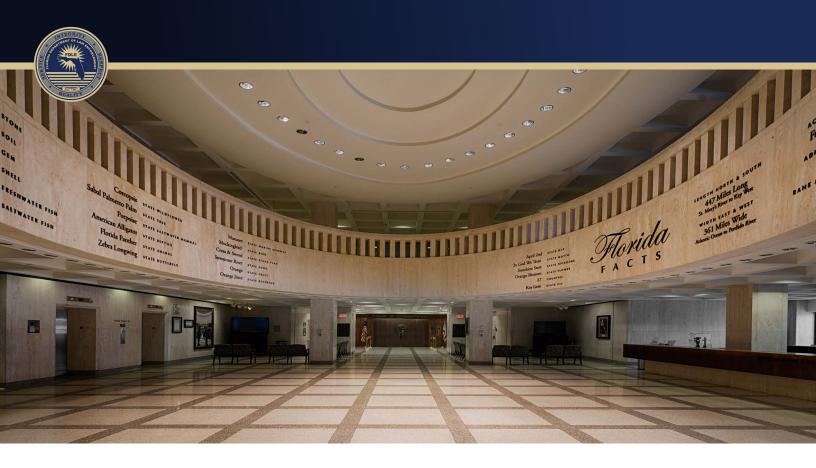
HB 1351 — Registration of Sexual Predators and Sexual Offenders Revises definitions of permanent, temporary, and transient residence to clarify where and how individuals must register, to include online reporting of in-state travel. Codifies the frequency of address verification for sexual predators (at least four times per year) and for sexual offenders (annually) who are not on supervision. Clarifies the scope of required information to include more detailed employment data, including occupation, business name, and new business creation if self-employed. Chapter No. 2025-134 and effective October 1, 2025.

HB 1359 — Feasibility Study Relating to Statewide Pawn Data Database Requires FDLE to conduct feasibility study regarding creating statewide pawn data database; requires report; provides that study is subject to specific appropriation. Chapter No. 2025-43 and effective July 1, 2025.

<u>HB 1371 — Law Enforcement Officers and Other Personnel</u>

Allows certified first responder amputees to continue serving if they meet certification requirements without accommodation. Creates the Florida Medal of Valor and Florida Blue/Red Heart Medal, specify eligibility and criteria, and establish a board to evaluate applications. Prohibit unauthorized use of remotely activated vehicle kill switches. Mandates a minimum 25-year prison sentence for attempted first-degree murder of specified justice system personnel. Requires monthly and annual reviews of missing person cases in state and national databases and specify timeframes for reporting to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System. Creates Critical Infrastructure Mapping Grant Program within FDLE. Requires detention facilities to develop written procedures for infectious disease testing of inmates, notify first responders of positive test results, and conduct immediate testing upon receiving notice of exposure. Chapter No. 2025-176 and effective July 1, 2025.

SB 1470 — School Safety Expands the school guardian program to child care facilities, revises training and cost requirements for security personnel, and enhances school safety standards and reporting obligations. Allows child care facilities to partner with law enforcement or security agencies to assign safe-school officers and adopt guardian program provisions, with the facility bearing full costs. Mandates a centralized panic alert system for schools and integration of digital maps to enhance law enforcement response, with confirmation that each school's alert system is connected to this statewide infrastructure. Chapter No. 2025-58 and effective July 1, 2025.



Other Legislation of Interest

HB 113 — Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Law Enforcement Officer

<u>HB 383 — Purchase and Possession of Firearms by Law Enforcement Officers,</u> Correctional Officers, Correctional Probation Officers, and Servicemembers

<u>HB 421 — Peer Support for First Responders</u>

HB 687 — Driving and Boating Offenses

HB 751 — Law Enforcement, Correctional, and Correctional Probation Officer Benefits

HB 1205 — Amendments to the State Constitution

HB 1237 — Human Trafficking Awareness

HB 1447 — Trespass

HB 1455 — Sexual Offenses by Persons Previously Convicted of Sexual Offenses

HB 7031 — Taxation

SB 1070 — Electrocardiograms for Student Athletes

SB 1374 — School District Reporting Requirements

SB 1388 — Vessels

