



The Florida Senate

Interim Project Summary 2001-015

November 2000

Committee on Ethics and Elections

Senator Burt L. Saunders, Chairman

SUSPENSION MANUAL REVISION

SUMMARY

The Florida Senate is constitutionally empowered to remove or reinstate certain state and county officers suspended by the Governor. The Senate suspension process is unique. The Executive Suspension Procedures Manual is designed to guide Senators, staff, attorneys, suspended officers, and the Governor on Senate procedures in these cases. While the practices and procedures in the Manual are not technically binding on the Senate, they provide valuable insight into how issues have historically been addressed and are likely to be handled in future suspension cases.

BACKGROUND

Frederick Karl and Dean Kane drafted the original Senate Suspension Manual in February of 1974. The Committee on Executive Business updated the Manual in 1986.

METHODOLOGY

Committee staff reviewed the 1986 version of the Manual; did legal research; revised and modified a number of forms; updated the journal citations for past suspensions; and, revised the text, where appropriate. Staff also discussed the proposed text revisions with Steve Kahn, Senate General Counsel.

FINDINGS

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2000 revised Executive Suspension Procedures Manual is available from the Florida Senate, upon request.

COMMITTEE(S) INVOLVED IN REPORT *(Contact first committee for more information.)*

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MEMBER OVERSIGHT

Senator Saunders