

BUDGET CONFERENCE

By the start of week eight, the Senate and House were deadlocked over budget allocations. Final agreement on budget allocations was reached Tuesday afternoon and conference committees immediately began their work. By Friday, most conference committees had completed their work, with unresolved issues bumped to budget chairs on Saturday. Budget chairs JD Alexander (R-Lake Wales) and Denise Grimsley (R-Sebring) worked through the weekend. By Sunday, they hammered out the differences to close out most budgets.

The conference committee also agreed to reduce the amount of cuts for substance abuse and mental health programs to \$2.1 million, a substantial reduction. Higher education is now the only major area of the budget where lawmakers have yet to agree. Chairs Grimsley and Alexander are working today to gain agreement on all conforming bills and budgetary fine print. To end session on time, the budget must be on the desk of legislators by tomorrow, Tuesday, March 6th allowing a 72-hour review period.

Additionally, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments last week on the redistricting maps passed by the Legislature. Both chambers know that the Supreme Court response is expected this week, as early as Thursday, so timing is important. If the Supreme Court rejects the plan, they will direct the Legislature to immediately begin to redraw the maps. This could mean a special session later this spring.

BUDGET CONFERENCE: Where we ended up in DJJ

- Restores all cuts to DJJ front end programming
- Adds \$6M investment to Redirection Programming
- Adds \$450K for Web Based Early Intervention
- Adds \$650K for Comprehensive Transition Planning/Case Management
- Reduces \$11.8 million in Residential Beds

BUDGET CONFERENCE: Where we started in DJJ

<i>DJJ Budget- House</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>DJJ Budget -Senate</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Reduce Redirections Program- 10%	(\$936K)	Expand Redirection Program <i>* Amendment redirecting \$2M to HCI</i>	\$8M
Reduce non-delinquency rehab -10%	(\$1.8M)	Statewide Electronic Records	\$500K
Reduce PACE services- 10%	(\$766K)	Increase Transition Planning & Case Management	\$2.3M
Reduce CINSFINS services- 10%	(\$1.9M)	Increase funds for WINGS Program (girls/infants)	\$138K
Eliminate legislative initiatives	(\$2.055M)	Boys & Girls Club Gang Prevention	\$2M
Respite Care for domestic violence youth	\$1.176M	Respite Care for Domestic Violence Youth	\$1.176M
Reduce 288 non-secure residential beds	(\$11.8M)	Reduce 382 non secure residential beds	(\$15.6M)
Reduce 45 wilderness residential beds	(\$1.48M)	Reduce 45 wilderness residential beds	(\$1.48M)
Reduce detention for domestic violence youth	(\$3.2M)	Reduce detention for domestic violence youth	(\$3.2M)
Reduce detention cost share for fiscally constrained counties	(\$748K)	Reduce detention cost share for fiscally constrained counties	(\$748K)
Boys and Girls Club <i>in Pasco County</i>	\$1M	Web Based Early Intervention	\$600K
Capital Outlay- state facility	\$187K	Maintenance-closed Desoto facility	\$582K
Capital Outlay- private facility	\$200K	Other maintenance and repair	\$2.27M
Passed DJJ Budget- \$506,392,727		Passed DJJ Budget- \$534,006,537	
\$22M reduction from Current Year-\$528,744,303		\$5.2M increase from Current Year-\$528,744,303	

BILL TRACKING: This week

LEGISLATION	HOUSE #	SENATE#
Juvenile Justice Education – Creates individualized transition plans, Creates Stephen Wise Commission	HB949 –Read second time	SB834 – now in budget
Juvenile Justice – Allows DJJ to pay up to \$5,000 in funeral expenses of children who die in DJJ custody, authorizes mother-infant programs.	HB173 – Senate in messages	SB504 – second reading
Zero Tolerance – Clarifies current law that petty acts of misconduct and some misdemeanor offenses are not threats to school safety.	HB1445 – Stalled	SB1886 – Special order calendar
Juvenile Expunction – Allows minors with certain felony arrests to expunge non judicial arrest record upon successful completion of pre arrest or post arrest diversion.	HB 497 - Read second time	SB940 - Now in budget
Parole of Juvenile Offenders – Provides that juvenile offender less than 18 years of age at time of commission of non homicide offense who is sentenced to life imprisonment is eligible for resentencing if they have been incarcerated for minimum period.	HB005 - Senate in messages	CS/SB212 - in budget
Background Screening – Creates background screening clearinghouse, exempts volunteers, relatives, physicians, nurses, and other licensed professionals from Level 2 background screening.	CC/CS/HB943 – Senate referred to 2 committees	SB 320 – special order calendar