

The Florida Senate



1998 Interim Work Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STUDIES	1
Committee on Agriculture	1
Review the “Bill of Lading Program” of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/Department of Revenue	1
Committee on Banking and Insurance	1
Potential Impact of Mandating Bodily Injury Liability Insurance for Motor Vehicles	1
Privatization of Functions Within the Division of Workers’ Compensation	2
Rating Practices of Insurers Issuing Health Insurance Policies and Certificates to Individuals Eligible for Guaranteed Issuance of Coverage	3
Committee on Children, Families and Seniors	3
Role of the County Courts Under Chapter 916, F.S. (Forensic Services)	3
Structure and Services of the Department of Elderly Affairs	4
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities	5
An Effectiveness Review of Florida’s Economic Development Programs	5
An Effectiveness Review of Florida’s Job Training Programs	6
Review the Organizational Structure of Department of Labor and Employment Security	6
Committee on Community Affairs	7
Eminent Domain	7
Federal Communications Commission and Florida’s 911 Emergency Telephone System .	8
Committee on Criminal Justice	9
Creating a War on Drugs in Florida	9
Effectiveness Review of the Juvenile Justice System	9
Inmate Program and Work Assignments in the State Prison System	10
Review of the Public Defender Conflict System and Appellate Overload	11
Committee on Education	12
A Review of Public School Instructional Materials Including Technology	12
Community College Governance	13
Elementary School Student Progress, Implementation of Chapter 97-309, L.O.F.	14
Evaluate Joint-Use Educational Facilities Involving 2 or More Boards and Effectiveness of Current Facilities Designed for Joint-Use	14
Readiness for School	15
Committee on Executive Business, Ethics and Elections	16
A Review of Conflicting Statutory Provisions That Relate to Appointments Requiring Senate Confirmation	16
A Review of Selected Provisions of the Ethics Laws	16
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight	17
Consolidating Administrative Functions of State Agencies	17
Florida Retirement System (FRS)	18
Model Contracted Services Corporation	18
Structural Alternatives to the Existing Career Service System in Light of Changing Employment Trends	19
Review the Role of a State Central Services Agency in a Decentralized Environment . .	20
Committee on Health Care	20

Protection from Eviction for Medicaid Nursing Home Residents	20
Review Costs and Policy Implications of Instituting a State-Sponsored Adult Heart Transplant Program	21
Study Ways to Maximize Funding for Child and Adolescent Health Care Including School Health Services	22
Committee on Judiciary	22
Efficacy and Practicality of Centralized Filing and Recording of Judgment Liens in Florida	22
Implementation of Article V. Cost Shifting	23
Intangible Taxation of Trust Assets in Florida	24
Is Florida Becoming a Debtor's Haven? A Review of Law on Exemptions from Creditors' Remedies	25
Review of Law on Easements of Necessity	25
Utilization of Judicial Resources	26
Committee on Natural Resources	27
Extension of the Bond-Funded Conservation and Recreational Land Acquisition Program	27
Review the Operations of the Department of Environmental Protection	28
Committee on Regulated Industries	28
Funeral and Cemetery Regulation	28
Privatization of Department of Business and Professional Regulation Functions	29
Telecommunications	30
Committee on Rules and Calendar	30
Committee Chairman's Operating Manual	30
Senate Committee Operations Manual	31
Local Bill Process	32
Senate Page Program	32
Update Senate Operations Manual (Member District)	33
Committee on Transportation	33
Alternative Fuel Vehicles	33
Clean Air Act Mobile Sources	34
Examination of the Process for Evaluating and Selecting Products to be Placed on the Department of Transportation Qualified Products List	34
Road Rage	35
Committee on Ways and Means	35
Develop Grant Application Process for Economic Development Projects Including Festivals, Health and Human Services Projects, Criminal Justice Projects, and Multi-Purpose Capital Projects	35
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A	36
Florida Recreation and Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Criteria Update ..	36
State Lands Management and Development Cost	37
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B	38
Class Size Reduction	38
Evaluation of Community College Funding	39
Funding for Private Postsecondary Education Institutions	39

Reduction of School District Administrative Overhead Expenditures	40
State University System Funding Model Revisions	41
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C	42
Comparative Analysis of Eligibility Criteria and Monetary Benefits provided by Foster Care, Subsidized Adoption, and WAGES Programs	42
Study of Medical Education in the State of Florida	43
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D	44
Improving the Cost-Effectiveness of Mandatory Background Checks	44
Improving Collection of Fines, Fees and Forfeitures	45
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E	45
Effectiveness of Enterprise Zone Tax Exemptions	45
Effects on State Revenues of Reducing the Statute of Limitations for Taxpayer Audits	46
Impact of the International Registration Plan on Diesel Fuel Sales in Florida	47

MONITORING PROJECTS 48

Committee on Agriculture	48
Implementation of Timber Management as Provided in CS/HB 3671	48
Transfer of Aquaculture Industry Regulations to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as Provided in CS/HB 3673	48
Committee on Banking and Insurance	49
Financial Exposure of the Residual Property Insurance Market (Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association & Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association)	49
Financial Status Condition of the Florida Workers' Compensation Insurance Guaranty Association	49
Committee on Children, Families and Seniors	50
Comprehensive Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	50
Comprehensive Plan for Developmental Services	51
Drug Screening and Testing Pilot Project in JEP Regions 3 and 8	52
Privatization of Foster Care and Related Services	52
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities	53
A Review of the WAGES Program Employment Projects authorized in SB 1114	53
Committee on Community Affairs	53
Governor's Committee on the State Comprehensive Plan and State Land Development Plan	53
Statewide Unified Building Code	54
Transportation and Land Use Study Committee	55
Committee on Criminal Justice	55
Correctional Privatization - Status of RFP's and Tax Litigation	55
The Current Status of Jail Inspections in Florida	56
Implementation of Cost Effectiveness of Juvenile Justice Commitment Programs	57
Revisions to Florida's Laws on Sexual Predator and Sexual Offender Registration and Notification	57
Committee on Education	58
Charter School Performance Evaluation	58

Deregulated Public Schools	58
Evaluation of the Delivery Methodology of Postsecondary Education in Florida	59
Excellent Teaching Implementation Monitoring Activities	59
Implementation of High School Graduation Requirements (CS/SB 706)	60
Implementation of Workforce Development Legislation	60
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight	61
Administrative Rules Issues Not Addressed by 1998 Legislature	61
Committee on Health Care	62
Implementation of the Florida Kidcare Program	62
Federal Actions Relating to the Confidentiality of Patient Information	62
Committee on Judiciary	63
Statewide Child Support Case Registry and the State Dispersement Unit	63
Weighted Caseload Methods of Assessing Judicial Workload	64
Committee on Natural Resources	64
Project Funding Activities Related to the New Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program	64
Implementation of Brownfields Legislation	65
Staff Support for the Joint Committee on Legislative Oversight of the Everglades Construction Project	65
Committee on Transportation	66
Innovative Contracting Methods Being Tested by the Department of Transportation ..	66
High Speed Rail Project and Expenditures	66
Impact of the Increased State Funding for Ports	67
Provision of Transportation Services in the WAGES Program	67
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A	68
Implementation of Residential Mitigation Program in the Department of Community Affairs	68
Department of Revenue's Implementation of the System for Unified Taxation (SUNTAX)	68
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B	69
Board of Regents Update to the 5-year Master Plan	69
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C	69
Medicaid Case-Mix Reimbursement Methodology for Nursing Home Care	69
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D	70
Correctional Privatization Commission Invitation to Bid Process	70
Department of Corrections Security Enhancements	71
Department of Juvenile Justice Prevention Grant Awards	71
Juvenile Justice Information System Development	72
State Attorney, Public Defender Uniform Quarterly Workload Reports	72
State Court System and Public Defender Indigency Examiners	73
State Court System Uniform Chart of Accounts	74
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E	74
Florida Residents' Tax Relief Act of 1998	74
MANDATORY REVIEWS	76

Committee on Agriculture	76
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Performance-Based Budgeting	76
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities	76
A Review of the State of Florida’s Foreign Offices (s. 288.012, F.S.)	76
Committee on Health Care	77
Department of Health/PB ²	77
Committee on Natural Resources	77
Review of S. 376.3073(7), F.S., Which Is Scheduled for Repeal on October 1, 1999. . .	77
Committee on Regulated Industries	78
Performance-Based Budgeting: Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Department of the Lottery, and the Public Service Commission	78
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A	79
Performance Based Budgeting - Performance Measure Development	79
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C	80
Participate in the Review and Analysis of Performance Based Budget Outcomes	80
Participate in Developing Measures for Performance Based Budgeting in the Department of Elder Affairs	80
CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION IMPLEMENTATION STUDIES	82
Constitutional Revision Commission Proposals	82
Conservation of Natural Resources and Creation of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	82
Public Education of Children	82
Local Option for Selection of Judges and Funding of State Courts	83
Restructuring the State Cabinet	83
Basic Rights	84
Local and Municipal Property Tax Exemptions and Citizen Access to Local Officials	84
Ballot Access, Public Campaign Financing and Election Process Revisions	84
Firearms Purchases: Local Option for Criminal History Records Check and Waiting Period	85
Miscellaneous Matters and Technical Revisions	85
Legislative Proposals	86
Homestead Exemption/age 65 or Older	86
Death Penalty Execution Method	86
Recording of Instruments/County Seat	87

STUDIES

Committee on Agriculture

Review the “Bill of Lading Program” of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/Department of Revenue

Objective(s):

Review the “Bill of Lading Program” conducted cooperatively by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Revenue to determine if modifications are needed to promote efficiency of operation.

Background:

The program was initiated in 1993 by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in cooperation with the Department of Revenue. The department began collecting Bills of Lading during the agricultural officers’ routine inspection as a way of checking for unpaid sales tax at Road Guard Stations, which are strategically located at the natural barriers within the state. The program serves as a second line of defense for verifying that the state is collecting all of the sales and use tax it is entitled to.

Methodology:

Interviews will be conducted with staff of the two departments involved in the program. Site tours will be made to observe the program operation.

Participants:

Committee on Agriculture (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

Member Oversight:

Senator Bronson
Senator Laurent

Committee on Banking and Insurance

Potential Impact of Mandating Bodily Injury Liability Insurance for Motor Vehicles

Objective(s):

To determine the effects, primarily on automobile insurance rates, if the Legislature mandated bodily injury liability insurance for motor vehicles. Also, to re-examine the intended and actual effects of the current law that, instead, requires all vehicle registrants to maintain personal injury protection (no-fault) coverage. (Note: This project is not necessarily intended to result in proposed legislation. The study may indicate that the current law should not be changed.)

Background:

In the mid-1970's, Florida repealed mandatory liability insurance for motor vehicles and enacted a No-Fault law that requires all vehicle registrants to maintain personal injury protection (PIP) insurance. In general, a person injured in a motor vehicle accident must look to his or her own PIP insurance for compensation for non-permanent injuries on a no-fault basis, and may not sue the at-fault party for non-economic damages. This was perceived as a more efficient, less costly, method of compensation for the system as a whole, which would reduce premiums and increase compensation. However, some legislators and members of the general public have advocated that all drivers should be required to obtain bodily injury liability insurance.

Methodology:

Analyzing the premiums for auto insurance in Florida; percentage changes over a course of years; rate comparisons with other states; the types of auto insurance laws in other states; past Florida legislation and records indicating intent and policy considerations of current law; other studies that have analyzed Florida's auto insurance laws and other states' laws; case law effecting this issue; and current methods of enforcing mandatory auto insurance laws.

Participants:

Committee on Banking and Insurance (Lead)
Committee on Transportation

Member Oversight:

Senator Diaz-Balart
Senator Rossin

Privatization of Functions Within the Division of Workers' Compensation

Objective(s):

To determine whether specific functions/programs provided by the division would be more cost-effective and efficient for the state, employers, carriers, and injured workers if the services were privatized and assumed by the private sector.

Background:

Presently, the functions within the division are primarily funded through an assessment on carriers/employers. Concerns have been raised by employers/carriers and some legislators regarding the efficacy of the division's current operations.

Methodology:

Evaluate the current statutory responsibilities of the division and how the division has implemented these duties and determine the feasibility of privatizing functions/programs of the division.

Participants:

Banking and Insurance (Lead)
Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Member Oversight:

Senator Clary
Senator Gutman

***Rating Practices of Insurers Issuing Health Insurance Policies and
Certificates to Individuals Eligible for Guaranteed Issuance of Coverage***

Objective(s):

To determine whether legislation is needed regarding health insurers' rating practices to assure that insurers are not effectively avoiding the requirements of state and federal law to guaranty-issue coverage to eligible individuals.

Background:

In 1997, Florida enacted legislation (Ch. 97-102) to conform to 1996 federal legislation (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) which guarantees access to health insurance for eligible individuals. Concerns have been raised that insurers may be segregating those policies issued on a guaranteed-issue basis and imposing surcharges or otherwise charging significantly higher rates for persons with identified health problems, which may be unaffordable to many insureds.

Methodology:

To analyze rating practices of insurers through information obtained from rate filings made with the Department of Insurance and further requests for information from insurers writing individual health insurance policies and certificates of coverage in Florida. The rating laws of Florida would be compared to the rating laws of other states and relevant studies on this subject would be reviewed.

Participants:

Committee on Banking and Insurance

Member Oversight:

Senator Holzendorf
Senator Forman

Committee on Children, Families and Seniors

Role of the County Courts Under Chapter 916, F.S. (Forensic Services)

Objective(s):

To define the role of the county court in the placement of persons who commit misdemeanors and are

diagnosed with a mental illness in the most appropriate treatment setting and to propose necessary statutory revisions. To determine if these placement difficulties under chapter 916, F.S., also include persons with developmental disabilities who commit misdemeanors.

Background:

A Supreme Court opinion was issued on April 24, 1997, that substantially reduced the number of persons with mental illness who commit misdemeanors and are placed by the county courts in Florida's secure forensic units. The Supreme Court ruling states that only a circuit court as defined in s. 916.106(2), F.S., may commit a person to the Department of Children and Family Services for services under chapter 916, F.S. Section 34.01(1), F.S., specifies that county courts have original jurisdiction in all misdemeanor cases that are not cognizable by the circuit courts. The department usually admits those defendants charged with a misdemeanor to a state civil treatment facility. It is believed that there are a number of persons with mental illness in Florida's communities who commit misdemeanors for whom county courts are not able to access the appropriate treatment and support services.

Methodology:

Conduct a survey of county court judges and agencies and groups such as the Department of Children and Family Services, public defenders, jail administrators, community mental health forensic providers, and state attorneys to determine the problems associated with the provision of appropriate mental health treatment services to persons with mental illness who commit misdemeanors. Obtain input from these key informants through a public meeting with members and Committee Staff. Discuss with national forensic consultants the extent of this problem in other states and their programs and services.

Participants:

Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors, (Lead)
Committee on Criminal Justice
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Member Oversight:

Senator Rossin
Senator Grant

Structure and Services of the Department of Elderly Affairs

Project Objective(s):

The objective of this study will be either (a) legislation moving all or some adult services from the Department of Children and Family Services to the Department of Elderly Affairs or (b) a report indicating why option (a) is not feasible or desirable.

Background:

When the Department of Elderly Affairs (DOEA) was created in 1991, a number of programs relating

to aging and adult services were not made a part of that agency and remained in the Department of Children and Family Services (formerly the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services). Since 1991, the Legislature has moved several additional aging programs to DOEA but declined to move other programs that are either not targeted to the aging population or apparently require a greater substate structure than exists in DOEA. In 1998, Senator Campbell filed legislation which would have moved virtually all services remaining at the Department of Children and Family Services to the Department of Elderly Affairs. This bill, though later withdrawn, raised many issues regarding the cost and practicality of such a move. For this reason, we believe a study into this concept is important.

Methodology:

Committee staff will work with staff from Governmental Reform and Oversight, as well as Ways and Means, to assess the advisability of additional program transfers. The House may be working on a similar project in the interim and information necessary for this project could be gathered jointly. It is contemplated that this project will involve meetings with division directors of the two affected departments but will probably not involve field research or public hearings to any degree.

Participants:

Committee on Children, Families and Seniors (Lead)
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Campbell
Senator Forman

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

An Effectiveness Review of Florida's Economic Development Programs

Objective(s):

To evaluate the expenditure of state funds in the promotion of economic development. This project would evaluate the progress made in the transition from the Department of Commerce to reliance on public/private partnerships (Enterprise Florida, Inc., The Florida Commission on Tourism, etc.).¹

Background:

In 1996, the Department of Commerce was transitioned into a series of public/private partnerships including Enterprise Florida, Inc. and the Tourism Commission. OPPAGA is under direction to complete a major look at Enterprise Florida this year. The 1998 Legislature also allowed the Enterprise Bond program of EFI to expire. Major changes in the responsibilities of Enterprise Florida have take shape in the past few years, including the new duties under SB 1114 (WAGES Program Employment Projects).

Methodology:

The project would assume cooperation with OPPAGA's scheduled review of Enterprise Florida, Inc. and would examine all state appropriations and other funding of Florida's economic development efforts since the dissolution of the Department of Commerce.

Participants:

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead
Senator Klein

An Effectiveness Review of Florida's Job Training Programs

Objective(s):

To evaluate the current effectiveness of the job training programs in Florida.

Background:

In 1997, the Legislature funded two pilot job training programs that provided grants directly to businesses or business associations to train workers. This was done to provide the Legislature with adequate data to evaluate the effectiveness of having private business or business associations doing their own training with state dollars. The argument was made by businesses testifying during the original JOBS week in the Florida Senate that private business could train more workers more quickly and that the quality of trained the workers produced through such training would be far superior to those trained through the state's more traditional methods.

Methodology:

Evaluate the 8+ projects and compare them to traditional efforts. In addition, the training programs would be reexamined to determine where efficiency and effectiveness could be improved.

Participants:

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities, (Lead)
Committee on Education
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Horne
Senator Kirkpatrick

Review the Organizational Structure of Department of Labor and Employment Security

Objectives(s):

The project will build upon the joint House/Senate 1998 project evaluating Department of Labor and

Employment Security. With major changes taking place in the Division of Safety and the Division of Jobs and Benefits as a result of the 1998 Legislative session, the current organizational structure of the department will be reviewed and the functions evaluated for current usefulness.

Background:

There has been some discussion that some functions of the Department of Labor and Employment Security would be better done by contract with private entities. Other functions seem to be well placed in the department. This review would allow the Senate to take a rigorous look at the current organizational structure of the department.

Methodology:

Most of the functions of the Department of Labor and Employment Security are performed in all states. This project would look to those practices in other jurisdictions which would indicate how services may be provided in a more efficient or effective manner. The possibility of privatizing functions would also be examined.

Participants:

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities, (Lead)
Committee on Banking and Insurance
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Burt
Senator Jones

Committee on Community Affairs

Eminent Domain

Objective(s):

To review the impact of Florida Eminent Domain Law on Business and property owners directly impacted by a taking of property or access. To examine the impact of proposed changes on the ability to provide public services.

Background:

When the government builds or expands projects such as roads, intermodal facilities, schools, parks, environmental mitigation, etc., it is often necessary to condemn property. These condemnations impact businesses and residents whether they own or lease the property taken. The cost to government to condemn property impacts the ability of government to provide needed services and impacts the cost of those services.

Methodology:

Examine the impacts of current law on property owners, businesses, and residents and on governments ability to provide services. Additionally, examine the laws of other states for innovative ways to address the impacts and the cost of the acquisition of property.

Participants:

Committee on Community Affairs, (Lead)
Committee on Agriculture
Committee on Judiciary
Committee on Natural Resources
Committee on Transportation

Member Oversight:

Senator McKay
Senator Brown-Waite

Federal Communications Commission and Florida's 911 Emergency Telephone System

Objective(s):

To identify Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requirements for upgrading Florida's 9-1-1 emergency telephone system to implement wireless site identification technology; review the current status of technology in relation to these requirements; identify the potential implementation and operating costs; review recent negotiations between the counties and the telephone and wireless industry; identify funding sources to pay for the required upgrades; and develop recommendations to implement the required upgrades.

Background:

Recent rulings by the FCC will require counties and wireless phone companies to make numerous policy changes and resulting upgrades in technology to accommodate the increase in wireless calls made to 9-1-1 from cellular telephones. Current revenues for financing 9-1-1 services appear to be inadequate to fund the implementation of these new requirements.

Methodology:

Obtain FCC material specifying new requirements of 9-1-1 providers; obtain input from the Department of Management Services, the Florida Association of Counties, wireless providers, and other interested entities; and conduct a public hearing to receive information related to FCC requirements and strategies to implement these requirements.

Participants:

Committee on Community Affairs, (Lead)
Committee on Regulated Industries

Member Oversight:
Senator Dyer
Senator Meadows

Committee on Criminal Justice

Creating a War on Drugs in Florida

Objective(s):

To determine if measurable goals can be developed for curtailing drug abuse in Florida. To determine how various drug control strategies or programs may or may not achieve these goals.

Background:

Strategies and programs to curtail drug abuse in Florida are numerous, but it is unclear if measurable state goals for curtailing drug abuse exist, and if so, how these strategies and programs achieve state goals.

Methodology:

Meet with officials in the Department of Law Enforcement, Department of Education, and the Department of Community Affairs, and with sheriffs, police chiefs and other parties to discuss and identify: current state and local government-sector programs to reduce drug abuse and the effectiveness of these programs; other programs, not currently in use in Florida, which may be effective in reducing drug abuse in Florida; goals for reducing drug abuse in Florida, measures for determining whether those goals have been met, and drug-control strategies in relation to these measurable goals.

Participants:

Committee on Criminal Justice (Lead)
Committee on Education
Committee on Community Affairs
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Member Oversight:

Senator Burt
Senator Silver

Effectiveness Review of the Juvenile Justice System

Objective(s):

Determine whether Florida is doing all that it can to reduce juvenile crime and prevent recidivism.

Background:

The Criminal Justice Committee conducted an interim project in 1997-98 relating to the cost effectiveness of juvenile justice commitment programs, which resulted in legislation requiring the JJAB and the DJJ, along with EDR and contract providers, to develop standard methodology for interpreting the outcome evaluation report and integrating it into the cost-effectiveness model which

is used to measure the effectiveness of commitment programs. It is important to continue to review the progress and efficiency that these programs have on reducing juvenile crime and preventing recidivism.

Methodology:

Review and compare Florida's recidivism rates with other states' recidivism rates. Review alternative strategies to combat juvenile crime. Meet with the DJJ, as well as other interested parties who are involved with the juvenile justice system.

Participants:

Committee on Criminal Justice (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Member Oversight:

Senator Gutman
Senator Turner

Inmate Program and Work Assignments in the State Prison System

Objective(s):

Compare and contrast the types of programs that are operating in prisons across the state. Compare program participation in prisons with amount spent on such programs to determine whether the state is getting what it paid for. Determine the type of programs in prisons and whether there are enough work assignments available to meet the need for such assignments. Determine which programs are funded and whether such funding is adequate to meet the inmate demand.

Background:

This is always an issue of debate in the Legislature: What do prisoners do while they are in prison? Are prisoners learning anything so they will be different when they come out? What type of programs seem to work the best at promoting public safety and reducing inmate idleness. What can inmate work programs do to help the public?

Methodology:

Look at the availability of the programs and work assignments in the prison system. Compare the programs and work assignments with the demand. Look at how the Department of Corrections determines the need for a program assignment and how an inmates progress or performance is monitored and evaluated. Determine what types of changes the Department has made in the last 5 years in this area, why changes were made, and what have been the results of the changes. Attend meetings and seminars conducted by the Department of Corrections, the Corrections Commission, the Correctional Privatization Commission on the subject of inmate programs and work assignments.

Participants

Committee on Criminal Justice (Lead)
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Bronson
Senator Klein

Review of the Public Defender Conflict System and Appellate Overload

Objective(s):

A report analyzing the public defender conflict system and suggesting possible reform alternatives. Draft of a proposed committee bill, if appropriate.

Background:

In a recent Florida Supreme Court opinion, Justice Overton “strongly recommended” the Legislature change the public defender conflict-appointment system to allow neighboring public defenders to handle one another’s conflicts. The counties would be relieved of the attorney’s expenses, but they would be required to provide office facilities, under such a proposal. In CS/SB 1328, the 1998 Legislature created the Commission on Legislative Reform of Judicial Administration to study such a proposal as well as the Tenth Judicial Circuit Public Defender’s handling of its appellate workload. This project is designed to monitor the work of the commission, produce a report, and, if appropriate, a proposed committee bill.

Methodology:

Staff anticipates employing the following techniques to gather information: informal meetings with involved parties; monitoring the work of the commission on Legislative Reform of Judicial Administration; and contacting other states.

Participants:

Committee on Criminal Justice, (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D
Committee on Judiciary
Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations
Commission on Legislative Reform of Judicial Administration (created in CS/SB 1328)

Member Oversight:

Senator Campbell
Senator Meadows

Committee on Education

A Review of Public School Instructional Materials Including Technology

Objective(s):

This project will (1) examine and categorize current school district expenditures for instructional materials, (2) determine what policies currently guide school district acquisition of instructional materials and (3) produce a proposed committee bill establishing state policies for the purchase of instructional materials.

Background:

Districts have great latitude with regard to expenditures for instructional materials. Although it is sometimes reported that parents complain that their children are not given textbooks to use, no data are currently collected that would permit an evaluation of the sufficiency of districts' textbook supplies. Little is known about school districts' instructional materials purchases. Further, little is known about the extent to which individual teachers or school districts collectively emphasize use of textbooks more than they emphasize use of other instructional materials.

The rapidly expanding role of technology in the classroom calls into question the reliance on hard cover textbooks and raises the following questions: Are texts an educational anachronism? Should districts emphasize source materials, workbooks and computer software over hard cover texts? Can educators agree on an appropriate mix of instructional materials for students attending school now and for the next five to ten years? Should state policy more clearly guide and direct district spending decisions for instructional materials?

Actual spending decisions are a true reflection of district priorities. For that reason, examination of actual district purchases is a principal element of this project. The project will examine actual spending decisions for a limited number of districts (probably one small, one medium and one large district). Those districts will be asked to provide information for all instructional materials purchased during the past year and an assumption will be made that those purchases are indicative of purchases made by other districts.

Methodology:

The review of school district instructional materials policies and expenditures will be accomplished through site visits.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Grant

Community College Governance

Objectives:

Examine the governance structure of the State Community College System to assess:

- Structure adequacy to deal with the increased demands of the expanding workforce development mission.
- Relationship of community college governance structure to that of the university governance structure in view of joint-use proposals and expanding the community colleges role in meeting the increasing pressure for student access to postsecondary education.
- The adequacy of the federation model of the current community college system to meet the rapid changing demands of 21st century postsecondary education.

Background:

Recent enactments of major new programs like workforce development coupled with the growing demand for postsecondary education have created a need for a re-examination of the governance structure of community colleges, as well as, the state community college system. These new forces are threatening to change the historic mission of the colleges, one that has been in place for more than forty years. Before this occurs, the situation should be examined and options proposed for changing the governance structure so it is better able to adjust to the changing needs of the public it serves.

Methodology:

- Examine the current community college system governance structure and compare it to models from other states from the perspective of relationships with university systems and addressing public education needs.
- Develop estimates of the impact of workforce development of the present community college structure.
- Review the feasibility of postsecondary access proposals in view to the current community college governance structure's ability to deal with them.
- Examine the fiscal impact of various proposals for changes in governance structure.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B

Member Oversight:

Senator Burt
Senator Kurth

Elementary School Student Progress, Implementation of Chapter 97-309, L.O.F.

Objective(s):

To determine the effects of intensive reading instruction and retention in grade for students who do not progress, and the effects on high performing students of the increased emphasis on low-performing students.

Background:

The 1997 Legislature enacted chapter 97-309, L.O.F., requiring students who experience difficulty reading in grades 1, 2, and 3, to be given intensive reading instruction. If the student's reading deficiency is not remedied by the end of grade 2 or grade 3, the student must be retained.

Methodology:

Working with the Department of Education, examine data regarding intensive reading instruction and retention in grade in elementary schools in selected districts. Examine data regarding expenditures and activities for high achieving students. Conduct interviews in selected school districts to determine the effect chapter 97-309 on the achievement of elementary school students.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Lee
Senator Meadows

Evaluate Joint-Use Educational Facilities Involving 2 or More Boards and Effectiveness of Current Facilities Designed for Joint-Use

Objective(s):

Determine if the existing law (s. 235.195, F.S.) needs to be amended.

Background:

A number of joint-use projects were proposed to be funded in the 1998-99 General Appropriations Bills of each house. Many of these had not received the necessary review or approval of the boards required by s. 235.195, F.S. If these projects continue to be requested, the conditions specified in the law need to be evaluated for relevance.

Methodology:

Evaluate existing joint-use facilities to determine if they are accomplishing the goals identified in s. 235.195, F.S. for joint-use. Work with the Department of Education, State Board of Community Colleges and Board of Regents to determine whether changes should be made in the law. Changes to the law may have a fiscal impact which would involve both Public Education Capital Outlay funds and local capital outlay funds. Therefore, any proposed changes should be evaluated for fiscal impact.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B

Member Oversight:

Senator Horne
Senator Kurth

Readiness for School

Objective(s):

Identify and analyze the issues relating to children's readiness for school and propose a statewide system for school readiness.

Background:

In the 1998 Session, school readiness was a major issue that was not resolved. Both houses of the Legislature proposed major legislation to create a system for preparing children for school. The proposed systems varied in several major ways: whether standards would be statewide or locally determined, how the system would be governed, and what roles school districts, central agencies for child care, and public and private providers of child care would play. The issue of readiness will return in the 1999 Session.

Methodology:

Inventory the way school readiness is measured in Florida school districts and in other states. Analyze the way readiness programs are delivered by public and private providers of preschool programs and child care. Observe the roles of various local coordinating bodies such as children's services councils, district interagency councils, etc. Examine program delivery and coordination models from other states. Work with the Department of Education to monitor the allocation of the \$ 5 million appropriated for coalition incentive grants and analyze the proposals and activities of the local coalitions. After gathering the information listed above, propose a system for school readiness.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittees B and C

Member Oversight:
Senator Holzendorf
Senator Kirkpatrick

Committee on Executive Business, Ethics and Elections

A Review of Conflicting Statutory Provisions That Relate to Appointments Requiring Senate Confirmation

Objective(s):

Develop legislation that will correct any inconsistencies in the statutes that relate to the provisions that establish qualifications and terms for the various appointees who are being considered for Senate confirmation.

Background:

The Boards that are established statutorily and which require members to be confirmed by the Senate have provisions that are not consistent in certain sections, specifically as they relate to the appointees' qualifications and terms. Boards that require confirmation have been shifted between various departments and qualifications and terms of members have been revised throughout the years. These revisions are sometimes not within the same statute that established the board and, in some instances, conflicting provisions exist for the same board. A thorough examination of the statutes regulating each board will help improve the appointment process.

Methodology:

Staff will compile a list of all statutes that relate to Senate confirmation of various board appointments and cross check the provisions to identify non-conforming language. Staff will make recommendations to correct the inconsistencies.

Participants:

Committee on Executive Business, Ethics and Elections (Lead)

Member Oversight:

Senator Clary
Senator Geller

A Review of Selected Provisions of the Ethics Laws

Objective(s):

To review and make recommendations regarding various provisions in Florida's Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees.

Background:

The current provisions of Florida's ethics laws contain ambiguities and inconsistencies as a result of amendments to the Code of Ethics over the years. In addition, there are a number of issues involving financial disclosure requirements, gift reporting, overlapping agency jurisdiction, voting conflicts, and related businesses activities of reporting officials. The Commission on Ethics has recommended that the legislature review these issues and provisions and make recommendations to improve the laws.

Methodology:

Staff will use issues highlighted in the House Concurrent Resolution 4829 as a road map to reviewing the State's ethics laws (see, HER 4829, s. 3 [1998]). Staff will review the provisions of current Florida law and identify those which can be improved or which require changes. Staff will also survey and review the ethics laws from a number of other states in order to develop sound recommendations for modifications to Florida law.

Participants:

Committee on Executive Business, Ethics and Elections
Ethics Commission

Member Oversight:

Senator Lee
Senator Dyer

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight

Consolidating Administrative Functions of State Agencies

Objective(s):

Develop implementing legislation for current OPPAGA study on the consolidation of administrative services functions individually embedded in each state agency.

Background:

The OPPAGA is undertaking a study on the potential for state agency consolidation of administrative support functions such as voucher processing, payroll and personnel which are currently individual structured and budgeted. The result is a duplication of personnel and services across these organizations. The concept of centralizing administrative function among agencies and the establishment of hubs for these services has the potential to reduce cost for personnel and related expenses, while at the same time, improving the quality of the service delivered.

Methodology:

Develop legislation to implement findings and recommendations of the ongoing OPPAGA study.

Participants:

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead
Senator Kirkpatrick

Florida Retirement System (FRS)

Objective(s):

- To determine the relevance of the present assumptions incorporated in valuing the Florida Retirement System in light of patterns regarding employee recruitment, retention, and retirement.
- To consider the investment and economic market in which the Florida Retirement System and similarly constituted systems operate.
- To consider the influences of domestic and global economic conditions and their effect with regard to investment performance, workforce conditions, and salary trends.

Background:

Section 18 of House Bill 3491 permitted each presiding officer to appoint legislative members to assist in the examination of the building blocks of the state pension plan. This informal working group would work with the existing advisory panel members to review the relevance of the assumptions used in the design of the present retirement system. Additionally, many other states have undergone pension reform [Michigan, Washington State, West Virginia, Colorado, South Dakota, and California] in which various new choices and features have been added to their prototype plans. The study will also review the relevance of providing such additional choice options for the current and prospective workforce.

Methodology:

A staff report will provide substantive information and findings to be reported to committee members.

Participants:

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Member Oversight:

Senator Williams
Senator Burt

Model Contracted Services Corporation

Objective(s):

To establish uniform standards, if appropriate, for public/private corporations and other legislatively-created entities.

Background:

Over the years, a variety of public/private entities have been created by the Legislature, such as, Enterprise Florida, Inc., direct-support organizations, and others. These entities often perform public functions.

Methodology:

Review the various entities that have been authorized by, or created in, statute. Determine what issues should be considered when authorizing or creating those entities. Create standards, possibly including options for each type of entity.

Participants:

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight (Lead)
Committee on Education
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B

Member Oversight:

Senator Scott
Senator Kurth

*Structural Alternatives to the Existing Career Service System in
Light of Changing Employment Trends*

Objective(s):

Identify alternative organizational means for managing a large and diverse workforce in light of changing trends in employment, recruitment, and compensation affecting large public and private employers. Specifically, the project will attempt to examine progressive supervisory systems for managers; identify the optimum combination of internal and external workforces; examine existing recruitment, retention, and promotion systems; and the relevance of performance-based contractual and compensation systems.

Background:

Flexibility has been the key word used to describe management and employee workforce needs for the future. Existing public systems focus primarily upon rigidity and inflexibility in the way people are recruited and retained as well as in the manner in which work is performed. Our civil service system provides wide scale protection for many jobs whose nature has dramatically changed in recent years.

Methodology:

Research from existing journal publications, interviews with state agency heads, and review of work product from Workforce 2000 Commission from 1997-98.

Participants:

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Diaz-Balart
Senator Rossin

Review the Role of a State Central Services Agency in a Decentralized Environment

Objective(s):

To determine what services the Department of Management Services (DMS) currently provides that can be done better, more efficiently, or more cost-effectively by another government entity through privatization; to determine what services could be eliminated and can DMS be downsized to a target figure of 200 employees; and to determine if “Smart Schools Clearinghouse” should be transferred under the authority of the Department of Education.

Background:

In the spirit of the Legislature’s intent to develop methods streamlining government, Senator Clary has requested an interim study regarding the reassignment of statutory duties of DMS.

Methodology:

Use PB2 studies from last two years to clarify and determine what functions or services provided by DMS are currently being provided elsewhere in state government.

Participants:

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A
OPPAGA

Member Participation:

Senator Williams
Senator Turner

Committee on Health Care

Protection from Eviction for Medicaid Nursing Home Residents

Objective(s):

Determine if additional laws are needed to protect Medicaid nursing home residents from being evicted and draft legislation for the 1999 session, if needed. The project report will identify existing laws and regulations related to this issue.

Background:

During the 1998 Session a nursing home in the Tampa area notified its Medicaid nursing home residents that they would have to move to other nursing homes due to proposed remodeling of the facility. At the same time, executives of the parent company announced the company’s intent to no longer serve Medicaid recipients. Changing a frail elderly person’s nursing home placement can be dangerous to the elderly person’s health and can make it more difficult, or impossible, for families to participate in the care of their relatives.

Methodology:

Review of state and federal laws and regulations regarding eviction of Medicaid nursing home residents. Review recent cases where Medicaid nursing home residents have been evicted or given notice of eviction and the actions taken by state and federal regulatory agencies. Conduct public hearings in areas of the state where there have been problems.

Participants:

Committee on Health Care (Lead)
Committee on Children, Families and Seniors
Committee on Judiciary

Member Oversight:

Senator Brown-Waite
Senator Silver

***Review Costs and Policy Implications of Instituting a State-Sponsored
Adult Heart Transplant Program***

Objective(s):

As directed by CS/SB 570, to analyze the short and long term public policy and cost implications of implementing a state-sponsored adult heart transplant program, either through Medicaid or on a non-Medicaid basis. The project will result in a report with findings regarding the funding, public policy implications, and service parameters of a state-sponsored adult heart transplant program.

Background:

The 1997 Legislature directed the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement through Medicaid an adult heart transplant program for a limited number of patients. These transplants were to be rendered by in-state hospitals. In trying to implement the program, AHCA discovered that the Medicaid benefit package and the Medicaid length-of-stay limitations were an impediment to implementation and that cost estimates for the program were understated.

Methodology:

Staff of the committees listed below will work with representatives of AHCA and the transplant hospitals to determine the true costs of a heart transplant program and to craft some parameters that will make state-sponsored adult heart transplants feasible.

Participants:

Committee on Health Care (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Member Oversight:

Senator Sullivan
Senator Jones

***Study Ways to Maximize Funding for Child and Adolescent Health Care
Including School Health Services***

Objective(s):

To analyze current statutes and Department of Health and Agency for Health Care Administration rules, policies, and protocols relating to the delivery of, and reimbursement for, school health services.

Background:

Many Medicaid-enrolled children of school age are enrolled in managed care plans and MediPass. As a result, county health departments are frustrated by the inability to obtain reimbursement for traditional school health services rendered to these children, either from the managed care provider or from the Agency for Health Care Administration.

Methodology:

Staff will work with staff of the Ways and Means Committee, the Department of Health, county health departments, the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Education, school districts, and other interested parties to develop recommendations for the means by which funding for school health services might be maximized.

Participants:

Committee on Health Care (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C
Committee on Education

Member Oversight:

Senator Myers
Senator Klein

Committee on Judiciary

***Efficacy and Practicality of Centralized Filing and Recording of
Judgment Liens in Florida***

Objective(s):

Study the efficacy and practicality of providing for the centralization of filing and recording both domestic and foreign judgment liens, possibly through the Office of the Secretary of State, and file any legislation that is subsequently desired.

Background:

In the 1997 legislative session, SB 2016 by Senator Campbell, on behalf of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar, contained among its proposals provisions for the centralization of filing and

recording judgment liens by having this activity occur through the Office of the Secretary of State. Currently, a judgment creditor must record a judgment lien in the county in which the property sought to be attached is located. Centralization would eliminate the potential need for multiple recordation of a judgment in the case of a debtor who owns property in various locations or who relocates frequently.

Methodology:

Research current law to determine the types of judgment liens that should be included; determine if centralization would offer any additional efficacy over the current system; work with the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar and the Office of the Secretary of State to assess the results of the research done by these group thus far on this issue; and work with the Office of the Secretary of State to determine the feasibility of centralization of filing and recording judgment liens through that office and the fiscal impact of such a proposal.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Member Oversight:

Senator Williams
Senator Jones

Implementation of Article V. Cost Shifting

Objective(s):

To determine what legislation would be needed to implement a shift in the cost of Florida's court system if such action is approved on the ballot in November.

Background:

The Article V Task Force was established by the Florida Legislature with a mandate to review the judicial article of the constitution of the State of Florida. Chapters 94-138 and 95-110, Laws of Florida. According to the Article V Task Force Final Report issued in December of 1995, counties in Florida spend approximately \$500 million supporting the judicial system. The costs currently paid by the counties were grouped into 7 categories in the report: state attorneys; public defenders; public defenders (conflict costs); clerks of court; capital outlay; chief judges' office; and judges, judicial assistants, and support staff. The 1995 Legislature authorized legislation creating a uniform chart of accounts for the purpose of providing the necessary tools to develop a detailed analysis of Article V costs. It is anticipated that the first reliable numbers from this system will be available in 1999. The 1997 Constitutional Revision Commission has voted to place an amendment on the November ballot that would require that some of the Article V costs currently paid by the counties be paid by the state.

Methodology:

Review both the Article V Task Force and Constitutional Revision Commission documents and proceedings regarding the issue and review current law to assess general laws that may need to be amended and implementation law that may need to be enacted.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)
Committee on Community Affairs
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Member Oversight:

Senator Silver
Senator McKay

Intangible Taxation of Trust Assets in Florida

Objective(s):

To study the current method of taxation of trust assets in Florida and to recommend potential legislation impacting this area.

Background:

The 1997 Legislature passed CS/SB 1698, which was a DOR RAD bill. Section 2 of that bill incorporates a rule that the department now recognizes it had no authority to enforce prior to the enactment of the RAD bill in the 1997 legislative session. Specifically, they would amend s. 199.052(5), F.S., which says that the trustee of a Florida situs trust is primarily responsible for returning the trust's intangible personal property and paying the annual tax on it. What CS/SB 1698 does is try to define when a trust has a Florida situs as:

1. When all trustees are residents of the state;
2. There are three or more trustees sharing equally in the ownership, management, or control of the trust's intangible property, and the majority of the trustees are residents of this state; or
3. Trustees consist of both residents and nonresidents and management or control of the trust is with a resident trustee.

All of these criterion are based upon whether or not the *trustee* lives in Florida and *not* the beneficiaries or the creator of the trust. This minimal connection to the state, as opposed to taxing the assets in the state in which the person or persons receiving the benefit of the assets or having ownership of the assets resides, may have constitutional implications that should be addressed.

Methodology:

- Determine how other states determine situs to tax.
- Research the potential of constitutional problems that may arise due to minimal nexus for exercising the taxation power.
- Work with the Real Property and Probate Law Section of The Florida Bar and other interested groups to determine concerns and possible suggestions for modification based upon this new legislation.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)
Committee on Banking and Insurance
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

Member Oversight:

Senator Laurent
Senator Diaz-Balart

*Is Florida Becoming a Debtor's Haven?
A Review of Law on Exemptions from Creditors' Remedies*

Objective(s):

To determine what legislation is needed to overcome the perception of Florida as a debtors' haven. This may require both a general bill and a resolution.

Background:

There has long been a perception that Florida is a debtors' haven, that debtors living in other states move here in order to avoid collection efforts of their creditors. For the last several years, there have been bills aimed at restructuring Florida's exemptions from collection actions, primarily as they relate to homestead property. None of these bills has passed.

Methodology:

Review the exemptions provided in section 4, Article X of the Florida Constitution and in chapter 222 of the Florida Statutes to attempt to determine if such exemptions from collection actions are being abused. Solicit information from organizations whose members may have experience with debt collection and application of the exemptions.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary

Member Oversight:

Senator Rossin
Senator Williams

Review of Law on Easements of Necessity

Objective(s):

Review the statutes and case law on easements of necessity and develop any necessary legislation.

Background:

During the 1998 Regular Session, amendments were proposed to make substantial changes to the statutes on easements of necessity. Without considerable research into the current law, the effect of these amendments is unascertainable, yet the amendments could affect a significant number of property owners within this state.

Methodology:

Review and analyze the current statutes and case law to determine whether there are any problems with this law.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary

Member Oversight:

Senator Klein

Senator Laurent

Utilization of Judicial Resources

Objective(s):

To compile a report of all the resources currently available to the judges in handling judicial workload, including, but not limited to hearing officers, law clerks, and case management personnel; to determine how allocation of judicial resources is currently determined and how such resources are financed; to determine to what extent such resources are created in current law, separate and apart from the general judiciary budget determined by the appropriations act, i.e. support positions funded by the Family Courts Trust Fund, child support hearing officers created by the 1997 child support legislation; and to suggest any legislative changes that may be appropriate particularly in light of an amendment proposed by the Constitutional Revision Commission to redistribute Article V costs and 1997 legislation requiring the Office of the State Courts Administrator to implement a caseload weighted system for determining the need for the certification of additional judges.

Background:

Judges have numerous resources at their disposal to assist in the completion of their tasks including, but not limited to, hearing officers, law clerks, and case management personnel. The creation, funding, allocation, and utilization of these resources occurs with significant variety.

Methodology:

Review recent studies and proposals that may include data on resources available to judges, including the creation, funding, allocation, and utilization of those resources such as the Article V Task Force, The Court Workload and Statistics Committee's White Paper, various OPPAGA studies and the work of the Constitutional Revision commission in this area and review current law and recent budget requests by the judiciary, to determine resources currently available to the judges to assist in the performance of their duties.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Member Oversight:

Senator Silver

Senator Geller

Committee on Natural Resources

Extension of the Bond-Funded Conservation and Recreational Land Acquisition Program

Objective(s):

Identify the issues that must be addressed in the creation of a new, bond-funded conservation and recreational land acquisition program, and for each issue, isolate and analyze the policy issues that the Legislature will be asked to determine.

Background:

During the 1998 session, significant time was devoted to issues surrounding the possible extension of the Preservation 2000 land acquisition program. The Natural Resources Committee Chairman reserved time at several meetings for discussions of the current program and possibilities for a successor program, including the solicitation of proposals from each member of the committee. The discussions indicated general support for an extended program but there was little consensus among the members on a variety of issues. During the final days of the session there seemed to be general agreement that the creation of a study commission to evaluate issues and make recommendations to the Legislature would be beneficial in providing some structure for future deliberations and decisions. Contained in CS/CS/SBs 2024 and 2648, which was not enacted, the study commission would have evaluated such issues as funding levels, appropriate acquisitions, land management, payments in lieu of taxes, disposition of surplus lands, uses of lands for water supply and water resource development, and others. These are all issues that must be addressed in considering the extension of the Preservation 2000 program in some form.

Methodology:

Staff will review and analyze the various House and Senate proposals from the 1998 session and the concerns expressed by Natural Resource Committee members; meet with representatives of the environmental, development, and land management interests; review the progress of prior and existing land acquisition programs, especially recent reports by the Department of Environmental Protection relating to assessments of remaining needs for conservation and recreation lands; and solicit comments and concerns from the agencies receiving Preservation 2000 funds. Staff will involve the Ways and Means Committee regarding land management funding and the Agriculture Committee regarding appropriate agricultural uses of lands.

Participants:

Committee on Natural Resources (Lead)

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Committee on Agriculture

Member Oversight:

Senator Latvala
Senator Laurent

Review the Operations of the Department of Environmental Protection

Objective(s):

To determine if the merger has created inefficiencies relating to permitting, enforcement, and compliance. Also, to determine if the concept of ecosystem management is accomplishing its stated objective.

Background:

In 1993, the Legislature combined the Department of Environmental Regulation and the Department of Natural Resources into a single entity, the Department of Environmental Protection. Since that time, the DEP has been reorganized internally and concerns have been raised publicly regarding the agency's enforcement of environmental laws. Today, the agency employs over 4,000 employees and has a budget of \$1.3 billion. If the voters approve this fall the proposal by the Constitutional Revision Commission to place marine resource regulation in the Game Commission, there will be a need to develop implementing legislation which will involve reorganization and relocation of DEP's marine-related functions to the Game Commission.

Methodology:

Staff will work with the DEP, the staff from Subcommittee A of the Ways and Means Committee, and the staff of the Governmental Reform and Oversight Committee to determine if the concept of ecosystem management is accomplishing its stated objectives, and to review program budgeting and performance measures and the statutory provisions creating the agency to determine if statutory adjustments are necessary.

Participants:

Committee on Natural Resources (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Latvala
Senator Kurth

Committee on Regulated Industries

Funeral and Cemetery Regulation

Objective(s):

To study the effects on competitors and consumers of recent trends in the funeral and cemetery industries, where large companies are buying up independent businesses and dominating local markets.

Background:

Over the last several years there has been a continuing trend of consolidation in the funeral and cemetery industries where large companies buy up independent funeral homes and own cemeteries, as well as funeral homes. This trend presents potential problems for consumers by eliminating competitive choice among providers of funeral and cemetery services. Some consumers are not aware that establishments with different names are owned by the same company. Consumers are particularly vulnerable at the time of purchasing funeral and cemetery services, as this need usually results from the loss of a loved one. The current status of the industry needs to be examined to prevent anti-competitive behavior and to ensure that consumers are adequately protected from potential abuses by the industry.

Methodology:

Research current status of the industry, current state and federal laws, and potential legislation to address any identified problems.

Participants:

Committee on Regulated Industries (Lead) (funeral directors, embalmers and direct disposers)
Committee on Banking and Insurance (cemeteries and pre-need)

Member Oversight:

Senator Sullivan
Senator Holzendorf

Privatization of Department of Business and Professional Regulation Functions

Objective(s):

To study whether functions of the DBPR, such as examinations, continuing education, or board administration, should be privatized.

Background:

In 1997, the Legislature enacted SB 526, which privatized administrative functions relating to engineering regulation effective July 1, 1998. In addition, legislation has been proposed, but not enacted, to privatize the examination and continuing education functions of DBPR.

Methodology:

Review implementation of privatization of engineering, study issues relating to expanding privatization to other boards. Also study expanding privatization of functions relating to all boards, such as continuing education or examinations.

Participants:

Committee on Regulated Industries (Lead)
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight

Member Oversight:

Senator Lee
Senator Clary

Telecommunications

Objective(s):

To review legislation that might be necessary as a result of PSC reviews of universal service, basic residential local rates, and access to private buildings.

Background:

In the 1997-98 interim, the Regulated Industries Committee submitted a final report considering intrastate access charges, universal service, and local telecommunications competition. The report recommended the studies mandated by HB 4785. The bill orders the PSC to complete certain studies by February 15, 1999, to provide a basis of information for legislation during the 1999 session regarding: a permanent universal service mechanism; a “fair and reasonable rate” for basic residential local telecommunications services; and access to multi-tenant buildings to provide competitive telecommunications services.

Methodology:

Monitor PSC hearings, workshops, and other activities. Formulate recommendations for legislation.

Participants:

Committee on Regulated Industries

Member Oversight:

Senator Klein
Senator Lee

Committee on Rules and Calendar

Committee Chairman’s Operating Manual

Objective(s):

Provide a resource document for committee chairmen reflecting uniform procedures for committee meetings and committee work.

Background:

Each chairman has his or her own way of handling committee meetings and committee work. However, certain processes, based on Senate rules or policy, should be uniform throughout the entire

committee process. Further, more senior members have the benefit of experience in dealing with committee matters. A chairman's manual would provide an excellent document that chairmen could refer to, and rely on, in the operations of their respective committee.

Methodology:

Organize a working group to review current practices and recommend standardized procedures for all committees. Once approved, the procedures would be reduced to a reference document for all chairmen.

Participants:

Committee on Rules & Calendar (Lead)
Selected Staff Directors
Secretary of the Senate

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead

Senate Committee Operations Manual

Objective(s):

Identify, and establish, uniform operating procedurals for Senate Committees and produce a Committee Operations Manual

Background:

Over time, committees have taken direction from new chairmen and new staff directors as to how committee functions should be accomplished. While not necessarily objectionable, this has resulted in different committees doing the same function differently. This, at times, has caused confusion for the members and the general public.

Methodology:

Organize a working group to review committee procedures based on Senate rules and policy and recommend a uniform system for all committees. Reduce approved procedures to a document for all committees to use as a reference.

Participants:

Committee on Rules & Calendar (Lead)
Secretary of the Senate
Selected Committee staff

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead

Local Bill Process

Objective(s):

Determine how local bills could be handled in a more effective and efficient manner.

Background:

Local bills take a significant amount of time to organize and are always passed at the “last moment.” This makes for a hectic, time intensive situation that occurs at the least opportune time.

Methodology:

Review the current process and recommend changes.

Participants:

Committee on Rules & Calendar (Lead)
Secretary’s Office
Selected Senate Aides

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead

Senate Page Program

Objective(s):

Determine how the program can be more beneficial to the participating pages as well as how the program can be operated more effectively and efficiently.

Background:

Interest in the Senate page program, by members and prospective pages, may be waning depending on which member is discussing the issue. It also appears that some members would like to sponsor pages outside of the current parameters of the program. This raises the question of whether the program is as effective as it could be.

Methodology:

Determine what extra activities the pages currently participate in, and what additional activities could be included in the program given the demands of session and the proximity of the activities to the capitol. Review problems experienced this past session and determine what changes in the program should be made to overcome them.

Participants:

Committee on Rules and Calendar (Lead)
Sergeant at Arm’s Office

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead

Update Senate Operations Manual (Member District)

Objective(s):

Make topical the current Senate Operations Manual for members.

Background:

Two years ago, an operations manual for members was developed. A timely update is needed, as well as the inclusion of some additional topics.

Methodology:

Review the current manual and update its provisions based on changes which have occurred since its distribution, as well as the inclusion of other topics recommended by the administration and members.

Participants:

Committee on Rules & Calendar (Lead)
Secretary of the Senate
Selected Senate Aides

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead

Committee on Transportation

Alternative Fuel Vehicles

Objective(s):

To examine Florida's motor vehicle registration and tax laws to determine if changes are needed to recognize the increased availability of alternative fuel vehicles, such as electric cars.

Background:

Alternative fuel vehicles are becoming more affordable and are being encouraged in certain neighborhoods throughout the state. These vehicles range in size from golf cart size vehicles for use in a neighborhood to full size automobiles. Florida law does not fully recognize these vehicles or their impact in the areas of registration, titling, traffic or fuel tax laws. As these vehicles become more prevalent Florida should be prepared to integrate the vehicles into our motor vehicle fleet.

Methodology:

Examine the impact of alternative fuel vehicles on the motor vehicle titling, registration, traffic, and tax laws of this state. Determine how other states are addressing these vehicles. Recommend

changes to Florida law which would allow for the effective integration of these vehicles into our motor vehicle fleet.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)
Committee on Natural Resources

Member Oversight:

Senator Cowin
Senator Forman

Clean Air Act Mobile Sources

Objective(s):

To determine what, if any, motor vehicle emissions testing program should be implemented in Florida to ensure compliance with EPA requirements and to maintain Florida's air quality.

Background:

This will continue the interim project from the 1998 session.

Methodology:

Using the findings of the Highway Safety Study, EPA guidelines and the readings from Florida's air quality monitors, determine what if any motor vehicle emissions program would meet Florida's needs. In developing a program Florida should include EPA regional representatives as well as DEP, DHSMV, DOT, and local personnel involved in mobile source monitoring and business and utility representatives interested in fuels and fixed source pollutants.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)
Committee on Natural Resources
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Hargrett
Senator Latvala

Examination of the Process for Evaluating and Selecting Products to be Placed on the Department of Transportation Qualified Products List

Objective(s):

To determine if Florida is using methods to evaluate and select products for use on transportation facilities which achieve the most effective investment of transportation funding.

Background:

The Department of Transportation evaluates numerous products for use on transportation facilities. Once accepted by the Department, the products are placed on the qualified products list used by DOT

and most local governments to specify products for the construction and maintenance of transportation facilities.

Methodology:

Examine the product review process and methods used by the Department as well as those used by other states and private industry. Determine whether there are additional methods for insuring the selection of effective and cost efficient products.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)
OPPAGA

Member Oversight:

Senator Lee
Senator Jones

Road Rage

Objective(s):

To examine current traffic laws in Florida to determine if the incidence of Road Rage can be reduced through increased or altered penalties and enforcement authority.

Background:

The incidence of road rage is increasing on our highways and becoming an increasing concern nation wide. With the high incidence of tourists and elderly drivers in Florida the safety of our highways is very important to our continued economic well-being.

Methodology:

Evaluate the typical incidents which constitute road rage and examine current traffic laws in Florida and other states to determine methods to reduce or deter the incidence of road rage.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)
Committee on Criminal Justice

Member Oversight:

Senator Forman
Senator Cowin

Committee on Ways and Means

Develop Grant Application Process for Economic Development Projects Including Festivals, Health and Human Services Projects, Criminal Justice Projects, and Multi-Purpose Capital Projects

Objective(s):

Develop appropriate legislation for enactment by the 1999 Legislature which establishes a grant

application process for each project program area which:

- standardizes review for similar projects;
- establishes criteria by which projects will be evaluated, prioritized or ranked; and
- sets forth a time frame for the grant application process which would be in sync with the budget development and submittal time frames of Chapter 216, F.S.

Background:

Over the past several years, local governments and non-profit institutions have been exerting greater and greater pressure upon the Legislature for financial assistance with special projects. Since there is no formalized process set forth in the statutes, these requests are brought to the Legislative body at the last minute with no standardized information, and with no formal review or evaluation being performed by the state using a standard set of criteria. The Legislature has reacted by appropriating state funding as grants to assist with these projects.

Methodology:

Review current statutory grant application processes for historical preservation, cultural facilities and Florida recreational assistance program; enroll the assistance of appropriate state agency staff(s) to understand what criteria should be established for evaluation and ranking; and observe the strengths and weaknesses of the processes set forth in proviso following specific appropriations 1130G, 1130L, 1435A, and 1738B.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means (Lead)
Committee on Agriculture
Committee on Criminal Justice
Committee on Natural Resources
Committee on Children, Families and Seniors
Committee on Health Care

Member Oversight:

Senator Sullivan
Senator Childers

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Florida Recreation and Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Criteria Update

Objective(s):

Update grant size criteria to reflect increased cost of construction since last adjustment; establish matching requirements by local governments/nonprofit organizations seeking grants; establish what types of projects should be funded under the FRDAP program; and establish the number of years for which a project may be eligible to receive a grant.

Background:

The FRDAP program is established under Chapter 375, Florida Statutes and currently funds grants at \$50,000 for small projects and \$100,000 for large projects. Requests by local governments and nonprofit organizations have been exceeding these caps thereby encouraging these groups to go outside the approved review process and seek funding directly from the Legislature each year.

Methodology:

Compare cost for park development today with the cost at the time the current project caps were instituted. Analyze scope of state role at time FRDAP program was instituted and what that role should be today in regards to support of local park development given current context of the state's major land acquisition programs over the last decade and the state need to manage state projects.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A (Lead)
Committee on Natural Resources

Member Oversight:

Senator Latvala
Senator Forman

State Lands Management and Development Cost

Objective(s):

Identify total acreage needed to be developed and managed by the state and the estimated costs; cost will be identified based upon the intensity of development and management required under approved land management plans; and compare current revenues to identified funding needs for development and management.

Background:

During the 1980's to today, the state has engaged in significant land acquisition programs such as: The Save Our Coast Land Acquisition Program; The Environmentally Endangered Lands Program; The Conservation and Recreational Lands acquisition program; and Preservation 2000. Significant acreage has been acquired with proportionately little funding being set aside for development and management of lands acquired. Current statutes provide that 1.5% of the proceeds of P-2000 bond issues may be used from the C.A.R.L. trust fund for development and management of lands acquired from C.A.R.L. funds. It is questionable if this sufficient to manage and develop all lands currently owned by the Trustees. There is a trust with the tax payers that these lands be developed and managed in accordance with the program under which they were acquired. Management and development costs need to be identified as well as revenues so properties can be managed in accordance with approved management plans and opened to the public for use.

Methodology:

With assistance of staff of Trustees of Internal Improvement Trust Fund identify parcels and acreage acquired under the programs specified above. Match approved land management plans with parcels/acreage and identify costs associated with implementing management plans over time.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A (Lead)

Committee on Natural Resources

Committee on Agriculture

Committee on Community Affairs

Member Oversight:

Senator Latvala

Senator Bronson

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B

Class Size Reduction

Objective(s):

This project will (1) monitor implementation of the provisions of HB367, (2) examine annual class size reduction reports prepared by the Department of Education, and (3) analyze facilities and enrollment data for a small number of elementary schools to determine the approximate cost of reducing the class size for all students enrolled in grades kindergarten through three to a maximum of 20 students. Based on these analyses, the interim project will include a report recommending a funding policy for class size reduction intended to be more effective than the current policy, which provides funds with no restrictions or consequences for failure to reduce class size.

Background:

HB 367 requires each school district during 1998-99 to reduce the teacher-to-student ratio in at least one elementary school to one full-time-equivalent teacher to 20 students in grades kindergarten through three. If a district has an elementary school designated as a critically low performing school, the district must reduce the teacher-to-student ratio for that school to one full-time-equivalent teacher to 15 students in grades kindergarten through three. The interim project will monitor district implementation of that class size reduction requirement. For a small number of districts, the report will examine the procedures districts use to select a school for class size reduction and will identify the facilities and personnel costs associated with that class size reduction.

Monitoring implementation of HB 367 will be accomplished through meetings and discussions with Department of Education officials. The data analysis portion of the interim project will be accomplished through a data request to the Department of Education and through an examination of already published reports produced by the department. To confirm conclusions suggested by the data, school site visits may be necessary.

Methodology:

Utilizing the state's student, staff, facilities and financial data base, the interim project will select an elementary school from two small, two medium and two large districts and will examine in detail the facilities and financial issues associated with reducing class size in the early grades in those schools to 20 students. If necessary, we will visit school and district officials to verify conclusions suggested by the examination of available data in the state's data base.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B (Lead)
Committee on Education

Member Oversight:

Senator Grant
Senator Lee

Evaluation of Community College Funding

Objective(s):

Determine if the funding formula for community colleges needs to be changed based on the split-out of Workforce Development from the Community College Program Fund.

Background:

Currently, community colleges are not experiencing growth in the Associate in Arts program. With the split from Workforce Development, where there is growth in students, the funding of the remaining programs needs to be examined for change.

Methodology:

Work with the staff of the House, Governor's Office and the Division of Community Colleges to see if a new funding formula can be developed.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B (Lead)
Committee on Education

Member Oversight:

Senator Clary
Senator Dyer

Funding for Private Postsecondary Education Institutions

Objective(s):

To review the various State contracts with private postsecondary education institutions, to review

issues associated with funding the Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG), to review issues associated with the limited access grant, to review the role private postsecondary education institutions play in meeting the need for increased access to postsecondary education, to develop appropriate performance measures for the funds provided for these programs, and to identify policy issues which should be addressed.

Background:

The 1998-99 General Appropriations Act includes \$24.7M dollars in the State University System budget for contracts with private postsecondary education institutions. The 1998-99 General Appropriations Act also includes \$50.7M dollars in the Private Colleges & Universities Budget to support 25 different contracted programs, the Florida Residence Access Grant, and the Limited Access Grant Program. The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission is charged with the responsibility of reviewing and recommending contracts to be funded. Such review includes the program area, the number of students to be served and the cost per student. The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, the State Board of Community Colleges and the Board of Regents are in the process of developing recommendations for increasing access to postsecondary education; the system of private colleges has a role to play in this process.

Methodology:

Monitor the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission review and approval process for recommended contracts. Review the projected need for the FRAG and the Limited Access Grant Programs. Review the various programs for which there are state contracts. Develop appropriate performance based program budgeting measures. Develop policy recommendations regarding the role private colleges can provide.

Participants

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B (Lead)
Committee on Education

Member Oversight:

Senator Bankhead
Senator Turner

Reduction of School District Administrative Overhead Expenditures

Objective(s):

This interim project is intended to (1) define administrative overhead, (2) identify the amounts each school district spends for administrative overhead, and (3) identify incentive funding policies to reduce administrative overhead. Because currently used definitions of administrative overhead reveal that it is a small, stable and uniform proportion of total district spending, this project will focus on district staffing patterns for all positions other than classroom teacher and teacher's aide to determine whether there is greater variation in district's staffing patterns than current definitions of administrative

overhead would suggest.

Background:

School district cost reports categorize expenditures as “school direct,” “school indirect” and “district indirect.” The “school direct” category refers to the direct cost of instruction, which includes teacher salaries and the cost of classroom materials and supplies. If administrative overhead is defined as everything other than “school direct” expenditures, then administrative overhead is approximately 40% of total spending. The Department of Education argues that such an approach is misleading and not appropriate; department staff suggest that the cost of school libraries, for example, is as much an instructional cost as a classroom teacher’s salary. Using the Department’s definition, only approximately 7% of district spending is categorized as administrative overhead. This interim project will identify the definitional issues associated with this topic. This project will also identify and attempt to explain variation among districts in administrative expenditures. For example, using the department’s definitions, the proportion district’s spend for administrative overhead varies from a low of 4% to a high of 10%. Not surprisingly, small districts spend proportionately more than large districts.

Because approximately 88% of all district spending is for salaries, this project will attempt to achieve greater clarity in the search for a definition for administrative overhead by also examining staffing patterns for a small number of small, medium and large districts. Finally, this report will include an analysis of the experience of other states that have attempted to define and reduce administrative overhead.

Methodology:

This project will review existing statutory and State Board of Education Rule definitions relevant to a definition for administrative overhead. The project will analyze data included in the Department of Education’s staff data base as well as its financial data base. For the first time, districts will report staff data at the end of the fiscal year that will permit valid comparisons among districts (before this year, staff data were collected only in October and were not uniform or consistent among districts). This project will also examine data from other states relevant to a discussion of administrative overhead.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B (Lead)
Committee on Education

Member Oversight:

Senator Kirkpatrick
Senator Cowin

State University System Funding Model Revisions

Objective(s):

To continue the development of a funding model which addresses the 3 primary activities(instruction, research, & public service) which universities undertake as follows: the direct and indirect instructional cost of providing lower level, upper level, master's level, doctoral level, and medical professional level education and appropriate methodologies for funding research and public service. Such study will also look at the funding methodologies for branch campuses/ centers and SUS/ Community College joint-use facilities as well as the impact of the policy of allowing state employees to take tuition-free courses in the State University System.

Background:

During the 1998 Legislative Session, progress was made in aligning the funding model, used for enrollment growth, with the annual expenditure analysis provided by the universities. Additional work needs to be done in updating the costs for lower level and upper level programs and for breaking out the cost of graduate education and the associated full-time-equivalent enrollment between the masters level and the doctoral level. Cost information also needs to be developed for medical professional programs which considers all fund sources. Appropriate methodologies need to be developed for funding research and public service which address the concepts in performance based program budgeting.

Methodology:

Monitor the work of the Board of Regents in developing new funding formulas for research and public service as addressed in proviso language. Monitor the work of the Board of Regents on the development of funding methodologies for branch campuses/ centers and joint-use facilities. Monitor the work of the Board of Regents in reviewing the impact of the policy of allowing state employees to take tuition-free courses. Analyze the impact of the activities of the universities to renumber courses to be consistent with the community colleges which affect the costs at the lower and upper levels . Undertake a study of the number of hours taken per student for the baccalaureate degree as well as for graduate degrees. Analyze the content of graduate degree programs. Work with staff of the Board of Regents to update funding formulas to reflect appropriate direct and indirect cost figures and other program considerations.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B (Lead)
Committee on Education

Member Oversight:

Senator Sullivan
Senator Laurent

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Comparative Analysis of Eligibility Criteria and Monetary Benefits provided by Foster Care, Subsidized Adoption, and WAGES Programs

Objective(s):

The study will determine whether the budget structure and payment rates mandated by the GAA promote or inhibit the process of achieving the program goals set forth in the Florida Statutes.

Background:

There are indicators that the process for budgeting, accounting, and paying for Family Safety, Child Protection, and Maintenance Assistance should be revised to accommodate significant reforms implemented at the state and federal levels. This study will determine the scope of those revisions.

Methodology:

The study will require a series of interviews with fiscal and program personnel throughout the state, and the analysis of available data.

Participants

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C (Lead)
Committee on Children, Families and Seniors

Member Oversight:

Senator Myers
Senator Rossin

Study of Medical Education in the State of Florida

Objective(s):

Monitor the Board of Regents study of the current adequacy and capacity of the State's undergraduate and graduate medical education and training programs. Evaluate all of the funding provided by the State, through Subcommittees B and C, which directly or indirectly support undergraduate and/or graduate medical education. Identify and evaluate the policies which are associated with the funding of medical education programs. Particular focus will be placed on the role which the funding for patient care plays in meeting the education mission of the State's medical training programs.

Background:

The 1998 Legislature provided funding to expand Florida State University's Program in Medical Science (PIMS) from a one-year to a two-year program. The Legislature also provided funding to establish a new one-year PIMS program between Florida Atlantic University and the University of Miami. State funding, from the General Revenue Fund, for undergraduate medical education is provided through the State University System budget. State funding for graduate medical education (medical residents and interns) and patient care is provided through the Agency for Health Care Administration from general revenue funding and federal medicaid reimbursements. State funding for Shands Teaching Hospital and Moffitt Cancer was transferred, for 1998-99, from the State University System budget to the Department of Health & Human Services. As a result of the Managed Health Care debate, federal reimbursement policies are being changed, the effect of which

is being felt by the Medical Schools and the hospitals which are jointly involved in the training of physicians in the state. There is a need to look at the overall funding for medical education, including the role of patient care, and to identify the appropriate state policies that need to be addressed.

Methodology:

Monitor the Board of Regents independent study of the current adequacy and capacity of the State's undergraduate and graduate medical education training programs. Analyze funding provided through Subcommittees B & C. Identify funding which is not budgeted by the Legislature which is used by the universities to support medical education and patient care. Identify the appropriate policies which should be addressed.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C(lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B
Committee on Education
Committee on Health Care

Member Oversight:

Senator Horne
Senator Sullivan

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Improving the Cost-Effectiveness of Mandatory Background Checks

Objective(s):

To determine whether provision can be made in statute and through the budget authorizations to reduce duplication, cost, and time for repetitive background checks for individuals in Florida.

Background:

During the last ten years there has been proliferation of programs, state and privately operated, that require varying levels of background checks. Some of these are paid for by the program and others by the individual. Many are repetitive as an individual moves from program to program. These checks are time consuming and on occasion place individuals in work situations prior to their completion. A study should be undertaken with the view of reducing duplication, cost and time for completion of these background checks.

Methodology:

Review and summarize the current requirements for background checks with the help of substantive committees; meet with Florida Department of Law Enforcement staff and any other agency staff as appropriate to discuss the detailed requirements of background checks; and develop consensus staff recommendations for substantive law changes and budgetary changes to make the process more efficient and cost effective.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D (Lead);

Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors
Committee on Health Care
Committee on Criminal Justice

Member Oversight:

Senator Burt
Senator Brown-Waite

Improving Collection of Fines, Fees and Forfeitures

Objective(s):

To develop strategies for improving the percentage of court fines and fees actually collected at the local level.

Background:

If Revision 3 to the Florida Constitution, as proposed by the Constitutional Revision Commission, passes this coming November, then a greater share of the court system costs will be borne by the state. One of the factors which will significantly impact the level of state funding required will be the amount of revenues derived from local collection of fees and fines by the court clerks. In the past, questions have been raised regarding the efficiency of these collection efforts. This study will attempt to develop strategies for increasing the percentage of obligations actually collected in order to minimize the cost impact on the state for future court system costs.

Methodology:

Meet with court clerks and their association representatives, state courts staff, Joint Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations staff, and substantive committee staff; review available data and previous studies on the issue, and if needed conduct a sample survey of selected counties to document current collection efforts; develop proposed strategies for improved collection in the form of substantive legislation and budgetary mechanisms.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee D (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means Sub E
Committee on Judiciary
Committee on Criminal Justice

Member Oversight:

Senator Gutman
Senator Geller

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

Effectiveness of Enterprise Zone Tax Exemptions

Objective(s):

The purpose of the project is to evaluate the effectiveness of enterprise zone tax incentives as an economic development tool, and, if appropriate, to recommend changes in the incentive structure offered.

Background:

Enterprise zone tax incentives have been in existence for a number of years, with a major rewrite of the program in 1994. While a number of incentives are offered in the form of tax credits, use of these credits is limited. The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development prepares an annual report on the Enterprise Zone Program, but the overall effectiveness of the program is not addressed in these reports. Limited use of the tax incentive program may be the result of the qualification requirements, the incentive amounts, program administration, or other causes.

Methodology:

- Survey of other states to determine which have similar programs and whether they have been evaluated.
- Literature survey.
- Survey of enterprise zone contacts, interviews with Enterprise Zone Interagency Coordinating Council, and local and regional economic development organizations about the effectiveness of EZs and recommendations for improvement of the program.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E (Lead)
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

Member Oversight:

Senator Hargrett
Senator Klein

Effects on State Revenues of Reducing the Statute of Limitations for Taxpayer Audits

Objective(s):

The purpose of the project is to develop the data and appropriate methodology for estimating the revenue impact of reducing the time period in which the state can audit a taxpayer.

Background:

In 1987, Florida increased the time period following a taxable event during which the Department of Revenue may audit a taxpayer for compliance. The time period was increased from 3 years to 5 years. Most other states and the federal government have 3 year statute of limitations. There have been a number of bills introduced in the last few years proposing to reduce the time period available for audit, most of the bills reducing the time to 3 years. To estimate the impact on revenue collections, staff has relied on interviews with a number of auditors on the potential effects on time allocation and coverage with no actual data.

Methodology:

A key element of any estimation methodology is the amount of fixed time an auditor must spend on each audit and the amount that is variable based on the period of coverage. Staff would work with the department to develop a measurement instrument to more accurately estimate fixed and variable time periods and work with auditors, hopefully in the field, to better understand the audit process.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

Member Oversight:

Senator Horne

Senator McKay

Impact of the International Registration Plan on Diesel Fuel Sales in Florida

Objective(s):

The purpose of the project is to study the effectiveness of the IRP as a means of leveling the impact of diesel fuel tax differentials among states. The project would be aimed at making legislative recommendations if problems are found and if there is anything the state can do.

Background:

Florida is a member of the International Registration Plan. The IRP is intended to remove the impact of diesel fuel tax differential among states on the purchase of fuel by interstate truckers. It does this by requiring truckers to keep track of miles traveled in each member state and reallocating fuel taxes based on the tax rates of the individual states. Florida truck stop owners, because Florida's tax is significantly higher than Georgia's, have long complained that the IRP is not well enforced and does little to make truckers avoid Florida refueling stops.

Methodology:

The study would begin as a literature survey to determine what studies have been done on the IRP and to look at possible methodologies for evaluating the plan in Florida. Potential next steps could include a survey of truck operators or truck stop operators.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

Member Oversight:

Senator Thomas

Senator Holzendorf

MONITORING PROJECTS

Committee on Agriculture

Implementation of Timber Management as Provided in CS/HB 3671

Objective(s):

Monitor the benefits of optimizing the management and production of timber on parcels of lands owned by the state and water management districts provided such practices do not conflict with the primary purpose for which the property was purchased, as outlined in the bill.

Background:

The state owns a considerable amount of real property in the interest of health, safety, and welfare of its citizens. A “multiple-use” strategy has been adopted for much of that land. An analysis of resource conservation and revenue generation would enable the state to make decisions about possible ways to generate revenue that would offset the costs of managing state lands.

Methodology:

A limited number of personal interviews will be conducted to frame the issue in context of the bill. Meetings of the department pertaining to implementation of provisions in the bill will be attended or otherwise monitored.

Participants:

Committee on Agriculture
OPPAGA

Transfer of Aquaculture Industry Regulations to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as Provided in CS/HB 3673

Objective(s):

Track and report department rules initiated which affect aquaculture farmers under the new provisions adopted by the 1998 Legislature.

Background:

Aquaculture is presently the fastest growing agricultural industry in the state. It now generates over \$75 million directly to Florida farmers. Aquaculture farmers have historically been regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Water Management Districts, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and local governments. The 1996 Legislature defined aquaculture as a type of agriculture. The bill passed in the 1998 regular session continues the assimilation of aquaculture within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as an agricultural industry.

Methodology:

A limited number of personal interviews will be conducted to frame the issue in context of the bill. Meetings of the department pertaining to implementation of provisions in the bill will be attended or otherwise monitored. Follow-up interviews will be conducted to determine the impact of the transfer on the industry.

Participants:

Committee on Agriculture (Lead)

Committee on Natural Resources

Committee on Banking and Insurance

Financial Exposure of the Residual Property Insurance Market (Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association & Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association)

Objective(s):

To monitor the number of new policies written, the number of policies taken out, and the change in the total insured value (exposure) of Florida's two residual market property insurers -- the Residual Property Insurance Market (the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association and the Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association).

Background:

Since Hurricane Andrew in 1992, the number of policies written in the residual market has steadily increased. More recently, the number of policies written by the FWUA has increased dramatically, while the number of policies written by the RPCJUA has significantly declined due to successful take-out efforts. Provisions in current law provide incentives to insurers to take policies out of the RPCJUA and provide authority for the FWUA to implement take-out efforts. In the event of a deficit in either association, assessments are levied against insurers and, ultimately, policyholders in the voluntary market to fund the deficit.

Methodology:

To obtain policy and exposure information from the RPCJUA and FWUA.

Participants:

Committee on Banking and Insurance

Financial Status Condition of the Florida Workers' Compensation Insurance Guaranty Association

Objective(s):

To monitor the activities of the Florida Workers' Compensation Insurance Guaranty Association to

determine whether the assessment mechanism is adequate to fund current liabilities and anticipated, future liabilities.

Background:

In 1997, the Florida Legislature merged the Florida Self-Insurance Fund Guaranty Fund with the workers' compensation account of the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association to create the Florida Workers' Compensation Insurance Guaranty Association. The new guaranty fund provides for the payment of claims of insolvent self-insurance funds and insurers. The payment of claims is funded through an assessment on all insurers (capped at 2 percent) and 1.5 percent for self-insurance funds. Effective July 1, 1999, an additional "deemed approved" assessment may be levied at a rate of up to 1.5 percent, if the assessments on the carriers and self-insurance funds are insufficient to make payments to claimants on a calendar year basis.

During the two years, one insurer and two self-insurance funds have become insolvent. As a result, concerns have been raised regarding the adequacy of the assessment to fund new claims, as well as liabilities of the Florida Insurance Guaranty Fund assumed by the fund.

Methodology:

Evaluate the current financial condition of the new guaranty fund, using the soon to be released audit report of the fund and other relevant financial information; interview staff and obtain relevant records from the new guaranty fund to obtain an update on the claims and liabilities of the fund; and interview Division of Rehabilitation and Liquidation staff of the Department of Insurance and obtain relevant records to determine the status of recent insolvencies, anticipated funding needs, and efforts to recoup assessments.

Participants:

Committee on Banking and Insurance

Committee on Children, Families and Seniors

Comprehensive Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Objective(s):

To monitor the implementation of HB 1991 pertaining to the new substantive provisions of chapter 394, F.S., and the child and adolescent interagency system of care demonstration models for children and adolescents who have a serious emotional disturbance and their families.

Background:

House Bill 1991 passed by the 1998 Legislature creates the "Comprehensive Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Act" in ss. 394.490-394.497, F.S., to be implemented statewide. The new statute creates:

- Guiding principles for the child and adolescent mental health system,
- Target populations for child and adolescents mental health services funded through the department,
- General performance outcomes for the child and adolescent mental health system,
- Programs and services in the child and adolescent mental health system of care,
- Service planning, and
- Case management services.

The purpose of the demonstration models specified in section 9 of HB 1991 is to test creative and flexible strategies for financing the care of children and adolescents. The demonstration models will bring together local public and private agencies through a written interagency partnership agreement to provide mental health treatment services to the children and adolescents who have serious emotional disturbances and multiple and complex service needs. Each distinct model will be evaluated as specified in the legislation by the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute. A report of their findings, conclusions, and recommendations for statewide implementation will be provided to the Legislature by December 31, 2001.

Methodology:

To attend meetings and participate in other appropriate activities related to the implementation of HB 1991.

Participants:

Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors (Lead)
Committee Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Comprehensive Plan for Developmental Services

Objective(s):

To monitor the implementation of a comprehensive plan developed by the Department of Children and Family Services as specified in Specific Appropriation 395A pertaining to the provision of services to the developmentally disabled in accordance with the clients' individual support plans.

Background:

The proviso language in HB 4201, 1998-99 General Appropriations Act, directs the Department of Children and Family Services to develop, under the coordination of the Executive Office of the Governor, a comprehensive plan for providing developmental services to address actions necessary to resolve current developmental services litigation issues, reimbursement plan inequities, Boren amendment repeal impacts, the principle of consumer directed care, inappropriate client placements, and quality of care issues. The department may use up to \$150,000 for consultation to resolve client waiting list issues and other components of the plan. The plan is due by October 1, 1998, to the Governor with copies to the Legislature and must include a budget amendment for the release of the lump sum of \$20 million. This plan resulted from discussions in the Children, Families, and Seniors

Committee hearing on April 13, 1998, of SB 2312 and SB 1450.

Methodology:

To attend meetings and participate in other appropriate activities related to the development of the comprehensive plan.

Participants:

Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Drug Screening and Testing Pilot Project in JEP Regions 3 and 8

Objective(s):

To observe the implementation and management of the pilot projects in the two local WAGES regions in an effort to assess cost and practicality of such a project statewide.

Background:

Senate Bill 2172 (1998) calls for a drug screening and testing pilot project in local WAGES regions 3 and 8. Though an evaluation of this project will be presented to the legislature at the end of the pilot project, staff believes that monitoring the ongoing project will keep the legislature apprised of the program throughout the course of its implementation.

Methodology:

Committee staff will work with state and local WAGES staff throughout the monitoring project. It is contemplated that this project will not involve field research or public hearings.

Participants:

Committee on Children, Families and Seniors (Lead)
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

Privatization of Foster Care and Related Services

Objective(s):

To continue monitoring the privatization model programs in the department's districts 1, 4, 13, and 8A that began in fiscal year 1996-1997.

To monitor the implementation of the provisions of HB 3217 pertaining to the privatization of foster care and other related services and the transfer of child protective investigations to Sheriffs in Pasco, Pinellas, and Manatee Counties.

Background:

In order to strengthen the commitment of communities to the reunification of families and care of children and to achieve greater efficiencies and accountability, Section 5 of chapter 96-402, Laws of Florida, directed the Department of Children and Family Services to establish five model privatization programs in Districts 1, 4, 13, 8A, and a fifth district to be determined by the department and the

appropriate district health and human services board.

House Bill 3217 passed by the 1998 Legislature requires the privatization of foster care and related services beginning January 1, 2000, to be completed by January 1, 2003. The Department of Children and Family Services is directed to submit a plan to accomplish statewide privatization of these services by July 1, 1999. The bill also requires that the department transfer responsibility for all child protective investigations to the Sheriffs of Pinellas, Pasco, and Manatee counties by the end of FY 1999-2000.

Methodology:

To attend meetings and participate in other appropriate activities related to the implementation of HB 3217.

Participants:

Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

A Review of the WAGES Program Employment Projects authorized in SB 1114

Objective(s):

To monitor the creation of employment opportunities for WAGES Program participants and the use of the associated resources as effective inducements for employment creation.

Background:

The passage of SB 1114 this legislative session provided a number of tools designed to address the lack of employment opportunities for some WAGES Program participants. This project would monitor the progress of Enterprise Florida, Inc. and the economic development councils empowered by the act to designate and create jobs in accomplishing the assigned task.

Methodology:

Survey and monitor the projects submitted by the EDCs and Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Participants:

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities (Lead)
Committee on Transportation
Committee on Agriculture
OPPAGA

Committee on Community Affairs

Governor's Committee on the State Comprehensive Plan and State Land Development Plan

Objective(s):

Monitor the deliberations and recommendations of the Governor's Committee on the State Comprehensive Plan and the State Land Development Plan for a complete understanding of proposed legislative changes.

Background:

CS/SB 2474 directs the Governor to appoint a committee to review and make recommendations to revise the state comprehensive plan for consideration by the Administration Commission by October 1, 1999. The committee must review the goals and policies of the state comprehensive plan and identify portions that have become outdated or have not been implemented and the state's progress toward achieving those goals and policies. The committee is further directed to consider and make recommendations on the purpose and function of the state land development plan, including whether the plan should be retained and its future application.

Methodology:

Attend the meetings of the Governor's Committee on the State Comprehensive Plan and the State Land Development Plan and monitor the deliberations.

Participants:

Committee on Community Affairs

Statewide Unified Building Code

Objective(s):

To monitor the development of the statewide unified building code and identify related legislative issues and potential related revisions to the Florida Statutes.

Background:

This year the Legislature passed a law requiring the development of a statewide unified building code. The newly created Florida Building Commission is required to submit to the Legislature, before the 2000 regular session, for review and approval or rejection, the Florida Building Code adopted by the commission. In addition, the commission is required to prepare a list of recommendations of revisions to the Florida Statutes necessitated by adoption of the Florida Building Code, if the code is approved by the Legislature.

Methodology:

Attend meetings of the Commission and review material related to the development of the statewide unified building code.

Participants:

Committee on Community Affairs (Lead)
Committee on Banking and Insurance

Transportation and Land Use Study Committee

Objective(s):

To monitor the proceedings and deliberations of the Transportation and Land Use Study Committee during the interim period for a complete understanding of proposed legislative changes for the 1999 Legislative Session.

Background:

CS/SB 2474 creates the Transportation and Land Use Study Committee directing the Departments of Community Affairs and Transportation to evaluate the statutory provisions relating to land use and transportation coordination and planning issues, including community design. The evaluation must include the roles of local government, regional planning councils, state agencies, regional transportation authorities, and metropolitan planning organizations in addressing these subject areas. The committee must give special emphasis to concurrence on the highway system, level of service methodologies, and land use impact assessments used to project transportation needs. The fifteen-member technical committee must consist of 15 members appointed jointly by the Secretaries of DCA and DOT, and must report to the Legislature and the Governor by January 15, 1999.

Methodology:

Attend the meetings of the Transportation and Land Use Study Committee to monitor deliberations and proposed legislative changes.

Participants:

Committee on Community Affairs (Lead)
Committee on Transportation

Committee on Criminal Justice

Correctional Privatization - Status of RFP's and Tax Litigation

Objective(s):

Monitor the status of the RFP's that have been authorized by the Legislature and keep current on the issues relating to the pending lawsuits in Glades County and Bay County between individual counties and private correctional vendors.

Background:

Budget proviso and substantive law authorized the Correctional Privatization Commission to issue two Invitations to Bid for the planning, design, construction, and operation for an adult and a youthful offender correctional facility. Given the controversy surrounding whether the Department of Corrections would be allowed to bid on the projects and the disagreements that have occurred between the private vendors and the Department of Corrections, it is noteworthy to monitor how the Invitations to Bid will be drafted and how and which vendors respond.

A controversy that has continued without a resolution is whether private correctional facilities should pay local ad valorem taxes. There are credible arguments on both sides of the issues, making it difficult to anticipate how courts will hold in pending lawsuits in Glades County and Bay County.

Methodology:

Attend meetings of the Correctional Privatization Commission. Talk with staff of the Commission. Read Invitations to Bid once such are prepared. Obtain feedback concerning the contents of the Invitations to Bid from interested persons. Study the RFPs and contracts on the currently operating prisons that are the subject of the lawsuits filed by the counties. Talk with relevant persons involved on both sides of the issue. Research the case law concerning ad valorem taxation and businesses seeking an exception or an exemption.

Participants:

Committee on Criminal Justice (Lead)
Committee on Ways & Means, Subcommittees D & E
OPPAGA

The Current Status of Jail Inspections in Florida

Objective(s):

Ascertain what type of impact, if any, the 1996 repeal of mandatory jail inspections by the Department of Corrections have had on Florida's local jails.

Background:

After several unsuccessful attempts by the Florida Sheriff's Association, in 1996 the Legislature repealed statutes that provided authority to the Department of Corrections to mandatorily "inspect" local jails. A jail rules working committee created jail rules in 1996, upon the abolition of the statutory oversight by the state, to be adopted by every local jail in the state in lieu of administrative rules that had been promulgated by the Department of Corrections.

No person or entity has followed up with jails and counties to see if there have been any problems with the implementation of the new model rules and whether the lack of state inspections have caused problems with local governments, and, if so, what problems have been encountered.

Methodology:

Contact individual counties, sheriffs, the Florida Association of Counties, and the Florida Sheriffs Association to discuss the matter with them. Find out what counties have done to monitor its jails in lieu of state inspections. Site visit several jails around the state.

Participants:

Committee on Criminal Justice (Lead)
Committee on Community Affairs

Implementation of Cost Effectiveness of Juvenile Justice Commitment Programs

Objective(s):

To ensure that the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB), in consultation with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), the Division of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR), and providers, develops standard methodology for interpreting the outcome evaluation report and that the DJJ integrates this methodology into the cost-effectiveness model which is applied to each commitment program. In addition, to monitor the DJJ's progress in developing a work plan to refine the cost-effectiveness model with the collaboration of the JJAB, the EDR, and contract service providers.

Background:

The Criminal Justice Committee conducted an interim project in 1997-98 relating to the cost effectiveness of juvenile justice commitment programs, which resulted in legislation requiring the JJAB and the DJJ, along with EDR and contract providers, to develop standard methodology for interpreting the outcome evaluation report and integrating it into the cost-effectiveness model which is used to measure commitment programs. It is important to monitor the continued progress being made in the area of measuring effective juvenile commitment programs.

Methodology:

Attend meetings with the previously mentioned entities and monitor their work product.

Participants:

Committee on Criminal Justice (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D
OPPAGA

Revisions to Florida's Laws on Sexual Predator and Sexual Offender Registration and Notification

Objective(s):

The project objectives are to: determine what changes need to be made to Florida's sexual predator and sexual offender notification and registration laws ("Megan's law") in light of "The Jimmy Ryce Act of 1998" and any pending federal legislation; assess whether Florida's laws meet current federal standards; and identify problems, if any, with current statutory language that may hinder the effectiveness of the sexual predator/offender registration/notification process. The end product may be legislation if legislative changes are recommended by the committee.

Background:

In the 1998 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed several bills relating to sexual predator/sexual offender registration/notification. One of these bills was intended to bring Florida's laws in compliance with federal standards. Another bill which passed this session, "The Jimmy Ryce Act," provides for the civil confinement of sexually violent predators. The group of sexual offenders subject

to this act will fall under Florida's laws relating to sexual predator/offender registration/notification. Additionally, pending federal legislation may require Florida to adopt particular provisions relating to sexual predator/offender registration/notification or risk losing federal Byrne formula grant funding.

Methodology:

Committee staff will review current state and federal law, including legislation passed during the 1998 Legislative Session, and consult with affected agencies.

Participants:

Committee on Criminal Justice

Committee on Education

Charter School Performance Evaluation

Objective(s):

Gather and report available performance data for students attending charter schools

Background:

Although charter schools are newly created, it is important to begin to gather and report data relevant to the performance of students enrolled in charter schools. A principal assumption of charter schools is that the smaller size of those schools and the greater administrative flexibility available to them will result in increased levels of student learning. This project will begin to gather and report data necessary to evaluate these assumptions.

Methodology:

This project will collect performance data for district operated and charter schools and will compare and contrast those data. Site visits will also be useful to learn how charter school teachers and administrators evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the charter school structure and how charter school representatives evaluate the success of their efforts.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B
OPPAGA

Deregulated Public Schools

Objective(s):

To monitor the deregulation of public schools in the six pilot projects created in SB 2258.

Background:

Six school districts will have pilot projects to permit up to six schools in the district to have the regulatory freedom afforded charter schools while continuing to be governed by the district school board.

Methodology:

Monitor the establishment of the deregulated schools in the six districts, examine the approved proposals of all the participating schools, and visit a cross section of the schools to interview students, principals, faculty, and school advisory council members regarding the effects of deregulation.

Participants:

Committee on Education

Evaluation of the Delivery Methodology of Postsecondary Education in Florida

Objective(s):

Determine the extent to which the 2+2 system will continue to be used to deliver the baccalaureate degree; explore alternative delivery mechanisms

Background:

Proviso language in the General Appropriations Act requires the BOR, State Board of Community Colleges and the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission to address mechanisms for increasing the production of baccalaureate degrees. Each entity will examine a different approach and make recommendations on what the state should do to produce college graduates most efficiently and effectively.

Methodology:

Attend meetings, as appropriate, of the groups working on this issue and evaluate recommendations and data produced in the studies.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
Committee on and Means, Subcommittee B

Excellent Teaching Implementation Monitoring Activities

Objective(s):

To monitor initial implementation activities and participation in the Excellent Teaching program.

Background:

Excellent Teaching is a major new policy of the Legislature intended to identify and reward those

teachers whose performance is outstanding. Legislation provides a generous reward structure for both teachers and school districts. It is not certain how teachers will respond to this new program. It is important to monitor how the Department of Education implements this program and to carefully review initial teacher response to this program in order to ensure its successful implementation.

Methodology:

Maintain contact with Department of Education administrators responsible for administering the program and review participation data as it becomes available.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
Committee on and Means, Subcommittee B

Implementation of High School Graduation Requirements (CS/SB 706)

Objective(s):

Determine whether the restricted number of high school credits required for graduation is disrupting progress of students currently pursuing an expanded high school curriculum for their own benefit.

Background:

The Legislature has traditionally encouraged school districts to increase requirements for high school graduation. In CS/CS/SB 706, the 1998 Legislature requires school districts to allow a student to graduate as soon as the student completes the required 24 credits. A funding incentive is created to encourage high schools to assist students to graduate early. Potentially unintended consequences include high schools that reduce the number of hours in the school day or restrict the credits students can accrue.

Methodology:

Work with the Division of Public Schools in communication with high schools about their implementation actions.

Participants:

Committee on Education

Implementation of Workforce Development Legislation

Objective(s):

Oversee the processes required by CS/CS/SB 1124, including the required grant program, the task forces on overall implementation, data base implementation, and implementation of the provisions for adult students with disabilities. Identify problems and encourage their solutions as required in the reporting due-dates.

Background:

In 1997, the Legislature made significant changes in the workforce development education programs and their funding. These changes were to be implemented in 1 year, by July 1, 1998. The 1998 Legislature delayed that date by another year, created a new funding formula, created a grant program for new and expanding programs, and required certain changes in reporting requirements, simulations, and program transfers. The involvement of legislative staff in the progress toward implementation maintains understanding of problems and their potential solutions.

Methodology:

Participate in internal meetings of database development committees, selected statewide task force meetings, and sites where the funding formula is to be implemented voluntarily. Analyze simulations of funding formulae. Recommend any necessary changes in policy, rule, or law identified in the implementation process.

Participants:

Committee on Education (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight

Administrative Rules Issues Not Addressed by 1998 Legislature

Objective(s):

Produce report indicating which rules reported to Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC), pursuant to s. 120.536, F.S., were authorized by the 1998 Legislature and which of the remaining rules are in the repeal process or otherwise not addressed.

Background:

In 1996, the rewrite of the Florida Administrative Procedures Act (APA) set new standards for agency rulemaking. In order to implement these standards and to ensure proper statutory authority for all agency rules, s. 120.536(2), F.S., required that all agencies identify rules which exceed their statutory authority and to report these rules to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC) by October 1, 1997. JAPC reported that 5,850 rules were so identified by agencies and would require legislative authorization or repeal.

Methodology:

Review JAPC report dated November 6, 1997, and identify the rules that were authorized by legislation during the 1998 session by monitoring which bills become law and comparing them to the Rule Authorization Bill Tracking Table. Also, the rules for which repeal has been initiated must be identified by contacting agency personnel.

Participants:

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight

Committee on Health Care

Implementation of the Florida Kidcare Program

Objective(s):

To monitor implementation of the Florida Kidcare Program and identify any statutory changes that might need to be made in the 1999 Session.

Background:

In response to the creation of Title XXI of the Social Security Act (State Children's Health Insurance Program), the 1998 Legislature enacted CS/HB 4415 creating the Florida Kidcare program. Since this is a major new program, the Legislature will need to closely monitor implementation. In order to ensure the success of the program and to identify any implementation problems early in the implementation process.

Methodology:

Committee staff will attend executive agency implementation meetings and meetings of the coordinating council created in the bill. Staff will review proposed rules.

Participants:

Committee on Health Care (Lead)
Committee on Banking and Insurance
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Federal Actions Relating to the Confidentiality of Patient Information

Objective(s):

Understand the elements of the federal patient information confidentiality requirements, as adopted in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191 (the Kassebaum-Kennedy Act of 1996) and;

Determine the impact on state law and the state's ability to enact laws relating to patient information. If federal patient information confidentiality provisions are determined to be inadequate for Florida, staff will draft proposed legislation for the 1999 Session.

Background:

The Kassebaum-Kennedy Act requires, as a prerequisite to implementation of the Administrative Simplification that provides for electronic processing of health-related information, that the Secretary

of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or Congress adopt protective guidelines for handling patient information that is electronically transmitted by health care providers submitting insurance claims, and supporting documentation; insurers and governmental payers paying insurance claims; and other health-care-related purposes before such processing is officially implemented. The Health Care Committee filed SBs 260 (died on the Calendar) and 364 (died in House Messages) providing for patient confidentiality and a Public Records Law exemption during the 1998 Session based on staff research from the 1997 interim project.

Methodology:

Staff will review health care and insurance journals and other periodicals and monitor, review, and study Internet websites established for the publication of the Administrative Simplification guidelines. Staff will analyze the committee bills relative to the federal guidelines.

Participants:

Committee on Health Care (Lead)
Committee on Banking and Insurance

Committee on Judiciary

Statewide Child Support Case Registry and the State Dispersement Unit

Objective(s):

Monitor the implementation of both the statewide child support State Case Registry and the State Dispersement Unit created pursuant to HB 271 and file any legislation that is subsequently necessary.

Background:

Federal Welfare Reform legislation required creation of these two enforcement tools. Legislation was enacted in the 1998 legislative session creating these tools based upon an agreement reached between the Department of Revenue and the Florida Association of Court Clerks. Implementation of these measures has to be monitored to:

- Provide the Legislature with early awareness of any problems between the parties in implementation or in obtaining federal approval for the measures as created;
- Discern whether further implementing legislation will be needed during the 1999 legislative session;
- Ensure efficient operation; and
- Comply with federal requirements.

Methodology:

Continue to meet with the two entities involved and obtain copies of all documents involved in the process, including, but not limited to, implementing contracts, federal evaluations, and ongoing federal requirements.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)
Committee on Children, Families and Seniors

Weighted Caseload Methods of Assessing Judicial Workload

Objective(s):

Monitor the formation and application of a Delphi weighted caseload system for determining the need for additional judges as created by The Office of the State Court Administrator with input from The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) pursuant to the 1998 General Appropriations Act and file any legislation that is subsequently necessary.

Background:

In January 1998, OPPAGA issued Report 97-36, a “Review of the Two-Tiered Trial Court System and the Process for Certifying Judges.” The report noted that using a weighted caseload system could improve the process for determining judicial workload and the need for additional judges. The 1998 Legislature provided \$75,000 in recurring funds in the administered funds budget of the judicial branch to contract for the development of a Delphi-based caseload weighting system to determine the optimum case loads for circuit and county judges and, in conjunction with other factors, to determine the need for additional circuit and county court judges. The judicial branch is to consult with OPPAGA on defining the scope of work, selecting a consultant, and choosing a methodology for developing case weights and determining available judge time.

Methodology:

- Work with the Office of the State Courts Administrator and OPPAGA to obtain documents created and be aware of problems incurred, if any, in the development of the new system.
- Determine if any changes need to be made through legislation as a result of the new system developed or to assist in implementation of the new system as developed.

Participants:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)
OPPAGA

Committee on Natural Resources

***Project Funding Activities Related to the New Safe Drinking Water
Revolving Loan Program***

Objective(s):

To determine if the funding activities conform to the Legislature’s intent regarding the types of projects and activities that are funded.

Background:

In 1997, the Legislature addressed the requirements set forth in the 1996 amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act that Florida must meet in order to qualify for the federal grants to capitalize the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund. It has taken the DEP a year or more to adopt the necessary rules to implement the program and to develop the priority list for project funding. Florida is required to provide a 20-percent match. Since state moneys are also involved in this program, it is important to assure that this program is being administered so as to provide the maximum benefit to our citizens while complying with the new federal drinking water standards.

Methodology:

Staff will monitor the activities of the DEP in their efforts to implement and administer the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund.

Participants:

Committee on Natural Resources (Lead)
Ways & Means Subcommittee A

Implementation of Brownfields Legislation

Objective(s):

To determine if further statutory changes are needed for the 1999 legislative session.

Background:

In 1997, the legislature created the Brownfields Redevelopment Act to provide incentives for the private sector to redevelop abandoned, idled, or under used industrial and commercial properties where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. During the 1998 legislative session, legislation was enacted to address glitches in the 1997 legislation and to provide other changes intended to enhance the usage and success of the program.

Methodology:

Staff will monitor the activities of the DEP and the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development in their efforts to implement and administer the provisions of the Brownfields Redevelopment Act, as amended.

Participants:

Committee on Natural Resources

Staff Support for the Joint Committee on Legislative Oversight of the Everglades Construction Project

Objective(s):

To be fully informed, at all times, of the committee's activities in maintaining legislative oversight of the Everglades Construction Project.

Background:

The Legislature created a joint committee in 1997 comprised of three members of the House of Representatives and three Senators to monitor the South Florida Water Management District's implementation of the Everglades Construction Project. The committee is to monitor all funding and expenditures, agreements, schedules of projects, land acquisition and plans for acquisition, permits, and permit modifications associated with the project.

Methodology:

Staff must attend committee meetings, help prepare materials for committee meetings and review and evaluate materials submitted to the joint committee by the South Florida Water Management District.

Participants:

Committee on Natural Resources (Lead)

Committee on Ways & Means, Subcommittee A

Committee on Transportation

Innovative Contracting Methods Being Tested by the Department of Transportation

Objective(s):

To examine the program of innovative contracting methods used by the Department of Transportation.

Background:

In 1996 the Florida Legislature approved a number of innovative contracting methods to be tested by the Department of Transportation. During the next year the Department will be completing this study and will present the legislature with its findings and recommend any substantive legislative changes to implement or enhance those methods.

Methodology:

Monitor the use and impact of the various innovative contracting methods used by the Department of Transportation as part of the approved pilot project.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)

OPPAGA

High Speed Rail Project and Expenditures

Objective(s):

To evaluate the progress of the high speed rail project and to provide the legislature with information on the expenditure of state funds in the development of the project.

Background:

The Florida Legislature has continued funding for the High Speed Rail project on a contingency basis for limited purposes.

Methodology:

Monitor the expenditure of funds for the high speed rail project and determine the progress of the project during the next year.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Impact of the Increased State Funding for Ports

Objective(s):

To evaluate the impact of state seaport funding on the movement of goods through Florida and the creation of port infrastructure and direct port employment.

Background:

Florida has made a significant investment in port infrastructure over the last 8 years. This monitoring project would examine what has been purchased through those funds and evaluate the impact of those expenditures on port industry and employment.

Methodology:

Obtain information on what has been purchased with state seaport matching funds and the impact of those projects on port employment and movement of goods and cruise passengers.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

Provision of Transportation Services in the WAGES Program

Objective(s):

To evaluate barriers to meeting the transportation needs of WAGES participants and to determine the effectiveness of new legislation in meeting the transportation needs of participants.

Background:

Florida has implemented a comprehensive WAGES program which includes assisting WAGES participants in meeting their transportation needs.

Methodology:

Obtain information on the success of the WAGES programs in meeting the transportation needs of participants and identifying barriers to meeting those needs.

Participants:

Committee on Transportation (Lead)
Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

***Implementation of Residential Mitigation Program
in the Department of Community Affairs***

Objective(s):

To determine the effectiveness of the program.

Background:

\$3.1 million and \$2.0 million were appropriated in FY 1997-98 and FY 1998-99, respectively, for this program. The purpose of the program is to provide loans and grants to improve the wind resistance of residences.

Methodology:

Site visits and discussions/interviews with department personnel.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A (Lead)
Committee on Community Affairs

***Department of Revenue's Implementation of the
System for Unified Taxation (SUNTAX)***

Objective(s):

Determination of the status of the system and determine future needs with regard to funding.

Background:

Approximately \$18 million has been appropriated for this system through the upcoming FY 1998-99. The purpose of this system is to tie all the many various taxes collected by the department into one data base. This project will evaluate the progress of this unification.

Methodology:

Work with the department, OPPAGA, and the Governor's Technology Review Work Group

through site visits and in-depth interaction with the department.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B

Board of Regents Update to the 5-year Master Plan

Objective(s):

Monitor the development of the Board of Regents' 5-year Master Plan. Evaluate policy implications for future budget requests.

Background:

Section 240.209(3)(j), F.S. requires the Board of Regents to develop a 5-year system wide strategic plan which specifies goals and objectives for the State University System. The plan is to be coordinated with and initiated subsequent to the Master Plan adopted by the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission (PEPC). PEPC has completed its Master plan. The Board of Regents has been in the process of developing its' Master Plan since the Fall 1997 and plans to complete this process Fall 1998.

Methodology:

Monitor meetings of the Board of Regents and staff. Independent meetings with Chancellor and/or staff.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B (Lead)
Committee on Education

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Medicaid Case-Mix Reimbursement Methodology for Nursing Home Care

Objective(s):

Monitoring the implementation of a new Case-Mix Reimbursement Methodology for Medicaid Reimbursement for Nursing Home Care

Background:

In past years, the Legislature has funded feasibility studies and development activity for implementing a case-mix approach to providing Medicaid funding for Nursing Home Care. For Fiscal Year 1998-

99, the Legislature provided \$7,657,972 to begin this implementation. The annualization of this amount is projected to be \$32,787,062 for Fiscal Year 1999-2000. Subsequent years may find this increase still greater.

Methodology:

Monitoring implementation with the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of Elder Affairs.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C (Lead)
Committee on Health Care

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Correctional Privatization Commission Invitation to Bid Process

Objective(s):

To monitor the Invitation to Bid process conducted by the Correctional Privatization Commission pursuant to proviso associated with Specific Appropriation 589 in the 1998-1999 General Appropriations Act.

Background:

As a result of certain findings published by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, and as a result of continuing debate over the cost of privatizing prisons, the 1998-1999 General Appropriations Act (GAA) authorized the Correctional Privatization Commission (CPC) to issue two Invitations to Bid (ITB) for construction of 1,497 adult male prison beds and for a 350 bed Youthful Offender facility. Previously, the CPC was allowed to use the less stringent Requests for Proposals to award contracts, and also was authorized to award one contract to the "most qualified bidder" for both the construction and operation of facilities. The 1998-1999 GAA proviso was written in an attempt to maximize the potential for cost savings to the state by requiring the CPC: to use the more specific ITB as defined in statute; to award the contract to the lowest cost responsive bid; and to limit the contract to only the construction phase. In addition, the proviso stated that the operational phase of the new facilities would be awarded through separate ITBs to be authorized in the 1999-2000 GAA. Subsequent to the passage of the GAA, SB 4233 passed which modified the GAA proviso to allow the CPC to award a contract for both construction and operations. This monitoring project will emphasize tracking the CPC's development of the ITB's and will document and analyze any barriers to implementation that may arise. In addition, it will attempt to develop a procedure which will allow the Department of Corrections to compete with private providers for future contracts.

Methodology:

Attend CPC noticed meetings; meet with CPC staff as needed to obtain updates; review the CPC's

ITB's when issued; and review the bid proposals as they become publicly available.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D (Lead)

Committee on Criminal Justice

OPPAGA

Department of Corrections Security Enhancements

Objective(s):

To monitor the implementation of security enhancements funded in the 1998-1999 General Appropriations Act pursuant to proviso associated with Specific Appropriation 568.

Background:

During the past two years the Department of Corrections (DOC) has contended with numerous problems relating to faulty locking mechanisms and deteriorating security systems at a number of major institutions statewide. This issue having been the subject of much discussion and debate at a number of Subcommittee D interim meetings, proviso was inserted into the 1998-1999 General Appropriations Act requiring the DOC to submit monthly reports to the Legislature and Governor describing the progress of implementing the enhancements funded. This project will monitor this issue to ensure compliance with legislative intent and to keep abreast of any new developments on the issue that may arise.

Methodology:

Review the monthly reports submitted by the DOC; meet periodically with DOC staff to discuss any barriers to implementation; and visit selected institutions where major enhancements are being made to observe the corrected items first-hand.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D (Lead)

Committee on Criminal Justice

OPPAGA

Department of Juvenile Justice Prevention Grant Awards

Objective(s):

To monitor the Department of Juvenile Justice's (DJJ) implementation of proviso associated with Specific Appropriation 1005A in the 1998-1999 General Appropriations Act relating to prevention and intervention grants.

Background:

Proviso associated with Specific Appropriation 1005A in the 1998-1999 General Appropriations Act (GAA) requires that the funds provided for prevention and intervention grants, to be awarded by the local Juvenile Justice Councils, are contingent upon the DJJ submitting a list of proposed grant recipients which states the purpose of each grant, the population to be served, and performance

measures and standards that will be used to evaluate each grant recipient's performance. In addition, proviso requires \$1,000,000 of the total \$4.2 million to be awarded for faith-based approaches. This project will be to review the proposals submitted by the DJJ to ensure that purposes and populations to be served are appropriate; to determine whether proposed performance measures and standards are appropriate and adequate; and to ensure that legislative intent is met with regard to faith-based approaches.

Methodology:

Attend DJJ management meetings which deal with this issue; review the DJJ proposals submitted; and meet as needed with DJJ staff.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D (Lead)
Committee on Criminal Justice
OPPAGA

Juvenile Justice Information System Development

Objective(s):

To monitor the Juvenile Justice Information System in order to identify any barriers to development and implementation pursuant to legislative intent.

Background:

This computer system has been in development for four years pursuant to statutory requirements established with the creation of the Department of Juvenile Justice in 1994. The increased appropriation for fiscal year 1998-1999 for this project was provided with the expectation that the system development and implementation costs would now be fully funded. This project has been one of the projects receiving special monitoring under the purview of the Technology Review Workgroup within the Executive Office of the Governor. Thus far there have been no significant problems with the system's development. This monitoring effort will follow the system through to completion to ensure that legislative intent is maintained.

Methodology:

Review the annual work plan submitted by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) pursuant to proviso in the 1998-1999 General Appropriations Act; attend briefings provided by the DJJ; review progress reports provided by the special project monitor for the Technology Review Workgroup; and visit selected field sites to observe actual operation of the system.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D (Lead)
Committee on Criminal Justice

State Attorney, Public Defender Uniform Quarterly Workload Reports

Objective(s):

To monitor and assess information obtained from the State Attorney and Public Defender quarterly reports defined in proviso language associated with Specific Appropriation 620 in the 1998-99

General Appropriations Act.

Background:

In the past, the Senate has worked in conjunction with the office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR), utilizing the courts SRS data and judicial caseload information and EDR's current system of data collection and forecast percentages, to provide a rational and meaningful explanation of funding workload for the State Attorneys and the Public Defenders. Presently, the offices of the State Attorneys do not provide the legislature, nor the executive or judicial branches of government with caseload information, attorney hours worked and other non-related case activities. The offices of the State Attorneys and the Public Defenders will go "on-line" for Performance Based Budgeting beginning in the fall of 1999. Sooner or later we will need to define common measures and standards for each office, 20 circuits total. By the submission of a uniform quarterly workload report for each office, we can begin the process of defining activities and office functions.

This research will also be applicable to propose funding options for the state attorney and public defender funding formulas.

Methodology:

Assess and review first quarter reports for compliance and information justification. Meet with appropriate staff in accordance with the proviso language in Specific Appropriation 620 to discuss possible links in reported information to future funding allocations.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D (Lead)
Committee on Judiciary

State Court System and Public Defender Indigency Examiners

Objective(s):

To monitor the State Court System's implementation of the Indigency Examiner Program. This program directly affects the Public Defender Indigent Criminal Trust Fund.

Background:

Chapters 96-232 and 96-376 create the public defender indigency trust fund, amend current law to define criminal indigents and establish fines and fees based on indigency and non-indigency.

The Indigent Criminal Defense Trust Fund is established within the Justice Administration Commission and provides a source of funding for each of the twenty public defender circuits. Current law establishes a \$40 indigency application fee to be paid into the county depository and then transferred to the trust. The program is administered by the State Courts System. In FY 1996-1997 the Legislature appropriated 20 FTE (one examiner per circuit) and \$500,000 of recurring general revenue to implement the program. Since inception, many counties are having difficulty collecting the fees or not collecting fees at all. This project affords insight to the collection of indigency fines

and fees thus giving us an idea of fiscal growth as well as percentage costs to state and local governments. The magnitude of collection per circuit (by percentages) will be investigated as well as how this fund is being used within the agency.

The Office of the Public Defender has never had a source of revenue such as the Indigent Criminal Defense Trust Fund. This project will provide a beneficial fiscal analysis that results in the comprehension of future funding levels and program changes.

Methodology:

Review trust fund receipts in each circuit as well as the fee collection process; review circuit proposals and programs for fee collection; meet as needed with Court and Public Defender staff to discuss any barriers to implementation; identify circuits where project implementation does not generate funds and why this is so; and visit circuits to view program first hand.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D (Lead)
Committee on Judiciary

State Court System Uniform Chart of Accounts

Objective(s):

To monitor and review the Court System's implementation and reporting of the Uniform Chart of Accounts pursuant to Section 218.325 Florida Statutes.

Background:

The Uniform Chart of Accounts and financial reporting system must provide that all revenues received and expenditures incurred by the county governments, clerks of court, the court or other judicial entities that are related to the operations of the circuit courts and county courts, and other components of the justice system can be accounted for in sufficient detail to permit reporting for both discrete functions and organizational units. The purpose of this legislation was to accurately account for and report Article V costs incurred by county government. These reports are very important to use to determine future funding allocations to the judicial branch of government.

Methodology:

Review the first submission of quarterly reports provided by the Clerks of the Courts on October 1, 1998; determine if offices are in compliance with general law.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

Florida Residents' Tax Relief Act of 1998

Objective(s):

Monitor the implementation by the Department of Revenue of the Tax Relief Act to determine the

effect of these provisions on retailers, specifically identifying what difficulties were encountered; estimate the actual revenue impact of the act; and to monitor the Department of Revenue's audit activities of clothing retailers.

Background:

The Legislature passed the "Florida Residents' Tax Relief Act of 1998", which provides that no sales and use tax shall be collected on sales of clothing having a taxable value of \$50 or less during the period of 12:01 a.m., August 15, 1998, through midnight, August 21, 1998. Clothing is defined to mean any article of wearing apparel, including footwear, intended to be worn on or about the human body and does not include watches, watchbands, jewelry, handbags, handkerchiefs, umbrellas, scarves, ties, headbands, or belt buckles.

Methodology:

Work with the Department of Revenue and Economic and Demographic Research to determine the actual costs to both the state and to retailers of implementation of this act.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

MANDATORY REVIEWS

Committee on Agriculture

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Performance-Based Budgeting

Objective(s):

To assure that the program budget submission of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services can proceed as scheduled based on Legislative and Executive Branch consensus of program reporting components and performance measures.

Background:

The Government Performance and Accountability Act of 1994 (Chapter 94-249, Laws of Florida) established a schedule for state agencies to submit program lists and begin performance-based budgeting. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) is required to submit their performance-based budget during the 1998-99 fiscal year for the 1999-2000 fiscal year.

Methodology:

Review and react to materials prepared by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and submitted to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting. Participate in staff meetings with House and Senate Appropriations staff and substantive committee staff as well as staff of OPB to discuss materials and proposals prepared by DACS. The DACS currently has 11 budget entities, over 3,300 employees and a total budget of more than \$200 million (excluding the Division of Consumer Services). Senators will be involved in decision making through the committee meeting process.

Participants

Committee on Agriculture (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A
OPPAGA

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities

A Review of the State of Florida's Foreign Offices (s. 288.012, F.S.)

Objective(s):

To evaluate the value of the foreign offices in promoting economic development in Florida.

Background:

The foreign offices associated with the former Department of Commerce are now operated under contract with the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development. These offices actually operate for the benefit of Enterprise Florida, Inc, and the local economic development councils. The offices were reviewed by OTTED this past year, with specific recommendations for improvement. The Legislature funded these offices at \$2 million in the 1998-99 fiscal year, \$300,000 more than in the current year.

Methodology:

Examine the services provided and the outcomes which can be substantiated for the cost of such offices. Compare the production with offices of other states and other departments of state government, including the Tourism Commission and the Citrus Commission.

Participants:

Committee on Commerce and Economic Opportunities (Lead)
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
Committee on Agriculture (for comparison of Citrus Commission foreign offices)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Committee on Health Care

Department of Health/PB²

Objective(s):

To obtain legislative review of and input into the selection of proposed programs for the Department of Health's performance-based program budgeting.

Background:

Under the provisions of ss. 216.0166 and 216.0172, F.S., the Department of Health will begin the process of submitting performance-based program budgets by identifying and submitting a list of proposed programs by October 15, 1998, for which performance measures will be developed over the following year for incorporation into the 2000-2001 fiscal year budget. Prior to approving the list of programs, the Governor's Office is required to discuss the list with the appropriate substantive committees of the Legislature.

Methodology:

Committee staff will work with the Department of Health to keep members of the committee informed about the development of a list of programs proposed for use in drafting performance-based program budgets.

Participants:

Committee on Health Care (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C
OPPAGA

Committee on Natural Resources

Review of S. 376.3073(7), F.S., Which Is Scheduled for Repeal on October 1, 1999.

Objective(s):

To determine if the scheduled repeal of s. 376.3073(1), F.S., relating to the voluntary preapproved

advanced cleanup program for petroleum storage sites should be allowed to go into effect and the ramifications of such repeal.

Background:

This provision was enacted as part of the major revision of the underground petroleum storage tank cleanup program that was enacted by the Legislature in 1996. The claims for reimbursement for the cleanup of contaminated sites were being filed much faster than the revenues for the program could accommodate. As a result, the program was in arrears for about \$350 million. This provision was enacted to allow site owners to get some state money to cleanup their sites before the sites were eligible for cleanup on the state's priority list. The owners were required to pay at least 25 percent of the cleanup costs as well as certain other costs that are not reimbursable by the state. The annual revenues from excise taxes for the underground petroleum storage tank cleanup program are \$160 million. Of that amount, \$10 million annually has been set aside by the Legislature for this preapproved advanced cleanup program.

Methodology:

Staff will work with the DEP to determine the effectiveness and feasibility of allowing this program to continue. Staff will also work with the Florida Petroleum Council and the Florida Petroleum Marketers and other interested persons to determine if this program is successful and facilitating the cleanup of contaminated sites. If it is found that this program should not be repealed, staff will develop legislation to ensure its continuation.

Participants:

Committee on Natural Resources

Committee on Regulated Industries

Performance-Based Budgeting: Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Department of the Lottery, and the Public Service Commission

Objective(s):

To monitor and review implementation of performance-based program budgeting by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the Department of the Lottery, and the Public Service Commission.

Background:

The following table outlines significant statutory due dates and agency contacts for agencies under the purview of the Senate Regulated Industries Committee.

Performance-based program budgeting due dates . . .	Program definitions to Governor	Performance measures to Governor	Performance-based program budget request to Governor and Legislature — Agency Contact
---	---------------------------------	----------------------------------	--

Department of Lottery	Oct. 15, 1997	June 1, 1998	Sept. 1, 1998 for FY 1999-2000 — <i>Marvin Doyle, Inspector General</i>
Dep't. of Business and Professional Regulation	Oct. 15, 1998	June 1, 1999	Sept. 1, 1999 for FY 2000-2001 — <i>Cynthia Burt, Budget Director</i>
Public Service Commission	Oct. 15, 1998	June 1, 1999	Sept. 1, 1999 for FY 2000-2001 — <i>Steve Tribble, Dir. of Admin.</i>

Methodology:

Maintain continuing contact with agencies and with staff of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Governmental Accountability (OPPAGA); attend and participate in meetings or workshops conducted by the agencies; coordinate with Ways and Means staff to ensure consistency in communicating Legislature's expectations to the department.

Participants:

Committee on Regulated Industries,
Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee A
OPPAGA

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

Performance Based Budgeting - Performance Measure Development

Objective():

To develop performance measures, where none have been developed, for programs in the departments of: Business and Professional Regulations, State Board of Administration, Administrative Hearings, Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Insurance, Lottery, Military Affairs, Environmental Protection, and Banking and Finance which can be used in the evaluation of program performance and the allocation of state resources.

Background:

Chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requires each state agency to implement Performance Based Budgeting (PBB) by fiscal year 2002. This project will involve working with the House Fiscal Responsibility Council, House and Senate Substantive Committees, the Governor's Office, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability in reaching a consensus on the identification of appropriate performance measures, which can be recommended to the legislature as a tool, for evaluating program effectiveness, performance, efficiency and allocation of resources.

Methodology:

Work with appropriate personnel in the Senate, House, Governor's Office, Office of Program Policy

and Analysis and Government Accountability, and state agencies in developing measures for programs with the assigned agencies of: Business and Professional Regulations, State Board of Administration, Administrative Hearings, Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Insurance, Lottery, Military Affairs, Environmental Protection, and Banking and Finance.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A (Lead)
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
Committee on Regulated Industries
Committee on Transportation
Committee on Natural Resources
Committee on Banking and Insurance
OPPAGA

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C

Participate in the Review and Analysis of Performance Based Budget Outcomes

Objective(S):

To ensure compliance with legislative intent and to achieve meaningful, useful budget measures.

Background:

Performance Based Budgeting was legislatively mandated in 1994.

Methodology:

- Attend all relevant meetings.
- Review and analyze agency proposals.
- Plan for interim committee meetings as appropriate.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C (Lead)
Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors
Committee on Health Care
OPPAGA

***Participate in Developing Measures for Performance Based Budgeting
in the Department of Elder Affairs***

Objective(s):

Participate in the analysis of performance based budgeting projections and submissions for the Department of Elder Affairs.

Background:

Pursuant to Chapter 94-249, Laws of Florida, and Chapter 216.0172, F.S., the Governor and the Legislature proposed the “Government Performance and Accountability Act” intended to focus attention on agency program results and outcome measures. Provided each agency clearly defines its programs and outcomes, the Governor and Legislature can use this information to evaluate state agency performance and the most efficient use of limited revenues.

Methodology:

This project will provide a critical analysis of each agency program to ensure that legislative objectives are achieved. This project provides the Legislature with an evaluative analysis to identify and assess program needs and implementation and predict future funding and agency growth.

Participants:

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee C
Committee on Children, Families and Seniors

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION IMPLEMENTATION STUDIES

A total of twelve revisions to the Florida Constitution have been proposed for consideration by the voters during the elections to be held in November 1998. Of those revisions, nine were developed by the Constitutional Revision Commission and three by the Florida Legislature. If approved by the voters, these revisions are likely to require action by the Legislature either to bring current law in conformance with revised constitutional language or to create statutes that implement the revisions. During the 1998 interim, Senate staff will determine what legislation will be required to implement each revision and will develop proposed legislation for consideration by members of the Senate after the November election.

The proposed constitutional revisions and related Senate committee assignments are as follows:

Constitutional Revision Commission Proposals

REVISION 1

Article II, s. 7(a); Article IV, s. 9; Article VII, s. 11 (e)-(f);
Article X, s. 18; Article XII, s. 22

Conservation of Natural Resources and Creation of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Requires adequate provision for conservation of natural resources; creates Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, granting it the regulatory and executive powers of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the Marine Fisheries Commission; removes legislature's exclusive authority to regulate marine life and grants certain powers to new commission; authorizes bonds to continue financing acquisition and improvement of lands for conservation, outdoor recreation, and related purposes; restricts disposition of state lands designated for conservation purposes.

Committees:

Committee on Natural Resources (Lead)

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee A

REVISION 2

Article IX, s. 1

Public Education of Children

Declares the education of children to be a fundamental value of the people of Florida; establishes adequate provision for education as a paramount duty of the state; expands constitutional mandate

requiring the state to make adequate provision for a uniform system of free public schools by also requiring the state to make adequate provision for an efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system.

Committees:

Committee on Education (Lead)

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B

REVISION 3

Article V, ss. 10, 11(a)-(b), 12(a), (f), 14; Article XII, s. 22

Local Option for Selection of Judges and Funding of State Courts

Provides for future local elections to decide whether to continue electing circuit and county judges or to adopt system of appointment of those judges by governor, with subsequent elections to retain or not retain those judges; provides election procedure for subsequent changes to selection of judges; increases county judges' terms from four to six years; corrects judicial qualifications commission term of office; allocates state courts system funding among state, counties, and users of courts.

Committees:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)

Committee on Community Affairs

Committee on Executive Business, Ethics, and Elections

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

REVISION 4

Article II, s. 8(h)(1); Article III, ss. 8(b), 16(b) and (f), 19(f)(3); Article IV, ss. 3(b), 4, 7(a), and 8(a); Article VIII, s. 1(I); Article IX, s. 2; Article XI, ss. 2(c), 3, 4, 5(a), and 6(e); Article XII, ss. 9(c)(5) and 22

Restructuring the State Cabinet

Merges cabinet offices of treasurer and comptroller into one chief financial officer; reduces cabinet membership to chief financial officer, attorney general, agriculture commissioner; secretary of state and education commissioner eliminated from elected cabinet; secretary of state duties defined by law; changes composition of state board of education from governor and cabinet to board appointed by governor; board appoints education commissioner; defines state board of administration, trustees of internal improvement trust fund, land acquisition trust fund.

Committees:

Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight (Lead)

Committee on Education

Committee on Banking and Insurance
Committee on Ways and Means

REVISION 5

Article I, s. 2

Basic Rights

Defines “natural persons,” who are equal before the law and who have inalienable rights, as “female and male alike;” provides that no person shall be deprived of any right because of national origin; changes “physical handicap” to “physical disability” as a reason that people are protected from being deprived of any right.

Committees:

Committee on Judiciary

REVISION 6

Article VII, s. 3(a),(f) and (g), Article VIII, s. 7

***Local and Municipal Property Tax Exemptions and
Citizen Access to Local Officials***

Broadens tax exemption for governmental uses of municipal property; authorizes legislature to exempt certain municipal and special district property used for airport, seaport, or public purposes; permits local option tax exemption for property used for conservation purposes; permits local option tangible personal property tax exemption for attachments to mobile homes and certain residential rental furnishings; removes limitations on citizens’ ability to communicate with local officials about matters which are the subject of public hearings.

Committees:

Committee on Community Affairs (Lead)

Committee on Judiciary

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee D

REVISION 7

Article IV, s. 5(a); Article VI, ss. 1, 2, 5, 7; Article IX, s. 4(a)

***Ballot Access, Public Campaign Financing and
Election Process Revisions***

Provides ballot access requirements for independent and minor party candidates cannot be greater than requirements for majority party candidates; allows all voters, regardless of party, to vote in any

party's primary election if the winner will have no general election opposition; provides public financing of campaigns for statewide candidates who agree to campaign spending limits; permits candidates for governor to run in primary elections without lieutenant governor; makes school board elections nonpartisan; corrects voting age.

Committees:

Committee on Executive Business, Ethics and Elections (Lead)
Committee on Education

REVISION 8
Article VIII, s. 5

***Firearms Purchases: Local Option for Criminal History
Records Check and Waiting Period***

Authorizes each county the option of requiring a criminal history records check and waiting period of 3 to 5 days in connection with the "sale" of any firearm; defines "sale" as the transfer of money or other valuable consideration for a firearm where any part of the transaction occurs on property open to public access; does not apply to holders of a concealed weapons permit when purchasing a firearm.

Committees:

Committee on Community Affairs (Lead)
Committee on Criminal Justice
Committee on Executive Business, Ethics and Elections

REVISION 9

Article I, ss. 4, 9, 16(a), 18, 23; Article II, ss. 5(b), 8(g)-(I); Article III, ss. 3(f), 8(a)-(b), 17(b)-(c), 18, 19(d); Article IV, ss. 1(a) and (c), 2, 3(b), 4(e), 7(a); Article V, ss. 1, 2(a) and (b), 3(a), 8, 10(a), 11(c), 17, 18, 20(c)(6) and (9), 20(d)(8), 20(e)(1); Article VII, ss. 4(b) and 6(b); Article IX, s. 5; Article X, ss. 3 and 4(a); Article XI, ss. 2 and 6

Miscellaneous Matters and Technical Revisions

Removes gender-specific references; allows prison sentences in court-martial actions; consolidates ethics code provisions; specifies time for veto message consideration; clarifies that legislature gives designated officials final general appropriations bills 72 hours before passage; allows direct appeal of courts-martial to specified state court and advisory opinions from federal military courts; requires earlier constitution revision commission appointments; changes tax and budget reform commission voting procedures and meetings from every 10 to every 20 years.

Committees:

Committee on Rules and Calendar (Lead)
Committee on Judiciary
Committee on Criminal Justice
Committee on Governmental Reform and Oversight
Committee on Executive Business, Ethics and Elections
Committee on Community Affairs
Committee on Education

Legislative Proposals

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3151 (SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 246)

Article VII, s. 6

Homestead Exemption/age 65 or Older

Authorizes counties and municipalities to grant an additional homestead tax exemption of up to \$25,000 to persons at least 65 years old whose household income does not exceed \$20,000. The joint resolution must be implemented by general law, which must define household income and must provide for periodic adjustment of the income limitation for changes in the cost of living.

Committees:

Committee on Community Affairs (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee E

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3505 (SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 964)

Article I, s. 17

Death Penalty Execution Method

Provides that the death penalty is an authorized punishment of capital crimes designated by the Legislature. Permits any method of execution unless prohibited by the United State Constitution. Methods of execution may be designated by the Legislature, and a change in execution method may be applied retroactively. A sentence of death may not be reduced on the basis that a method of execution is declared invalid and, in any case in which a method of execution is declared invalid, the death sentence shall remain in force until the sentence can be lawfully executed by any valid method.

Committees:

Committee on Criminal Justice (Lead)
Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee B

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 125 (SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1610)

Article VIII, s. 1.

Recording of Instruments/County Seat

Provides that an instrument is deemed recorded if filed at a branch office designated by the governing body of the county for the recording of instruments.

Committees:

Committee on Judiciary (Lead)

Committee on Community Affairs

SUBJECT INDEX

Subject	Page
A	
Administrative Rules	61
Adult Heart Transplants	21
Adult Services	4
Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of	48
Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of	76
Appellate Overload	11
Aquaculture	48
Article V.	23
Article V.	83
B	
Ballot Access	84
Bankruptcy	25
Basic Rights	84
Benefits for Dependent Children	42
Bill of Lading	1
Board of Regents	69
Bodily Injury	1
Brownfields	65
Budget	35
Budget	36
Budget	37
Budget	42
Business and Professional Regulation, Department of	29
Business and Professional Regulation, Department of	78
C	
Cabinet Restructuring	83
Case-Mix Methodology, Nursing Home Reimbursement	69
Caseload System, Judicial	64
Cemetery Industry	28
Central Services Agency Relevance	20
Centralized Lien Filing	22
Charter Schools	58
Child Support Enforcement	63
Children and Families, Department of	4
Citizen Access to Local Officials	84
Class Size Reduction Incentives	38
Clean Air	34
Committee Chairmen	30
Committee Operations	31
Community Affairs, Department of	68

SUBJECT INDEX

Subject	Page
Community College Governance	13
Community Colleges	39
Confidentiality	62
Conflict System	11
Conservation	82
Constitutional Revision	82
Constitutional Revision	82
Constitutional Revision	83
Constitutional Revision	83
Constitutional Revision	84
Constitutional Revision	84
Constitutional Revision	84
Constitutional Revision	85
Constitutional Revision	85
Constitutional Revision	86
Constitutional Revision	86
Constitutional Revision	87
Construction	54
Contracted Services Corporation	18
Contracting Methods, DOT	66
Corrections	55
Corrections	70
Corrections Privatization Commission	70
Corrections, Department of	71
Cost Effectiveness	57
County Courts	3
County Government	23
Court System	23
Crime	9
D	
Death Penalty	86
Decentralization	20
Defined Contribution	19
Deregulation	58
Developmental Services	51
Diesel Fuel	47
Drug Screening and Testing	52
Drugs, War on	9
E	
Easements of Necessity	25
Economic Development	5

SUBJECT INDEX

Subject	Page
Education	13
Education	14
Education	15
Education	38
Education	40
Education	58
Education	59
Education	60
Education	60
Education	82
Education, Postsecondary	59
Educational Facilities	14
Elder Affairs, Department of	4
Elder Affairs, Department of	80
Elections	84
Electric Vehicles	33
Elementary School	14
Emergency Telephone System	8
Eminent Domain	7
Employment	53
Enterprise Zones	45
Environment	27
Environment	77
Environmental Protection, Department of	28
Ethics	16
Everglades Construction Project	65
Eviction	20
Execution Method	86
Executive Appointments	16
F	
Federal Communications Commission	8
Finance, Public Schools	40
Fines, Fees. Forfeitures	45
Firearms Purchases	85
Five-year Master Plan	69
Florida Kidcare Program	62
Florida Recreation and Development Assistance Program (FRDAP)	36
Florida Retirement System	18
Florida Retirement System	19
Florida Workers' Compensation Insurance Guaranty Association	49
Foreign Offices	76
Forensic Mental Health Services	3

SUBJECT INDEX

Subject	Page
Foster Care and Related Services	52
Funding	22
Funding	39
Funding	44
Funding Model	41
Funeral Industry	28
G	
Grant Application Process	35
Growth Management	53
H	
Health Care	62
Health Insurance	3
Health, Department of	77
High School Graduation Requirements	60
High Speed Rail	66
Homestead Exemption	86
I	
Indigency Examiners	73
Information System Development	72
Inmate Program	10
Inmate Work Assignments	10
Insurance	49
Insurance Rating Practices	3
Intangible Taxation	24
International Registration Plan	47
J	
Jail Inspections	56
Job Training	6
Joint Committee on Legislative Oversight	65
Joint Use Facilities	14
Judicial Resources	26
Judiciary	45
Judiciary	25
Judiciary	83
Judiciary	25
Judiciary	26
Judiciary	64
Juvenile Delinquency	9
Juvenile Justice	71
Juvenile Justice	72
Juvenile Justice Commitment Programs	57

SUBJECT INDEX

Subject	Page
L	
Labor and Employment Security, Department of	6
Liens, Domestic and Foreign	22
Local Bill Process	32
Local Government	7
M	
Medicaid	69
Medicaid	20
Medicaid	21
Medical Education	43
Member Projects	35
Mental Health Services, Child and Adolescent	50
Mobile Sources	34
Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance	1
N	
Natural Resources	82
Nursing Home Care	69
Nursing Home Residents	20
P	
Patient Information	62
Performance-Based Budgeting	77
Performance-Based Budgeting	80
Performance-Based Budgeting	80
Performance-Based Budgeting	76
Performance-Based Budgeting	78
Performance-Based Budgeting	79
Performance Evaluation	58
Petroleum Storage Sites	77
Port Funding	67
Prevention	71
Private Postsecondary Education Institutions	39
Privatization	55
Privatization	70
Privatization	29
Privatization	52
Privatization	2
Property Tax Exemptions	84
Public Defender	11
Public Defender	72
Public Defender	73
Public Schools	38

SUBJECT INDEX

Subject	Page
Public Schools	58
Q	
Qualified Products Lists, DOT	34
R	
Readiness for School	15
Recording of Instruments	87
Residential Mitigation Program	68
Residential Property Insurance Market	49
Revenue	1
Revenue	46
Revenue	47
Revenue, Department of	68
Road Rage	35
S	
Safe Drinking Water	64
School District	12
School Health Services	22
Security Enhancements	71
Senate Operations	30
Senate Operations	31
Senate Operations	32
Senate Operations	32
Senate Operations Manual	33
Senate Page Program	32
Sexual Offender Registration	57
Sexual Predator Registration	57
Small County Facilities	44
Smart Government	17
State Agency Administration	17
State Attorney	72
State Case Registry, CSE	63
State Comprehensive Plan	53
State Court System	44
State Court System	73
State Court System	74
State Disbursement Unit, CSE	63
State Land Development Plan	53
State Lands Management	37
State Prison System	10
State Unified Building Code	54
State University System	69

SUBJECT INDEX

Subject	Page
State University System	41
Statute of Limitations	46
Student Progress	14
SUNTAX	68
T	
Tax & Budget Reform Commission	85
Tax Exemptions	45
Tax Free Shopping Days	74
Tax Relief	74
Taxation	68
Taxpayer Audits	46
Teaching	59
Technology	12
Telecommunications	30
Timber Management	48
Transportation	7
Transportation	34
Transportation	66
Transportation	67
Transportation and Land Use Study Committee	55
Trust Assets	24
U	
Uniform Chart of Accounts	74
Uniform Quarterly Workload Reports	72
V	
Veto Message Time Frame	85
W	
WAGES Program	52
WAGES Program	53
WAGES Program	67
Worker's Compensation	2
Worker's Compensation	49
Workforce Development	60