



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

providing youth the knowledge and life skills they need to be productive, responsible citizens

RESOURCE MANUAL II

Bill Book and Lobby Bill Chart

June 22-26, 2026

State Capitol in Tallahassee, FL



54th Session of the Florida 4-H Legislature
2026

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA





FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

providing youth the knowledge and life skills they need to be productive, responsible citizens

RESOURCE MANUAL II

Edited By:

Youth Bill Editing Committee

Annalise Watkins

Cole Arrant

Abrey Ayers

Jay Morant

Tiera Merryman

Juan Romero

Kelsey Cook, Program Coordinator & Florida 4-H State Events Coordinator

David Hafner, Adult Committee Member & Martin County 4-H Extension Agent

Katie Ross and Summer Wayne, 2026 Youth Planning Committee Co-Chairs



The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to race, color, sex, age, disability or national origin. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A. & M. and University Cooperative Extension Program cooperating.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, Andrea Johnson, UF IFAS Dean, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, publishes this information to further the purpose of the May 8 and June 30, 1914 Acts of Congress; and is authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. The information in this publication is available in alternate formats. Single copies of extension publications (excluding 4-H and youth publications) are available free to Florida residents from county extension offices.



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

2026 4-H LEGISLATURE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Governor & 4-H Legislature Committee Co-Chair: Summer Wayne

4-H Legislature Lt. Governor: Timmy Hawes

4-H Legislature Committee Co-Chair: Katie Ross

Senate

House

President of the Senate

Katie Ross

Secretary of the Senate

Robert Albee

Agriculture and Natural Resources Chair

Jessie Abercrombie

Criminal Justice Chair

Hunter Varnadoe & Laretta Compton

Education Chair

Kylie Goodson & Shelby Lawrence

GCT Chair

Ben George

Health and Human Services Chair

Abrey Ayers & Juan Romero

Juvenile Justice Chair

Zaivan Cintron & Wesley Wood

Green Party Leader

Ben George

Gold Party Leader

Kylie Goodson

Speaker of the House

Lily Simmer

Clerk of the House

Julia Cota

Agriculture and Natural Resources Chair

Cole Arrant & Benjamin Souza

Criminal Justice Chair

Annalise Watkins & Bryce Cassady

Education Chair

Tierra Merryman & Brooklyn Hansford

GCT Chair

Tyler Evrard-Vescio

Health and Human Services Chair

Kelsey Reddish & Josie Rosauer

Juvenile Justice Chair

Jay Morant

Green Party Leader

Annalise Watkins

Gold Party Leader

Jay Morant

Chief Public Relations Officer: Sophia Massey

Social Media Team: Sophia Massey & Jessie Abercrombie

Co-Head Lobbyists: Kylee Selph & Jesslyn Price

Adult Committee: Kelsey Cook, David Hafner, and Sara Brake



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Dear Legislature Participant,

Welcome to the 54th Session of the Florida 4-H Legislature. We are beyond excited to welcome you to Tallahassee for a week that will challenge you, inspire you, and push you to grow as a leader.

We are Summer Wayne, serving as your Governor, and Katherine “Katie” Ross, serving as your President of the Senate. It is an honor to lead this session together, and we are incredibly grateful that you chose to be part of this experience. Whether this is your first Legislature or your fourth, you belong here.

Florida 4-H Legislature is more than an event. It is a transformative opportunity to step into the role of a Senator, Representative, Lobbyist, or Media Correspondent and engage in meaningful debate on real-world issues. Throughout the week, you will strengthen your public speaking skills, sharpen your critical thinking, and build lasting friendships with young leaders from across our state. Our time in the Capitol and in committee rooms is not simply about passing bills. It is about learning to listen intentionally, challenge ideas respectfully, and advocate with confidence and professionalism.

We understand that Legislature can feel overwhelming at first. Many participants walk into their first session unsure of what to expect. What makes this event so special is the welcoming and supportive community that surrounds you. In both the Senate and the House, every voice matters. We are committed to creating an environment where thoughtful debate is encouraged, leadership is modeled, and every participant feels confident stepping to the podium.

To make the most of your experience, we strongly encourage you to carefully review Manual 1 and Manual 2 on the Florida 4-H Legislature website. Familiarize yourself with your assigned role, parliamentary procedure, and the bills up for debate. Preparation will empower you to participate boldly and make this experience even more meaningful.

If you have questions at any point during the week, look for Planning Committee members wearing gold name tags. We are here to support you, whether you need guidance on a bill, help locating a committee room, or encouragement before your first speech.

We cannot wait to see the passion, ideas, and leadership you bring to the 54th Session. Come prepared. Stay engaged. Lead with integrity. This week has the potential to become one of your most meaningful 4-H experiences.

We are so excited to see you in Tallahassee this summer!

Handwritten signatures of Summer Wayne and Katie Ross in black ink.

Summer Wayne & Katie Ross

2026 Legislature Planning Committee Co-Chairs



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Bills Titles by Committee

Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

AG01 – An act relating to the banning of foreign ownership of any Florida Farmland.

Pro: Protects national food security, helps family farmers, improves transparency, and supports rural communities.

Con: May violate free-market principles, risk of retaliation, enforcement challenges.

AG02 – An act relating to prohibiting the use of synthetic fertilizers and chemical pesticides.

Pro: Reduce water and soil contamination. Encourage the adoption of sustainable and organic farming practices.

Con: Reduces crop yields, higher food prices, economic impact on farmers, and increased labor costs.

AG03 – An act relating to genetically engineered food labeling.

Pro: Including the specific labelling in agricultural products allows consumers to make educated conclusions.

Con: The additional labeling requirements add financial burden to the suppliers and users of the impacted products.

AG04 – An act relating to labeling meat products with a country of origin.

Pro: Consumers will now know where the meat that are ready to consume comes from

Con: It can be hard to regulate on small local business and individuals

AG05 – An act relating to emerging crops research study.

Pro: Encourages innovation in Florida agriculture by researching new crops that could help farmers adapt.

Con: Requires state funding. Ideas from the public contest may be unrealistic. May add extra time and cost to research.

AG06 – An act relating to free-range commercial eggs

Pro: Free-range hens can forage bugs, grass, and herbs which will help lower costs.

Con: Extra space will be needed for chickens. Hens are more susceptible to predators.

AG07 – An act relating to Farmer Grants and Loans Reforms.

Pro: Provides more resources to prevent farm closures. Redirecting funds can help farmers avoid foreclosures.

Con: Reduced opportunity for new farms to get assistance with start-up. Results in fewer youth in the farming industry.

AG08 – An act relating to prohibiting the sale of invasive plants in Floridian plant nurseries.

Pro: Floridian ecosystems will be further protected from the invasive species epidemic.

Con: Local plant nurseries will face economic harm by being unable to sell some species of plants.

AG09 – An act relating to voluntary pollinator conservation incentives for agricultural producers.

Pro: Promotes pollinator conservation through voluntary, incentive-based participation.

Con: May have limited impact if funding or participation is low. Increases administrative responsibilities for FDACS.

AG10 – An act relating to Florida Environmental Control; establishing a system of fines to deter businesses from creating environmental damage.

Pro: It will deter pollution by big businesses. Fines placed on businesses will mitigate the harm done to the environment. By using various funding opportunities, we take less money that is necessary for the government to fund Education, Agriculture, and other governmental businesses.

Con: There will be higher costs for businesses that do not consider the environment when making business decisions.



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Bills Titles by Committee

Criminal Justice Committee

CJ01 – An act relating to emergency mental health response services.

Pro: Provides faster responses to mental health crises, reducing unnecessary arrests and strain on law enforcement.

Con: Requires ongoing funding and coordination that may be challenging for resource-limited counties to sustain.

CJ02 – An act relating to AI in Criminal Justice Oversight.

Pro: Protects civil rights, increases transparency, and prevents over-reliance on technology.

Con: Increased costs, slower law enforcement operations, and limits law enforcement flexibility.

CJ03 – An act relating to sales or transfer of ammunition.

Pro: Increases citizen safety by ensuring that persons with criminal history will not have lawful access to ammunition.

Con: Adds a financial burden to firearm owners.

CJ04 – An act relating to making a statewide program for inmate dog training.

Pro: Train shelter dogs and teach inmates team building skills.

Con: Increased taxes.

CJ05 – An act relating to the euthanasia of dangerous animals.

Pro: The euthanasia of dangerous animals will protect humans and stop dogs from being threats.

Con: Euthanasia is an emotional event for the owners of a dangerous animal.

CJ06 – An act relating to criminalization of marijuana used for medical purposes.

Pro: Creates uniform statewide drug policy and simplifies enforcement by removing exemptions

Con: Eliminates access for patients who rely on medical marijuana.

CJ07 – An act relating to the public display of harmful crime offenders.

Pro: Makes criminals easily identifiable. Easier for citizens to be aware of their surrounds and their personal safety.

Con: Punishes people physically rather than rehabilitating them and permanently labels someone for life.

CJ08 – An act relating to the rehabilitation of non-violent offenders.

Pro: This would be very beneficial for offenders and likely decrease the number of repeat offenders.

Con: These programs will be extensive requiring time and proper staffing.

CJ09 – An act relating to ignition of interlock device requirements for those convicted of driving under the influence.

Pro: Reduces repeat DUI offenses and focuses on prevention rather than incarceration.

Con: Increases costs for individuals convicted of DUI and raises concerns about access for low-income drivers.

CJ10 – An act relating to autism spectrum disorder training for law enforcement officers.

Pro: Provides law enforcement officers with training to better respond to individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

Con: It could raise concerns about fairness or equal treatment if officers are not properly trained.



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Bills Titles by Committee

Education Committee

ED01 – An act relating to a 4-day school week for kindergarten to 12th grade

Pro: Longer school hours that work around work hours/ more planning time for teachers.

Con: Parents need to find care for kids on Fridays.

ED02 – An act relating to banning public facial recognition for minors in the classroom.

Pro: Threatens children's privacy, safety, and rights. It can misidentify students and cause unfair treatment.

Con: Enhances security and efficiency by ensuring only authorized individuals enter the campus.

ED03 – An act relating to underage drinking and recklessness on college campuses.

Pro: colleges will be safer as well as cleaner, highlighting the problems with drinking and alcohol abuse.

Con: There may be backlash for this bill.

ED04 – An act relating to social media and Cyber Behavior Education.

Pro: Helps students stay safe and responsible online by teaching them the real consequences of social media misuse.

Con: Adds another requirement to school curricula, which may increase workload for schools and teachers.

ED05 – An act relating to adding the FAST test to homeschool students' academic annual evaluation.

Pro: The government and families will be able to monitor student academic success more easily.

Con: Homeschool families and superintendents may feel more unprecedented pressure.

ED06 – An act relating to financial literacy and life skills education in public high schools.

Pro: Provide essential life skills, better preparing them for adulthood, careers, and responsible decision-making.

Con: Some students may view the courses as less relevant, reducing engagement or interest in the material.

ED07 – An act relating to an increased minimum base salary for all full-time classroom teachers.

Pro: Will attract more teachers to Florida schools with higher pay opportunities.

Con: Sales tax on goods and services that will increase to accommodate the increase of teacher's salary.

ED08 – An act relating to community service graduation requirement for Florida High School students.

Pro: Boosts student's resumes and increases eligibility for scholarships like the Florida Bright Futures Program.

Con: Some students and families might view the requirement as an undue burden, detracting from other priorities.

ED09 – An act relating to students becoming bilingual by the end of their high school years.

Pro: Being bilingual will help students build more connections with people close by and abroad.

Con: Some students may not want to add another class to their schedule.

ED10 – An act relating to the Florida education budget; establishing a mandatory minimum threshold for education spending as a percentage of state revenue.

Pro: Teacher Morale: By covering 100% of training and 20% of healthcare, we significantly reduce the "out-of-pocket" stress that leads to teacher burnout.

Con: Opponents may argue that allowing a Federal official (the President) to trigger a state budget clause gives the federal government too much power over Florida's money.



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Bills Titles by Committee

Government, Commerce, and Transportation Committee

GCT01 – An act relating to capping the Chief Executive Officer's salary at 20 times the lowest company salary.

Pro: Reduces income inequality and promotes fairness within the workplace.

Con: May make it harder for companies to attract and retain top executive talent.

GCT02 – An Act relating to a Florida autobahn.

Pro: It makes transportation faster across Florida.

Con: It makes the road more dangerous.

GCT03 – An act relating to the age requirement for driving electric scooters.

Pro: Ensure the safety of pedestrians, cars, and those driving electric scooters.

Con: Requires more time for those who are charged to enforce the law.

GCT04 – An Act relating to fare-free public transportation in the State of Florida.

Pro: Removes transportation cost barriers for students, workers, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

Con: Increases tax burden on high-net-worth individuals and raises concerns about long-term revenue stability.

GCT05 – An act relating to prohibiting ICE agents from concealing their identity

Pro: This will makes ICE operations safer for those they want to take into custody.

Con: This could cause safety issues for agents.

GCT06 – An act relating to the revision of the Florida Move Over Law to specific wording.

Pro: Provides a safer road environment for the occupant of the disabled, potentially hazardous vehicle and others.

Con: Some drivers may find this addition unnecessary and overly restrictive.

GCT07 – An act relating to creating statewide smart communities.

Pro: Improves public safety, uses technology responsibly, helps vulnerable communities, builds community trust.

Con: Privacy concerns, implementation costs, technology dependence, maintenance and oversight challenges.

GCT08 – An Act relating to modernization of state transportation infrastructure.

Pro: Helps keep up roads and transportation infrastructure.

Con: Funding may be costly to taxpayers.

GCT09 – An act relating to the purchase of firearms by Sworn Law Enforcement Officers under the age of 21.

Pro: Ensures young sworn law enforcement officers can legally obtain firearms based on their responsibilities.

Con: Increases administrative and verification burdens on firearm sellers and to confirm eligibility.

GCT10 – An act relating to the construction, funding, and enforcement of a recycling center for each county in the State of Florida.

Pro: Decreased environmental impact from garbage centers, as well as decreased plastic production and pollution.

Con: As this program is optional, many counties may choose to forgo the grant, resulting in reduced impact.



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Bills Titles by Committee

Health and Human Services Committee

HHS01 – An act relating to prohibiting conversion practices on minors.

Pro: This helps protect minors who may be in an unsupportive environment.

Con: Some may view this as impending on parents' rights.

HHS02 – An act relating to raising the age to buy alcohol or drink in public establishments to 25 years of age.

Pro: Protects brain development.

Con: Conflicts with the other states and the world's age of drinking.

HHS03 – An act relating to not charging emergency ambulance usage by the public.

Pro: More people will use ambulances to help improve their health, and health care access will rise.

Con: Reimbursement to EMS's may be backed up or slowed at some point do to certain governmental circumstances.

HHS04 – An act relating to obesity prevention and sugary drink tax act.

Pro: Improves public health, encourages healthier choices, generates revenue for health programs.

Con: Government overreach, economic impact on small businesses, and questionable effectiveness

HHS05 – An act relating to the raising of taxes imposed on nicotine-containing products.

Pro: Reduces youth access and usage and generates new funding for prevention programs.

Con: Increases cost for adult consumers, retailers may oppose additional regulation.

HHS06 – An act relating to disposable toilet seat covers.

Pro: This bill will help prevent the transfer of diseases (E. coli, skin irritations, norovirus etc.).

Con: Establishments will have to install these toilet seat covers that may cost extra money.

HHS07 – An act relating to requiring all persons diagnosed with STDs to state it on their government issued ID.

Pro: Brings awareness to Floridians about others who have STDs so they may protect themselves.

Con: Infringes on one's right to privacy.

HHS08 – An act relating to unauthorized public camping and public sleeping.

Pro: Improves public health by requiring designated camping sites to have clean water, operable restrooms, & security.

Con: May place a heavy financial and logistical burden on local governments.

HHS09 – An act relating to age requirements for ear piercings.

Pro: Gives 16-year-olds a sense of freedom and expression.

Con: Parents or schools may not want minors getting ear piercings.

HHS10 – An act relating to mandating that employers provide paid parental leave.

Pro: People will face less stress and have more time to focus on their families without worrying about their employment.

Con: Employers must pay workers without receiving their service in return, as well hold their job for an extended period.



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Bills Titles by Committee

Juvenile Justice Committee

JJJ01 – An act relating to the ban of minors receiving tattoos.

Pro: This bill protects minors from making permanent decisions at a young age and promotes health and safety.

Con: This bill limits personal choice and parental authority over decisions involving their children.

JJ02 – An act relating to offenses by adolescents resulting in death or serious injury.

Pro: This Act will reduce the crime rate by young offenders that are 12 years old and older.

Con: This Act will require additional funding and specialized schools and jails for adolescent offenders.

JJ03 – An act relating to lowering the drinking age to 18.

Pro: Gives more privileges to young adults.

Con: May subject them to addiction during the tail end of their development.

JJ04 – An act relating to making the juvenile court jurisdiction begin at ten (10) years of age.

Pro: Reduces the potential harm of labeling young children as criminals.

Con: Children under ten (10) are not held accountable for their actions, which may encourage them to repeat their offense.

JJ05 – An act relating to minors performing and being convicted of sexual crimes and offenses.

Pro: This bill can help offenders feel the impact of what they have done.

Con: There may be issues with funding and actual enforcement as most sexual criminals go unconvicted.

JJ06 – An Act relating to minors, second chances, and records.

Pro: Protects youth from lifelong punishments for minor offenses and promotes long-term outcomes.

Con: This could make it hard for schools, employers, or law enforcement to know the previous history of minor offenses.

JJ07 – An act relating to restricting the unlawful possession of firearms by minors.

Pro: Provides a strong deterrent against juvenile gun violence by ensuring serious consequences for offenders.

Con: Early felony records may limit educational and career opportunities for minors.

JJ08 - An act relating to age requirements for ear piercings.

Pro: Gives 16-year-olds a sense of freedom and expression.

Con: Parents or school may not want minors getting ear piercings.

JJ09 – An act relating to juvenile criminal records; automatic sealing and expungement; and rehabilitation and reintegration.

Pro: Gives youth a second chance, improves access to jobs and education, and eliminates costly legal petition processes

Con: Limits public access to criminal history, victims may feel justice is minimized, risk of repeat offenses being hidden.

JJ10 – An Act relating to restorative discipline practices prior to juvenile justice referral in the State of Florida.

Pro: Reduces unnecessary juvenile justice involvement and improves educational and behavioral outcomes.

Con: Requires training and program implementation. May limit immediate disciplinary options.



FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Lobby Bill Pro/Con Chart

Citizens' Committee for Individual Rights (CCIR)

For: CJ01, CJ08, ED02, GCT04, GCT07, HHS03, HHS09, JJ06, JJ09, JJ10

Against: AG02, CJ06, CJ07, ED10, GCT01, GCT05, HHS04, HHS05, JJ01

Churches of Florida United (CFU)

For: AG06, AG09, CJ01, CJ04, CJ08, ED03, ED04, ED06, GCT07, HHS01, HHS02, HHS10, JJ10

Against: CJ07, ED10, HHS07, JJ03

Florida Business Association (FBA)

For: AG05, AG07, CJ08, ED06, GCT02, GCT08, HHS03

Against: AG02, AG03, AG06, CJ02, ED07, ED10, GCT01, GCT04, HHS04, HHS05

Florida Parents for Education (FPE)

For: ED01, ED04, ED06, ED07, ED08, ED09, GCT10, HHS01, HHS06, JJ06, JJ10

Against: CJ07, ED10, GCT01, JJ01, JJ03

Law Enforcement Council (LEC)

For: AG01, AG10, CJ03, CJ05, CJ06, CJ07, CJ09, CJ10, ED03, GCT03, GCT06, GCT09

Against: CJ01, CJ02, CJ08, GCT05, ED10

Stewards Of Earth (SOE)

For: AG02, AG06, AG08, AG09, AG10, ED04, GCT04, GCT06, HHS06, HHS08

Against: AG03, CJ05, HHS04

1
2
FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG01
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

3
4 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
5 A Bill to Be Entitled

6
7 An Act relating to the banning of foreign ownership of any Florida Farmland.

8
9 Section 1. The purpose of this Act is to protect Florida’s agricultural economy, preserve rural
10 land resources, and ensure that farmland within the State of Florida remains under domestic
11 control. This legislation is intended to strengthen Florida’s food security and support local
12 farmers and rural communities.

13
14 Section 2. No foreign entity shall purchase, acquire, or hold any ownership of interest in
15 agricultural land located within the State of Florida. Any foreign entity currently owning
16 agricultural land in Florida must divest such land through sale or transfer to a United States
17 citizen or United States–owned entity within two (2) years of the effective date of this Act.
18 The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) shall coordinate with
19 the Florida Attorney General and the United States Department of Justice to ensure compliance
20 and enforcement of this Act.

21
22 Section 3. Violations and Penalties

23 A foreign entity found in violation of this Act shall be subject to the following:

- 24 1. Civil fines not exceeding two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) per
25 violation; and
26 2. Mandatory sale of the land to a United States citizen or United States–owned
27 entity within six (6) months of being found in violation.

28 Each parcel of agricultural land owned in violation of this Act shall constitute a separate offense
29 for the purpose of charging and enforcement.

30
31 Section 4. Definitions

32 “Foreign Entity”- Any individual who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United
33 States; or any corporation, partnership, or organization in which a
34 foreign individual or foreign government owns more than 10 percent interest.

35
36 “Agricultural Land”- land used for farming, ranching, livestock production, or crop cultivation.

37
38 Section 5. Exceptions

39 This act shall not apply to:

- 40 1. Agricultural land inherited by foreign individuals provided such land is sold
41 within three years
42 2. Foreign-owned land used exclusively for agricultural research in partnership with
43 U.S. institutions, as approved by the Secretary.

44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law January 1, 2027

SUMMARY

This bill will ban foreign entities from owning Florida farmland.

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Protects national food security, strengthens national security, helps family farmers, improves transparency, and supports rural communities.

Con: May violate free-market principles, risk of retaliation, legal and Constitutional concerns, enforcement challenges.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG02
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to prohibiting the use of synthetic fertilizers and chemical pesticides.

7
8 Section 1. All use of synthetic fertilizers and chemical pesticides will be prohibited from being
9 used in food crops, and organic alternatives must be used.

10
11 Section 2. The Department of Environmental Protection shall enforce this Act. Inspections may
12 be conducted to ensure compliance. Violations shall be subject to penalties. This targets all
13 Florida Farmers.

14
15 Section 3. There will be a penalty system.

- 16 1. A first violation shall result in a written warning
17 2. A second violation shall result in a fine not exceeding \$5,000.
18 3. Repeated violations may result in higher fines and suspension
19 of agricultural licenses.

20
21 Section 4. Definitions

- 22 a. "Synthetic fertilizer"- any man-made chemical substance used to promote plant
23 growth
24 b. "Chemical pesticide"- any synthetic substance used to prevent, destroy, repel, or
25 mitigate pests.
26 c. "Organic Alternatives"- includes compost, manure, natural soil amendments, and
27 biological pest control methods.

28
29
30 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law (January 1, 2027)

31 *****

32 **SUMMARY**

33
34 This bill will ban the use of pesticides and chemicals in our crops used for food.

35
36 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
37 additions.

38
39 Pro: Reduce water and soil contamination caused by chemical runoff. Protect human health from
40 exposure to harmful substances. Preserve pollinators, wildlife, and ecosystems. Encourage the
41 adoption of sustainable and organic farming practices.

42 Con: Reduces crop yields, higher food prices, economic impact on farmers, and increased labor
43 costs.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG03
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to genetically engineered food labeling.

7
8 Section 1. Purpose and Intent

9
10 (a) The purpose of bioengineering of agricultural products can be an essential part in preserving
11 farming industries, such as citrus farming in Florida. In an effort to preserve Florida’s citrus
12 industry, the scientists are tasked with involving CRISPR technology in creating disease-resistant
13 citrus fruits, effectively turning Florida’s oranges and other citrus into “bioengineered” foods.
14 The implementation of bioengineering may or may not potentially have an impact on the final
15 products’ quality. If the purpose is to increase the volume of the harvest by enlarging the fruits’
16 size, the nutritional value of the fruits may be reduced. If the purpose of bioengineering is to
17 design fruits with resistance to pests and diseases, the nutritional value is preserved and
18 potentially improved by the reduction or absence of pesticides and other harmful chemicals.

19
20 (b) Under the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard, the United States Department
21 of Agriculture requires foods that have been labeled as containing “genetically modified
22 organisms”, also known as GMOs, to be labeled as “bioengineered”, or have been “derived from
23 bioengineering”.

24 (c) This Act adds the “purpose of bioengineering” to the labeling of the “bioengineered” and
25 having “being derived from bioengineering” agricultural products. Suggested categories of the
26 purpose are: “designed to resist specific disease”, “designed to increase its size”, “designed to
27 increase its sweetness”, “designed to increase its vitamin and mineral content”, “designed to
28 reduce the number of seeds”, etc.

29
30 Section 2. Implementation and Enforcement

31
32 (a) The Florida Department of Agriculture enforces and monitors this legislature’s
33 implementation.

34
35 Section 3: Funding

36
37 (a) The funding is provided by the corresponding farming and manufacturing industries.

38
39 Section 4. Definitions

40
41 (a) “Bioengineered”, or "Genetically engineered", means food that consists of, contains, or is
42 produced from an organism or organisms in which the genetic material has been changed
43 through the application of one of the following:

44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89

(1). In vitro nucleic acid techniques, including recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid techniques and the direct injection of nucleic acid into cells or organelles. Such techniques include, but are not limited to, recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid or ribonucleic acid techniques that use vector systems and techniques involving the direct introduction into the organisms of hereditary material prepared outside the organisms such as micro-injection, macro-injection, chemisorption, electroporation, microencapsulation, and liposome fusion; or

(2). Fusion of cells, including protoplast fusion, or hybridization techniques that overcome natural physiological, reproductive, or recombination barriers, where the donor cells or protoplasts do not fall within the same taxonomic family, in a way that does not occur by natural multiplication or natural recombination.

(b) CRISPR is an acronym for Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats. It is a gene-editing technology, adapted from a natural bacterial immune system that acts like molecular scissors to cut, modify, delete, or insert DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) sequences in living organisms. It uses a guide RNA (ribonucleic acid) molecule to target a specific DNA sequence, which directs specific enzymes, such as the Cas9 enzyme, to make precise cuts, allowing scientists to edit the genome with high accuracy for research, medicine, and agriculture.

(c) "Ingredient" means a substance that is used in manufacturing or is contained in the final form of processed food.

(d) "Processed food" means food other than a raw agricultural commodity and includes food produced from a raw agricultural commodity that has been subject to processing such as canning, smoking, pressing, freezing, dehydration, fermentation, or milling.

This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2028.

SUMMARY

This bill requires adding the “purpose of bioengineering” to the agricultural products labeled as “bioengineered” and “being derived from bioengineering.”

Coding: Words in ~~struck through type~~ are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Including the “purpose of bioengineering” in the labeling of “bioengineered” and having “being derived from bioengineering” agricultural products allow consumers to make more educated conclusions regarding the suitability of these products for their consumption.

Con: The additional labeling requirements add financial burden to the suppliers and users of the impacted products.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG04
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to labeling meat products with a country of origin.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to label every meat product that is being sold with the
9 country of origin of the meat.

10
11 Section 2. Any meat that is being sold in stores, markets, or any equivalent in Florida must label
12 the product with country of origin so that any consumer is aware of the origins of the meat and
13 where it comes from.

14
15 Section 3. Regulations:

- 16 • If any person or business in the State of Florida violates this, they will be fined
17 \$500 per offense by that state. Repeating offenses will be subject to higher legal
18 matters and penalties.
- 19 • The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) will regulate
20 and audit any violations and compliance issues that may arise with business and
21 individuals.
- 22 • Labeling the country of origin on meat shall include where an animal was born,
23 raised, and slaughtered.

24
25
26 This bill shall take effect upon 60 days after passage.

27 *****

28 **SUMMARY**

29
30 This bill will mandate that meat products are labeled for consumers.

31
32 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
33 additions.

34
35 Pro: Consumers will now know where the meat that is ready to consume comes from

36
37 Con: It can be hard to regulate small local businesses and individuals
38
39
40
41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG05
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to Emerging Crops Research Study
7

8 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to require Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
9 (FAMU) and the University of Florida (UF) to jointly conduct a study on emerging agricultural
10 crops that may be suitable for cultivation in Florida. The study will identify crops that could help
11 farmers diversify production, use land affected by disease or weather damage, and strengthen
12 Florida’s agricultural economy.
13

14 Section 2.

15 (a) Implementation:

16 FAMU and UF shall jointly conduct the study using their agricultural research and extension
17 programs.

18 (b) Scope of Study:

19 The study shall examine environmental suitability, economic feasibility, and potential market
20 demand for emerging crops, including tropical fruits, specialty crops, and other nontraditional
21 products.

22 (c) Public Engagement:

23 The universities shall include a “Florida Weird Fruit Contest” that gathers public nominations
24 and survey results on unusual crops that could realistically be grown in Florida.

25 (d) Reporting Requirement:

26 A report shall be submitted to the Florida Legislature that summarizes research findings and
27 contest results.

28 (e) Funding:

29 The study shall be conducted subject to legislative appropriation.

30 (f) Enforcement:

31 Oversight and coordination shall be handled by FAMU and UF; no penalties are created by this
32 act.

33 (g) Target Group:

34 Florida farmers, agricultural researchers, students, and rural communities.
35

36 Section 3. Definitions

37 a. “Emerging crops” means agricultural crops not widely grown in Florida that show
38 potential for economic or environmental benefit.

39 b. “Weird fruit means” an unusual or lesser-known crop nominated by the public that may
40 have potential for Florida agriculture.

41
42 This bill shall take effect on January 1st, 2030

43 *****

44 **SUMMARY**

45
46 This bill will require Florida A&M University and the University of Florida to research emerging
47 crops that could benefit Florida agriculture and include a public engagement component called
48 the Florida Weird Fruit Contest in the final report.

49
50 Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
51 additions.

52
53 Pro: This bill encourages innovation in Florida agriculture by researching new crops that could
54 help farmers adapt and grow their businesses. Using experts from FAMU and UF ensures the
55 study is reliable, while the Florida Weird Fruit Contest increases public involvement and
56 agricultural education.

57
58 Con: The bill requires state funding and may not lead to crops that are profitable for farmers.
59 Some ideas from the public contest may be unrealistic and could add extra time and cost to the
60 research.

61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG06
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to free-range commercial eggs

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to mandate that all statewide commercial eggs be
9 grown/raised in a free-range environment. If grocery stores, farmers markets, and farms are
10 found to sell eggs that are not from a free-range environment, and they will be fined \$1,000
11 for the first offense. If repeated, the fine will double.

12
13 Section 2.

- 14 a. This bill will be funded by owner fees and local taxes.
- 15 b. This bill will be enforced by FDA and local health departments who will check
16 where the eggs are coming from.

17
18 Section 3. The term “Free Range” will be defined as hens having access to outdoors and being
19 able to forage.

20
21 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

22 *****

23 **SUMMARY**

24
25 This bill will mandate that all commercial eggs will are from free-range hens.

26
27 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
28 additions.

29
30 Pro: Free-range hens can forage bugs, grass, and herbs. They still need a protein-rich diet, but
31 having the ability to forage will help lower feed costs.

32
33 Con: Extra space will be needed for chickens. Hens are more susceptible to predators.
34

35
36
37
38
39

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG07
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to Farmer Grants and Loans Reforms.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to reallocate all grants and loans to go to current farmers.

9
10 Section 2. This act permits the reallocation of state funding currently used for beginner farmer
11 grants and loans to support existing, active farmers. The intent is to strengthen the financial
12 stability, operational capacity, and long-term sustainability of Florida’s
13 already established agricultural producers

14 (a) By prioritizing support for current farmers, we protect ongoing food production,
15 preserve working farms, and improve the effectiveness of grant and loan programs.

16
17 Section 3. Definitions.

18 a. Any farmers who are entering the agriculture field or have been farming for fewer
19 than two years will not receive state grants or loans. Although they are not limited to
20 federal grants and loans.

21
22
23 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law August 1st

24 *****

25 **SUMMARY**

26
27 Current farmers will be supported through the reallocation of grants and loans.

28
29 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
30 additions.

31
32 Pro: Current farmers are already struggling to produce and provide for Florida’s enlarging
33 economy. Supporting our current farms and providing more resources to provide for them
34 prevents farm closures. Instead of investing in operations that may take years to become a
35 viable source of Florida’s economy, with a guarantee. We can invest in current operations.
36 Redirecting funds can help farmers avoid foreclosures, land sales, or downsizing.

37
38 Con: This bill reduces the opportunity for new farms to get easy assistance with start-up,
39 therefore causing long-term complications and fewer youth in the farming industry.

40
41
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG08
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture & Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to prohibiting the sale of invasive plants in Floridian plant nurseries.

7
8 Section 1. All plants sold in Floridian plant nurseries must be plants native to Florida, or
9 naturalized plants.

10
11 Section 2. Any establishments that facilitate the sale of plants or seeds, like plant nurseries, are
12 responsible for selling or ethically discarding plants considered invasive in the state of Florida
13 prior to 05/20/2027.

14
15 Section 3. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) is
16 responsible for enforcing this legislation.

17
18 Section 4. Definitions.

- 19 a. Native Plants: Plants that naturally occur in Florida without human introduction. These
20 organisms play a role in providing essential habitat and food for wildlife. Examples include
21 Beautyberry and Beach Sunflower.
- 22 b. Naturalized Plants: Non-native plants that do not cause ecological harm to Floridian
23 ecosystems.
- 24 c. Invasive Plants: Exotic plants that are non-native and quickly spread into natural areas,
25 altering native plant communities.
- 26 d. Plant Nurseries: Any commercial location in the state of Florida that facilitates the sale of
27 seeds, saplings, or plants.

28
29 This bill shall take effect upon May 20, 2027.

30 *****

31 **SUMMARY**

32
33 This bill will prohibit the sale of plants or seeds of invasive organisms in Floridian plant
34 nurseries.

35
36 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
37 additions.

38
39 Pro: Floridian ecosystems will be further protected from the invasive species epidemic,
40 preserving essential habitats and food sources for wildlife.

41
42 Con: Local plant nurseries will face economic harm by being unable to sell some species of
43 plants.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG09
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to voluntary pollinator conservation incentives for agricultural producers.

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this act is to encourage, through voluntary incentives, the adoption of pollinator-conserving practices by agricultural producers without imposing regulatory mandates or restricting lawful agricultural activities.

Section 2. Creation, Eligibility, Incentives, Funding, Limitations.

- **Creation:** The Florida Pollinator Stewardship Incentive Program is hereby established within the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS).
- **Eligibility:** Participation in the program shall be voluntary and open to:
 - Agricultural producers operating within the State of Florida
 - Producers engaged in crop production, livestock operations, or mixed agricultural uses
- **Eligible Practices:** FDACS shall approve and publish a list of eligible pollinator-conserving practices, which may include but are not limited to:
 - Establishment or maintenance of apiaries
 - Planting and preservation of native pollinator habitat or buffer zones
 - Use of integrated pest management (IPM) techniques
 - Reduction in reliance on pollinator-toxic pesticides where practicable
 - Use of flowering cover crops beneficial to pollinators
- **Incentives:** FDACS may provide financial incentives, including:
 - Cost-share grants to assist with materials, habitat establishment, or implementation costs
 - Technical assistance to participating producers
- **Funding:** The program may be funded through:
 - Legislative appropriations
 - Federal or private conservation grants
 - Existing agricultural sustainability funds administered by FDACS
- **Limitations:** Nothing in this act shall be construed to:
 - Restrict lawful pesticide use
 - Create mandatory land-use requirements
 - Supersede Florida Right-to-Farm protections
 - Authorize local governments to impose additional regulations

Section 3. Definitions.

- **“FDACS”** means the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

- 44 • **“Pollinator”** means any insect or animal that assists in the transfer of pollen, including
45 bees, butterflies, birds, and other beneficial species.
- 46 • **“Agricultural producer”** means any individual or entity engaged in agricultural
47 production within the State of Florida.
- 48 • **“Best Management Practices (BMPs)”** means any agricultural practices adopted by
49 FDACS to improve environmental sustainability while maintaining productivity.
- 50 • **“Integrated Pest Management (IPM)”** means a science-based approach that combines
51 biological, cultural, mechanical, and chemical tools to manage pests in an economically and
52 environmentally sound manner.

53
54 This bill shall take effect September 1, 2026.

55 *****

56 **SUMMARY**

57
58 This bill establishes a voluntary, FDACS-administered incentive program to encourage Florida
59 agricultural producers to adopt pollinator-conserving practices. The bill provides cost-share
60 grants and technical assistance without imposing regulatory mandates or restricting lawful
61 farming activities. The program supports agricultural sustainability, pollinator health, and long-
62 term food security while respecting existing agricultural protections.

63
64 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
65 additions.

66
67 Pro: This bill promotes pollinator conservation through voluntary, incentive-based participation
68 that supports farmers without imposing regulatory mandates, aligns with existing FDACS Best
69 Management Practices, strengthens long-term agricultural sustainability, and avoids conflicts
70 with Florida’s Right-to-Farm and preemption laws.

71
72 Con: This bill may have limited impact if funding or participation is low, could increase
73 administrative responsibilities for FDACS, and does not guarantee widespread adoption of
74 pollinator-conserving practices due to its voluntary nature.

75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: AG10
County:	Referred to Committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to Florida Environmental Control; establishing a system of fines to deter
7 businesses from creating environmental damage.

8
9 Section 1

10 This law will add to existing environmental laws to mandate enforcement and cleanup of
11 environmental damage. Authorizing enforcement by county and state governing entities to
12 extract fines from businesses based on their profits; establishing a fund to correct damage to the
13 environment caused by these businesses; providing personnel to manage fines and oversee the
14 cleanup of environmental damage.

15
16 [1] Environmental damage is defined by the destruction or harm to the air, land, or water.
17 Examples of environmental damage: oil spills, agricultural run-off, accelerated deforestation that
18 occurs outside of specified community limits, and airborne pollutants.

19
20 Fines will be levied depending on the profits of the business. 5%-7% of the business's profit will
21 be confiscated depending on the severity of the damage and size of the business. If the damage is
22 extreme, fines will be commensurate.

23
24 Section 2

25 Inspection will occur at a maximum of six times per year, depending on the county's discretion
26 but no less than three times per year. The number of inspections that may occur is dependent on:

27 A) The income or profit of the business

28 B) Perceived potential for environmental damage possible to be caused by the business

29 The business will be notified that an inspector will come during the month but will not know the
30 precise date or the name of the inspector. The inspector will always be a different individual.

31 The County Division of Law Enforcement within the Florida Department of Environmental
32 Protection will be tasked to enforce this law.

33 This law targets businesses that run afoul of the Florida Statutes established to protect the
34 environment.

35 This law will benefit everyone living in Florida who wants to breathe clean air, drink clean
36 water, and preserve the state of wildlife and vegetation.

37
38 Section 3.

39 Funding for this bill will come out of the budget for the Florida Department of Environmental
40 Protection.

41 This bill shall be funded by various methods including Government Funding, Fines and Penalties
42 upon businesses, and Grants from organizations.

43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82

A) Government funding for this organization shall be voted upon once a year, the amount changes based on the success of this organization.

B) Fines and Penalties will be used to help fund this organization as well as contributing back to the environment.

C) Grants are defined as scholarships from organizations to help fund a project or goal. All grants for the organization must be from a non-profit organization; funds cannot be transferred to a single individual.

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law January 1, 2027

SUMMARY

This bill will fine businesses for damaging the environment and a portion of the business' profits will be put into a fund and will be used to fix the problem that the business created. The fine will be proportional to the business' profits. Businesses undergo mandatory inspections three or more times per year.

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: It will deter pollution by big businesses. Fines placed on businesses will mitigate the harm done to the environment. By using various funding opportunities, we take less money that is necessary for the government to fund Education, Agriculture, and other governmental businesses.

Con: There will be higher costs for businesses that do not consider the environment when making business decisions.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ01
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to emergency mental health response services.

7
8 Section 1.

9 It has been found that individuals experiencing mental health crises often require emergency
10 intervention, and coordinated responses by trained mental health professionals may improve
11 safety and outcomes. Each county shall ensure the availability of one or more mental health
12 response units to provide on-scene crisis intervention and referral services. Mental health
13 response units shall coordinate with emergency medical services and law enforcement as
14 appropriate. Nothing in this act limits the authority of law enforcement or emergency personnel
15 to respond to emergencies as authorized by law.

16
17 Section 2.

18 Mental health response units shall serve individuals experiencing mental health crises through
19 referrals from emergency calls, law enforcement, or other crisis providers.
20 Counties may operate units directly, contract with qualified providers, or enter interlocal
21 agreements. Units shall include at least one licensed mental health professional and other trained
22 personnel. The Department of Children and Families shall provide oversight and may adopt rules
23 to implement this act. Implementation is subject to legislative appropriation, and counties may
24 use available state, federal, or local funds.

25
26 Section 3. Definitions.

27 *Mental health response unit* – shall be defined as “a team of trained personnel, including at least
28 one licensed mental health professional.”

29 *Mental health crisis* – shall be defined as “acute psychological distress that may pose a risk of
30 harm to the individual or others, where no serious violent criminal activity
31 is reasonably suspected.

32
33 This bill shall take effect on November 1st, 2026

34 *****

35 **SUMMARY**

36
37 This bill requires each county in Florida to ensure the availability of mental health response
38 units, staffed by licensed professionals and coordinated with emergency services, to respond to
39 mental health crises.

40
41 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
42 additions.

43
44
45
46
47
48
49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

Pro: Provides faster, more appropriate responses to mental health crises, reducing unnecessary arrests, injuries, and strain on law enforcement.

Con: Requires ongoing funding and coordination that may be challenging for smaller or resource-limited counties to sustain.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ02
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled
5

6 An act relating to AI in Criminal Justice Oversight.
7

8 Section 1. This bill will ensure transparency, fairness, and accountability in the use of AI within
9 the criminal justice system. Defendants and their legal counsel shall have the right to be
10 informed if AI tools are used in decisions affecting arrest, bail, sentencing, or parole.
11

12 Section 2. The Department of Justice shall establish an AI Oversight Board composed of legal
13 experts, technologists, and law enforcement representatives. The Attorney General shall provide
14 grants to local governments. Personal data used by AI systems must be lawfully obtained,
15 minimally collected, and securely stored.
16

17 Section 3. Limitations

18 AI systems may not be the sole basis for arrests, sentencing decisions, or parole or probation of
19 determinations.
20

21 Section 4. Penalties

22 Individuals shall have the right to challenge AI-generated decisions that negatively affect them.
23

24 Section 5. Definitions

25 “AI (Artificial Intelligence)”- any automated system that uses algorithms, machine learning,
26 or predictive analytics to assist in decision making.
27

28 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law immediately

29 *****

30 **SUMMARY**

31
32 This bill will help keep the use of AI in criminal justice fair and just and doesn’t allow the use of
33 AI in some areas.
34

35 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
36 additions.
37

38 Pro: Protects civil rights, increases transparency, and prevents over-reliance on technology.
39

40 Con: Increased costs, slower law enforcement operations, and limits law enforcement flexibility
41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ03
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to sales or transfer of ammunition.
7

8 **Section 1. Purpose and Intent**

9 (a) Florida law requires strict background screening for firearm purchases, but it does not have
10 the same approach for ammunition purchases. This creates a gap between strict firearm screening
11 and unregulated ammunition sales. Proposed legislation seeks to require background checks
12 for the sale or transfer of ammunition.
13

14 **Section 2. Requirements and Funding**

15
16 (a) The Legislature targets licensed importers, licensed manufacturers, or licensed
17 dealers who may not sell or deliver from their inventory at their licensed premises any firearm or
18 ammunition to another person, other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed
19 dealer, or licensed collector, until they collect the following:
20

21 (I) Obtained a completed form from the potential buyer or transferee, which form shall have been
22 promulgated by the Department of Law Enforcement and provided by the licensed importer,
23 licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer, which shall include the name, date of birth, gender,
24 race, and social security number or other identification number of such potential buyer or
25 transferee and has inspected proper identification, including an identification containing a
26 photograph of the potential buyer or transferee.
27

28 (II) Collected a fee from the potential buyer for processing the criminal history check of the
29 potential buyer. The fee shall be established by the Department of Law Enforcement and may not
30 exceed \$10 per transaction. The Department of Law Enforcement may reduce, or suspend
31 collection of, the fee to reflect payment received from the Federal Government applied to the
32 cost of maintaining the criminal history check system established by this section as a means
33 of facilitating or supplementing the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. The
34 Department of Law Enforcement shall, by rule, establish procedures for the fees to be
35 transmitted by the licensee to the Department of Law Enforcement. Such procedures
36 must provide that fees may be paid or transmitted by electronic means, including, but not limited
37 to, debit cards, credit cards, or electronic funds transfers.
38

39 (b) All such fees shall be deposited into the Department of Law Enforcement Operating
40 Trust Fund but shall be segregated from all other funds and must be accounted for separately.
41 Such segregated funds must not be used for any purpose other than the operation of the criminal
42 history checks required by this section. The Department of Law Enforcement, each year before

43 February 1, shall make a full accounting of all receipts and expenditures of such funds to the
44 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority
45 leaders of each house of the Legislature, and the chairs of the appropriations committees of each
46 house of the Legislature. If the cumulative amount of funds collected exceeds the cumulative
47 amount of expenditure by more than \$2.5 million, excess funds may be used for the purpose
48 of purchasing soft body armor for law enforcement officers.
49

50 (I) Requested, by means of a toll-free telephone call or other electronic means, the Department of
51 Law Enforcement conduct a check of the information as reported and reflected in the Florida
52 Crime Information Center and National Crime Information Center systems as of the date of the
53 request.
54

55 (II) Received a recorded unique approval or disapproval number for that inquiry from the
56 Department of Law Enforcement with the recorded date and unique digital
57 signature digitally incorporated on the consent form.
58

60 **Section 3. Exceptions**

61
62 (a) If the person purchasing, or receiving delivery of, the firearm or ammunition is a holder of a
63 valid concealed weapons or firearms license or holds an active certification from the Criminal
64 Justice Standards and Training Commission as a "law enforcement officer," a "correctional
65 officer," or a "correctional probation officer", the requirements of this legislature do not apply.
66
67

68 **Section 4. Implementation**

69
70 (a) Upon receipt of a request for a criminal history record check, the Department of Law
71 Enforcement shall, during the licensee's call or by return call, forthwith: Review any records
72 available to determine if the potential buyer or transferee:
73

74 (I) Has been convicted of a felony and is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm or
75 ammunition.
76

77 (II) Has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence and therefore is prohibited
78 from purchasing a firearm or ammunition.
79

80 (III) Has adjudication of guilt withheld, or imposition of sentence suspended on any felony or
81 misdemeanor crime of domestic violence unless all conditions set by the court have been
82 fulfilled or expunction has occurred.
83

84 (IV) Has been adjudicated mentally defective or has been committed to a mental institution, and
85 as a result is prohibited by state or federal law from purchasing a firearm.
86

87 (b) In order to check for these conditions, the department shall compile and maintain an
88 automated database of persons who are prohibited from purchasing a firearm based on court
89 records of adjudications of mental defectiveness or commitments to mental institutions.

90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135

Section 5. Enforcement

(a) The Department of Law Enforcement shall conduct annual audits of the licensed dealers, licensed importers, licensed manufacturers, and licensed collectors for compliance with this legislature.

(I) Any potential buyer or transferee who willfully and knowingly provides false information or false or fraudulent identification commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in corresponding statutory requirements.

(II) Any licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer who violates the provisions of subsection (1) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in corresponding statutory requirements.

(III) Any employee or agency of a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer who violates the provisions of subsection (1) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in corresponding statutory requirements.

(IV) Any person who knowingly acquires a firearm or ammunition through purchase or transfer intended for the use of a person who is prohibited by state or federal law from possessing or receiving a firearm or ammunition commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in corresponding statutory requirements.

Section 6. Definitions

(a) "Adjudicated mentally defective" means a determination by a court that a person, as a result of marked subnormal intelligence, or mental illness, incompetency, condition, or disease, is a danger to himself or herself or to others or lacks the mental capacity to contract or manage his or her own affairs. The phrase includes a judicial finding of incapacity, an acquittal by reason of insanity of a person charged with a criminal offense, and a judicial finding that a criminal defendant is not competent to stand trial.

(b) "Committed to a mental institution" means:

(I) Involuntary commitment, commitment for mental defectiveness or mental illness, and commitment for substance abuse. The phrase includes involuntary inpatient placement, involuntary outpatient placement, involuntary assessment and stabilization, and involuntary substance abuse treatment, but does not include a person in a mental institution for observation or discharged from a mental institution based upon the initial review by the physician or a voluntary admission to a mental institution.

(II) Voluntary admission to a mental institution for outpatient or inpatient treatment of a person who had an involuntary examination, where an examining physician found that the person is an

136 imminent danger to himself or herself or others; or the examining physician certified that if the
137 person did not agree to voluntary treatment, a petition for involuntary effect upon becoming a
138 law (or add a date.)

139
140 This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2028.

141 *****

142 **SUMMARY**

143
144 This bill will require background screenings for the sale or transfer of ammunitions.

145
146 Coding: Words in ~~struck through type~~ are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
147 additions.

148
149 Pro: This Act will increase citizen safety by ensuring that the persons with criminal history will
150 not have lawful access to ammunition.

151
152 Con: This Act will add a financial burden to firearm owners.

153

154

155

156

157

158

159

160

161

162

163

164

165

166

167

168

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41

FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ04
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
A Bill to Be Entitled

An Act relating to making a statewide program for inmate dog training.

Section 1. The purpose of the bill is to train rescue dogs from county shelters with the local county Department of Corrections units. Each training class lasts approximately two months. Inmates teach their assigned shelter dogs' basic obedience, socialization, and a few fun tricks. The inmates learn patience, dog behavior, and basic health, and how to successfully work as a team.

Section 2. Funding for this program, increasing taxes on hotels by 1% on the US dollar. The funding will go to trainers to support inmates and supplies needed to support shelters.

Section 3. 17 Counties already have county funded programs. The goal of this Bill is to have a Statewide program for all county units and shelters

Section 4. Department of Corrections units- County Jail for inmates with serving time under a year

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

SUMMARY

This bill will make a statewide program for inmate dog training.

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Train shelter dogs and teach inmates team building skills

Con: Increased taxes

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ05
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to the euthanasia of dangerous animals.
7

8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to humanely Euthanize a dangerous animal that has either
9 killed a person or has bitten and left a mark that scores 5 or higher on the Dunbar bite scale. This
10 bill does not refer to police K9s that are trained in specific areas. Dangerous animals will be
11 taken by animal control, investigated, and if found guilty, they will be humanely
12 euthanized. If the dangerous animal is not found guilty, but repeats the level 5 or
13 higher offence, it will be humanely euthanized.

14 Section 2.

- 15 a. This bill will be funded by owner fees and local taxes.
- 16 b. This bill will be enforced by local animal control.

17
18 Section 3.

- 19 a. The term “Animal” will be defined as household pets such as dogs, cats, and
20 snakes etc.
- 21 b. The term “Scores 5 or higher on the Dunbar bite scales” will be defined as
22 a multiple bite incident with the animal's teeth puncturing person, leaving a serious
23 wound, and/or the person dead.
- 24 c. The term “Euthanize” will be defined as humanely killing a dangerous animal

25
26 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law
27 *****

28 **SUMMARY**

29
30 This bill will euthanize a dangerous animal who was bitten or killed a human. If
31 the animal, if found not guilty, repeats this offence at a later date, it will be humanely
32 euthanized.

33
34 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
35 additions.

36
37 Pro: The euthanasia of dangerous animals will protect humans and stop dogs from being
38 threats.

39
40 Con: Euthanasia is an emotional event for the owners of a dangerous animal.
41
42
1

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ06
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to the Criminalization of Marijuana Used for Medical Purposes.

7
8 Section 1. Purpose

9 The purpose of this bill is to reclassify the possession, distribution, and use of medical marijuana
10 as a criminal offense under Florida law. This bill seeks to reverse previous allowances for
11 medical marijuana and establish uniform enforcement standards across the state.

12
13 Section 2. Penalties

14 Possession, distribution, or use of medical marijuana shall result in:

- 15 1. First offense: civil citation and mandatory drug education course
16 2. Second offense: misdemeanor charge and fine
17 3. Third offense or distribution: felony charge

18
19 Section 3. Enforcement

20 This law will be enforced by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), Local law
21 enforcement agencies, and the Department of Health (for revoking medical marijuana cards and
22 licenses).

- 23 • Once this bill is in effect, doctors practicing in Florida may no longer prescribe marijuana
24 to patients, regardless of individual cases.
25 • Patients may continue using medical marijuana for treatments for up to twelve (12)
26 months before shifting to a different drug. After this time, penalties ensue.
27 • Patients in the process of shifting prescriptions of medical marijuana may be asked to
28 show proof of prescription by legal authorities. If a prescription is not shown, legal
29 complications may follow.

30
31 Section 4. Funding

32 Funding for enforcement and administrative changes shall come from the State for general
33 revenue and reallocation of existing Department of Health regulatory funds.

34
35 Section 5. Definitions

36 “Medical marijuana” is any cannabis derived product previously authorized for medical use
37 under Florida law.

38 “Possession” is any physical or constructive control over a marijuana product.

39 “Distribution” is selling, transferring, or providing marijuana to another person.

40 “Controlled substance” is any drug or chemical regulated by state law due to potential abuse.

41
42 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

43 *****

44 **SUMMARY**

45
46 This bill will criminalize the possession, use, and distribution of medical marijuana used for
47 medical purposes in Florida, remove existing legal exemptions, and establish penalties and
48 enforcement procedures.

49
50 Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
51 additions.

52
53 Pro:

- 54 • Creates uniform statewide drug policy.
- 55 • Simplifies enforcement by removing exemptions.
- 56 • Reduces regulatory costs associated with medical marijuana programs.
- 57 • Although subtle, it creates cleaner air for pedestrians.

58
59 Con:

- 60 • Eliminates access for patients who rely on medical marijuana.
- 61 • Potential economic impact on licensed dispensaries and physicians.
- 62 • May create a rise in black-market sales and distribution.

63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42

FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number CJ07
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to the public display of harmful crime offenders.

Section 1. The purpose of this act is to make offenders more visible to the general public. By requiring offenders to obtain certain visible tattoos of their designated crimes.

Section 2. Any adult convicted of a violent crime (a) shall be required to receive a visible small tattoo (b) describing the nature of their crime. This tattoo shall be applied by a licensed professional on the right side of the neck. This aim is to increase public awareness and allow for easier identification by the prison system.

Section 3. Definitions.

- 1) "Violent Crime" is included, but not limited to
 - a) Homicide – including murder and manslaughter
 - b) Aggravated Assault – causing serious bodily injury or using a deadly weapon
 - c) Battery – resulting in serious injury
 - d) Sexual Assault / Sexual Battery – any nonconsensual sexual activity
 - e) Kidnapping / Abduction – unlawful taking or restraint of another person
 - f) Robbery – taking property by force or threat of force
 - g) Armed Robbery – robbery committed with a weapon
 - h) Domestic Violence – violent acts against a household or family member
 - i) Violence - physical harm or threat made to another person
- 2) Tattoos represent the crime committed
 - a) Homicide – A tombstone
 - b) Aggravated Assault –lightning bolt
 - c) Battery – cartoon fist
 - d) Sexual Assault / Sexual Battery – Crossed out heart
 - e) Kidnapping / Abduction –Handcuffs
 - f) Robbery – Open bag of coins
 - g) Armed Robbery –Cartoon gun
 - h) Domestic Violence – Broken heart
 - i) Violence-Two fists next to each other

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law on August 1st, 2026

SUMMARY

43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

Any adult convicted of a violent crime must receive a court mandated, visible tattoo depicting what crime they have committed.

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: This bill would make criminals easily identifiable, making it easier for citizens to be aware of their surrounds and their own personal safety. As well as making a fugitive identifiable in public.

Con: This bill punishes people physically rather than rehabilitating them, causing further harm as well as permanently labeling someone for life based on their bad decisions.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ08
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to the rehabilitation of non-violent offenders.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to help rehabilitate non-violent, non-serious, and non-sexual
9 offenders while they serve time in jail. These programs are for well-behaving offenders who do
10 not cause issues within the jail while they are serving their time. This bill aims to humanize
11 offenders and help prepare them for the outside world once they are released. This program
12 should also help offenders understand their crimes and find ways to avoid becoming repeat
13 offenders. These offenders should be offered therapy, whether that is with a group or with a
14 registered psychologist. This allows them to understand their brand and emotions, which
15 in time lets them understand themselves and their actions. Job training and skill development are
16 another part of this program. This helps offenders find what they are good at and gives them a
17 way to find a job after they are released. Offenders will also be provided with counseling if they
18 are struggling with substance abuse and addictions to help them stay clean once they are
19 released.

20
21 Section 2. This will be funded through the state; parts of the budget for our jailing system can be
22 used if able.

23
24
25 This bill shall take effect on January 1st, 2027

26 *****

27 **SUMMARY**

28
29 This bill will help prepare certain offenders for coming back into the world after serving time.

30
31 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
32 additions.

33
34 Pro: This would be very beneficial for offenders and likely decrease the number of repeat
35 offenders.

36
37 Con: These programs will be extensive requiring time and proper staffing.
38
39
40
41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ09
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to ignition of interlock device requirements for individuals convicted of driving
7 under the influence in the State of Florida.

8
9 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to improve public safety and reduce repeat incidents of
10 impaired driving by requiring the use of ignition of interlock devices for all individuals convicted
11 of driving under the influence, regardless of blood-alcohol concentration.

12
13 Section 2. Driving under the influence remains a significant public safety concern in Florida,
14 contributing to traffic injuries, fatalities, and economic costs. Research indicates that ignition
15 interlock devices are effective in reducing repeat DUI offenses by preventing a vehicle from
16 starting when alcohol is detected on the driver’s breath. Current Florida law limits
17 mandatory ignition of interlock use to certain offenses or blood alcohol thresholds, resulting in
18 inconsistent application and outcomes.

19 This act requires all individuals convicted of driving under the influence to install an ignition
20 interlock device on any motor vehicle they own or operate as a condition of driver’s license
21 reinstatement. The requirement shall apply regardless of the individual’s blood alcohol
22 concentration at the time of offense.

23 The minimum ignition interlock period shall be determined by the court based on offense
24 history, with longer periods permitted for repeat offenses. Compliance with ignition of interlock
25 requirements shall be monitored through existing reporting systems approved by the Florida
26 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

27 To reduce financial barriers, the State of Florida shall establish a sliding-scale subsidy program
28 to assist low-income individuals with ignition of interlock installation and maintenance
29 costs. Funding subsidies may be derived from a portion of DUI-related fines and state
30 transportation safety funds.

31 This act shall not replace existing penalties for DUI offenses but shall serve as
32 an additional safety measure focused on prevention rather than incarceration.

33
34 Section 3. “Ignition interlock device” means a breath-alcohol testing device connected to a motor
35 vehicle ignition system that prevents operation if alcohol is detected.

36
37 “Driving under the influence” means operating a motor vehicle while impaired as defined under
38 Florida law.

39
40 “Convicted” means a finding of guilt or adjudication for a DUI offense.

41
42 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law July 1st, 2027

43 *****

44 **SUMMARY**

45

46 This bill will require ignition of interlock devices for all DUI convictions to reduce impaired
47 driving and improve roadway safety.

48

49 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
50 additions.

51

52 Pro: Reduces repeat DUI offenses

53 Focuses on prevention rather than incarceration

54 Applies standards consistently across cases

55 Improves roadway safety for all drivers

56

57 Con: Increases costs for individuals convicted of DUI

58 Requires administrative oversight and monitoring

59 Raises concerns about access for low-income drivers

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: CJ10
County:	Referred to Committee: Criminal Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to autism spectrum disorder training for law enforcement officers.

7
8 Section 1. All law enforcement officers shall complete a minimum of four hours of training on
9 recognizing, communicating with, and appropriately responding to individuals with autism
10 spectrum disorder.

11
12
13 Section 2. The training course outlined in Section 1 shall be funded by the Florida Department of
14 Law Enforcement, which shall oversee the development and administration of the course, subject
15 to available appropriations.

16
17 **Section 3. Definitions**

18 A. Law enforcement officer means any individual authorized by law to enforce state or local
19 laws, including police officers, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, state troopers, and other sworn officers

20 B. Autism Spectrum Disorder means a developmental condition characterized by differences in
21 communication, social interaction, and behavior, which may affect individuals to varying
22 degrees.

23
24 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law January 1, 2027

25 *****

26 **SUMMARY**

27
28 This bill will provide law enforcement officers with knowledge useful in understanding how to
29 de-escalate a situation involving an individual with Autism Spectrum Disorder and promote
30 safer, more effective interactions.

31
32 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
33 additions.

34
35 Pro: This bill will provide law enforcement officers with training to better recognize,
36 communicate with, and respond to individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

37
38 Con: It could raise concerns about fairness or equal treatment if officers are not properly trained.
39
40
41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU01
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to a 4-day school week for kindergarten to 12th grade.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of the bill is to make a statewide mandate for a 4-day school week. From
9 Monday through Thursday, school hours will be 8 am to 5:30 pm. Staff will come in on
10 Fridays. Fridays will be planning periods for teachers and staff.

11
12 Section 2. This bill will increase hours for teachers to plan on Fridays. This also gives three
13 weekends for students. Currently, Teachers have planning hours, 30 minutes before and after,
14 education hours.

15
16
17 Section 3. Currently Elementary, Middle, and High Schools are 6-7 hours.
18 Current laws state Middle school starts after 8:00 am and High School after 8:30 am. With this
19 law, the start time will be the same for middle and high school. The End time will be mandated
20 to be after 4:30pm for middle school and after 5:00pm for high school.

21
22
23 This bill shall take effect on the new 2027 school year in August.

24 *****

25 **SUMMARY**

26
27 This bill will 4-day school week

28
29 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
30 additions.

31
32 Pro: Longer school hours that work around work hours/ more planning time for teachers

33
34 Con: Parents need to find care for kids on Fridays
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU02
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to banning public facial recognition for minors in the classroom.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this Act is to ban facial recognition for minors in classrooms, which
9 is essential to protect children’s privacy, safety, and rights. At the same time, ensuring schools
10 do not misuse sensitive biometric data.

11
12 Section 2. More specifically, the bill aims to protect children's privacy and prevent misuse of
13 data. To prevent schools from collecting and storing students' facial data and prohibiting the use
14 of facial ID (a) for children under the age of 18. Schools are required to regularly report on the
15 technologies they use for attendance and security, and any previously collected facial data must
16 be securely deleted. State or local education authorities will conduct periodic audits (b), and
17 violations of this law may result in mandatory corrective actions (c). Parents and guardians shall
18 be informed of their children’s rights, and staff or students reporting violations are protected
19 from retaliation.

20
21 Section 3. Definitions.

22 “Facial ID” means any technology that identifies or verifies a person by scanning their
23 face.

24 “Periodic Audits” means regular scheduled checks or inspections of systems and
25 practices conducted by authorities.

26 “Mandatory Corrective Actions” means removing software and deleting any collected
27 facial data within 30 days of citation with a small violation. Small violation (first-time,
28 minor use): \$1,000–\$5,000 Major violation (data collection, stored records): \$10,000–
29 \$50,000 Repeat or egregious violations: Could include \$50,000+ or loss of government
30 funding for a year

31
32 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

33 *****

34 **SUMMARY**

35
36 This Act bans the use of facial recognition technology for minors in classrooms to protect
37 children’s privacy, safety, and rights. It prohibits schools from collecting or storing students'
38 facial data and requires them to report on the technologies they use for attendance and security.
39 Any previously collected facial data must be securely deleted. State or local authorities will
40 conduct periodic audits to ensure compliance, and violations may result in mandatory corrective
41 actions, including removing software and deleting data. Parents and guardians will be informed
42 of their children’s rights, and staff or students reporting violations are protected from retaliation.

43 Fines for violations range from \$1,000–\$5,000 for minor first-time offenses, \$10,000–\$50,000
44 for major violations, and \$50,000+ or potential loss of government funding for repeat offenses.

45
46 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
47 additions.

48
49 Pro: Facial recognition of AI should not be used in schools because it threatens children’s
50 privacy, safety, and rights. It can misidentify students, especially minorities, and cause unfair
51 treatment. Constant monitoring may harm mental health and normalize surveillance. Safer
52 alternatives like ID cards, QR codes, or manual attendance can achieve the same goals without
53 these risks.

54
55 Con: Implementing Face ID in schools can enhance security and efficiency by ensuring only
56 authorized individuals enter the campus and by automating attendance, reducing errors and
57 saving teachers' time. It can streamline access to classrooms, labs, and other restricted areas, and
58 integrate with systems like lunch payments or libraries. In emergencies, facial recognition can
59 help locate students quickly and alert staff to potential threats. Additionally, using this
60 technology can familiarize students with modern security systems, preparing them for real-world
61 applications.

62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU03
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to underage drinking and recklessness on college campuses.

7
8 Section 1 The purpose of this bill is to discourage college students from partaking in
9 illegal alcohol consumption. Students who are found drinking alcohol under the age of 21 on a
10 college campus will be immediately suspended. And on second offense will be expelled.
11 Any tuition paid will not be refunded.

12
13 Section 2. Suspension will be for a minimum of 2 months (60 days). Expulsion will only occur
14 on a second offense any time after the first offense. This bill will be enforced by local and state
15 law enforcement

16
17 Section 3. Definitions

18 “Suspension” is a temporary removal from the college.

19 “Expulsion” is a permanent removal from the college.

20
21
22 This bill shall take effect January 1st, 2027

23 *****

24 **SUMMARY**

25
26 This bill will establish the immediate suspension of any student found illegally drinking
27 and subsequent expulsion on second offense

28
29 Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
30 additions.

31
32 Pro: colleges will be safer as well as cleaner while protecting students from bad
33 environments and highlighting the problems with drinking and alcohol abuse

34
35 Con: There may be backlash for this bill.
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU04
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to social media and Cyber Behavior Education.
7

8 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to require public schools in Florida to provide age-
9 appropriate instruction on responsible social media use and cyber behavior. The instruction shall
10 educate students on the legal, academic, and personal consequences of online actions, including
11 cyberbullying, harassment, threats, and misuse of digital platforms.
12

13 Section 2. Requirements and implementation

14 (a) Each public school shall include instruction on social media and cyber behavior as part of an
15 existing course or program such as civics, digital literacy, or health education.

16 (b) Instruction must include:

- 17 1. Appropriate online conduct and digital citizenship.
- 18 2. Legal consequences of cyberbullying, online threats, and harassment;
- 19 3. The long-term impact of a digital footprint on education and employment;
- 20 4. How to report unsafe or harmful online behavior.

21 (c) Instruction shall be age-appropriate and aligned with state education standards.

22 (d) The Florida Department of Education shall provide guidance and oversight for
23 implementation.

24 (e) This act does not create new criminal penalties.
25

26 Section 3. Definitions

27 a. Cyberbullying means repeated online behavior intended to harass, threaten, or harm
28 another individual.

29 b. Social media means digital platforms that allow users to create, share, or interact with content
30 online.

31 c. Digital citizenship means responsible and ethical use of technology.
32

33 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law January 1, 2027

34 *****

35 **SUMMARY**

36
37 This bill requires Florida public schools to teach students about responsible social media use and
38 the legal consequences of harmful online behavior, including cyberbullying and online threats.
39

40 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
41 additions.
42

43 Pro: This bill helps students stay safe and responsible online by teaching them the real
44 consequences of social media misuse
45
46 Con: This bill adds another requirement to school curricula, which may increase workload for
47 schools and teachers.
48

49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU05
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to adding the FAST test to homeschool students' academic annual evaluation.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is for homeschool kids in Florida to take and pass the FAST
9 test for their annual educational evaluation to more closely moderate academic progression.

10
11 Section 2. The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is used to assess students on
12 their progression in reading and mathematics. To determine standards and see where students are
13 at in terms of academic standards more accurately.

14
15 Section 3. Homeschool kids will need to take the FAST test each year starting in the 3rd grade
16 and annually up into the 10th grade. The test will be taken at the end of each academic
17 school year but will also have the option to take it at the beginning and middle of the school
18 year. Students will only need to pass the 5th, 8th, and 10th grade FAST test. The Florida
19 Department of Education and school district superintendent's office will provide the test for
20 homeschool students to take. Students will need to take the test at a district school in their county
21 or have a certified proctor monitor the test if they wish to take it not on a campus.

22
23 Section 4. Definitions. A “superintendent’s office” is the central administrative hub for a school
24 district, led by the Superintendent, who acts as the CEO, overseeing all schools, staff, finances,
25 and educational vision.

26
27
28 This bill shall take effect for the 2026-2027 academic school year.
29 *****

30 **SUMMARY**

31
32 This bill will monitor homeschool kids' academic progress in reading and mathematics.

33
34 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
35 additions.

36
37 Pro: The government and families will be able to monitor student academic success more easily.

38
39 Con: Homeschool families and superintendents may feel more unprecedented pressure.
40
41
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU06
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to financial literacy and life skills education in public high schools.

7
8 Section 1. Purpose.

9 The purpose of this act is to ensure that all public high school graduates possess essential
10 financial literacy and life skills to succeed in adulthood. This includes knowledge of personal
11 finance, budgeting, credit, taxes, career readiness, college planning, household management, and
12 civic responsibility.

13
14 Section 2.

15 This act applies to all students enrolled in public high schools in the State. Beginning with
16 students entering ninth grade. Completion of one credit in financial literacy and one credit in life
17 skills shall be required for graduation. The courses shall provide students with practical
18 knowledge and skills in personal finance, Career readiness, college preparation, household
19 management, health, and civic responsibility.

20 The State Department of Education shall establish curriculum standards for these courses, and
21 school districts may adopt the state-approved curriculum or submit alternative curricula for
22 approval, provided they meet the established standards. Teachers delivering these courses must
23 hold appropriate state certification and complete professional development in the subject areas.

24
25 Section 3.

26 The provisions of this act shall be implemented only to the extent that funding is made available
27 through the State Legislature’s annual appropriations and do not create a mandate for
28 expenditures beyond what is provided. School districts shall implement the required courses by
29 the 2027-2028 school year, and the State Department of Education shall monitor compliance and
30 report annually to the Legislature on student completion, outcomes, and recommendations for
31 improvement.

32
33 Section 4. Definitions.

34 “Financial Literacy” shall be defined as “instruction in personal finance, including budgeting,
35 saving, credit, debt, and taxes.”

36 “Life Skills” shall be defined as “Instruction in practical skills for adulthood, including career
37 readiness, college planning, household management, health and wellness, and civic
38 responsibility.

39
40
41 This bill shall take effect on July 1st, 2027.

42 *****

43 **SUMMARY**

44

45 This bill will require all public high school students to complete courses in financial literacy and
46 life skills to graduate.

47

48 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
49 additions.

50

51 Pro: Students graduate with essential financial and life skills, better preparing them for
52 adulthood, careers, and responsible decision-making.

53

54 Con: Some students or schools may view the courses as less relevant, which could reduce
55 engagement or interest in the material.

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU07
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to an increased minimum base salary for all full-time classroom teachers.

7
8 Section 1. Each school district and charter school shall use its share of the allocation of funds
9 from the Florida Education Finance program to increase the minimum base salary for full-
10 time classroom teachers from \$47,500 to \$65,000 a year.

11
12 Section 2. Funding:

13 A. The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) is the main mechanism for funding
14 operating costs of Florida school districts, including charter schools and traditional public
15 schools. The Florida Education Finance Program is supported by the Florida Lottery and
16 the sales tax in Florida.

17
18 Section 3. Definitions.

19 1. The term "minimum base salary" means the lowest annual base salary reported on the
20 salary schedule for a full-time classroom teacher.

21 2. A "Full-time classroom teacher" is classified as a teacher contracted for a teacher's basic
22 day of six (6) hours or more and for 100 days or more during a school year.

23
24
25 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

26 *****

27 **SUMMARY**

28
29 This bill states that a full-time classroom teacher's minimum base salary will be increased from
30 \$47,500 a year to \$65,000 a year.

31
32
33 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
34 additions.

35
36 Pro: This bill will have a positive effect on the teacher shortage by attracting more teachers to
37 Florida schools with higher pay opportunities.

38
39 Con: This bill is the sales tax on goods and services that will increase to accommodate the
40 increase of teacher's salary.

41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU08
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

2
3 Be It Hereby Enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to community service graduation requirement for Florida High School students.
7

8 **Section 1. Bill Summary**

9 This bill would require all Florida high school students to complete a minimum of one hundred
10 (100) community service hours as a condition to graduate.
11

12 **Section 2. Purpose**

- 13 a. Community service promotes and encourages civic engagement
14 and communal responsibility for students.
15 b. Volunteering provides opportunities to develop life skills, empathy, integrity, and
16 community connection.
17 c. Integrating community service into education enhances personal development and
18 purpose.
19 d. This legislation will help ensure that all high school students contribute to their
20 communities, learn key skills, and develop a sense of responsibility.
21

22 **Section 3. Implementation**

- 23 a. The Florida Department of Education will provide an online platform listing
24 approved community service opportunities statewide.
25 b. Districts shall be strongly encouraged to create online listings of approved service
26 opportunities within each district.
27 c. Schools shall offer informational sessions and materials to educate students and
28 parents about how to complete required community service hours.
29

30 **Section 4. Accommodations and Exceptions:**

- 31 a. Students with disabilities or documented hardships may request modifications or
32 exemptions, subject to review by their school district.
33 b. Alternative service opportunities, such as virtual volunteering, may be approved
34 for students facing mobility or transportation challenges.
35

36 **Section 5. Penalties.**

- 37 a. Students failing to meet the 100-hour requirement without a valid exemption shall
38 be ineligible for graduation until the requirement is fulfilled.
39

40 **Section 6. Definitions.**

- 41 a. "Civic responsibility" is active participation in the public life of a community in
- 42 an informed, committed, and constructive manner, with a focus on the common
- 43 good.
- 44 b. "High School Student" is a student from grades 9 through 12, typically the age
- 45 of 14-18.
- 46 c. "Community Service" is volunteer work intended to help people in a particular
- 47 area.
- 48 d. "Disability" is a physical or mental condition that limits a person's
- 49 movements, senses, or activities; a disadvantage or handicap, especially one imposed or
- 50 recognized by the law.

51
52 This bill shall take effect on July 31, 2027.

53 *****

54 **SUMMARY**

55
56 This bill mandates that all high school students in grades 9 through 12 in Florida complete a
57 minimum of one hundred (100) hours of community service as a graduation requirement. The
58 goal is to promote civic responsibility, personal growth, and a sense
59 of community engagement among students.

60
61 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
62 additions.

63
64 Pro: Boosts student college application resumes and increases eligibility for scholarships like the
65 Florida Bright Futures Program.

66
67 Con: Some students and families might view the requirement as an undue burden, detracting
68 from academic priorities or personal commitments.

69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU09
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to students becoming bilingual by the end of their high school years.

Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to require mandatory language classes from elementary school through high school to learn and become fluent in a language. All Florida elementary schoolers will be required to take language classes, with the primary focus on becoming fluent in that language, by the end of high school. These students will be required to take a written and oral proficiency test. Once the students have passed both tests, they will be considered bilingual.

Section 2.

- a. This bill will be funded by state taxes.
- b. This bill will be enforced by graduation requirements and state laws that require school attendance.

Section 3. The term “language classes” refers to classes that do not teach a student's 1st language or languages taught at home.

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

SUMMARY

This bill will have mandatory language classes starting from elementary school all the way to high school. Upon graduation, high school students will be bilingual.

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Provide the future generation with the knowledge to be fluent in 2 languages. Being bilingual will help students build more connections with people close by and abroad. Languages are easier to learn when one has been practicing since elementary school.

Con: Some students may not want to add another class to their schedule.

1
2
FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: EDU10
County:	Referred to Committee: Education

3
4 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
5 A Bill to Be Entitled
6

7 An act relating to the Florida education budget; establishing a mandatory minimum threshold
8 for education spending as a percentage of state revenue.
9

10 Section 1. Purpose: The purpose of this act is to establish public K-12 education as a primary
11 fiscal priority for the State of Florida.

12 This act seeks to:

- 13 (a) Improve recruitment and retention of instructional personnel through competitive
14 compensation;
15 (b) Ensure high-quality instruction through sustained professional development;
16 (c) Promote workforce stability by incentivizing long-term service; and
17 (d) Strengthen the state’s economic future by investing in a prepared and skilled workforce.

18 Section 2. Target Population: This act applies to the Florida K-12 public education system,
19 serving approximately 2.9 million students across all school districts.

- 20 (a) Students shall benefit from improved instructional quality, expanded educational
21 opportunities, and reduced turnover among educators.
22 (b) Instructional Personnel shall include all full-time classroom teachers and direct instructional
23 support staff, including guidance counselors, social workers, and media specialists.

24 Section 3. Implementation and Budgetary Mandates

25 (1) Minimum Allocation Requirement: The Legislature shall provide appropriate funds to the
26 Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) in an amount not less than forty percent (40%) and
27 not more than fifty percent (50%) of the state’s Annual General Revenue Fund.

28 (2) Emergency Reduction Clause: In the event of a declared emergency imposing a significant
29 fiscal burden, the allocation may be temporarily reduced to a minimum of thirty percent (30%).

30 (3) Activation of Emergency Provision:

31 Such reduction may occur only upon formal declaration by one of the following:

- 32 (a) The Governor of Florida;
33 (b) The Florida Legislature by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of both chambers; or
34 (c) The President of the United States through a federal disaster declaration applicable to Florida.
35

36 (4) Duration: Any reduction shall apply only for the fiscal year in which the emergency is
37 declared. Extension requires a new declaration and an economic review by the Office of
38 Economic and Demographic Research (EDR).

39 (5) Funding Reallocation:

40 To meet the required threshold, the Legislature shall:

- 41 (a) Reduce administrative inefficiencies within state agencies;
42 (b) Reallocate funds from non-essential infrastructure expansion; and
43 (c) Eliminate tax exemptions and incentives lacking demonstrated return on investment.

44 Section 4. Compensation, Retention, and Benefits

45 (1) Minimum Base Salary: The minimum annual salary for instructional personnel shall be
46 \$65,000 statewide.

47 (2) Retention Incentives: Instructional personnel with five (5) or more years of service shall
48 receive an annual experience-based supplement equal to five percent (5%) of the base salary for
49 each completed five-year increment of service.

50 (3) Professional Development: A state-funded program shall cover the full cost of approved
51 professional development, including advanced certifications, endorsements, and graduate-level
52 education in relevant fields.

53 (4) Benefits Enhancements:

54 (a) The state shall subsidize twenty percent (20%) of health insurance premiums for instructional
55 personnel; and

56 (b) Employer contributions to the Florida Retirement System (FRS) for instructional personnel
57 shall increase by three percent (3%).

58 Section 5. Definitions

59 (1) "Instructional Personnel" means any full-time employee responsible for classroom instruction
60 or direct instructional support within a public school district.

61 (2) "General Revenue Fund" means the primary fund from which the Legislature makes
62 discretionary appropriations.

63 (3) "Salary Compression" means the condition in which compensation for experienced
64 employees does not increase proportionately relative to entry-level salaries.

65
66
67

68 This bill shall take effect August 1, 2026

69 *****

70 **SUMMARY**

71

72 This act establishes a requirement that 40–50% of the state’s general revenue be allocated to K-
73 12 education, with a temporary reduction to 30% permitted under defined emergency conditions.
74 It increases teacher base pay, provides structured retention incentives, fully funds professional
75 development, and enhances healthcare and retirement benefits.

76

77 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
78 additions.

79

80 Pro: Teacher Morale: By covering 100% of training and 20% of healthcare, we significantly
81 reduce the "out-of-pocket" stress that leads to teacher burnout.

82

83 Con: Opponents may argue that allowing a Federal official (the President) to trigger a state
84 budget clause gives the federal government too much power over Florida's money.

85

86

87

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT01
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to capping the Chief Executive Officer's salary at 20 times the lowest company
7 salary.

8
9 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to ensure equality in the workforce by capping the CEO to
10 pay 20 times the lowest company salary for businesses with over 100 employees.

11
12 Section 2. Any company that fails to comply with the CEO (a) pay cap shall be subject to
13 financial penalties, including fines proportional to the excess compensation(b). Companies must
14 take mandatory corrective actions, adjusting executive pay to comply with the 20 times limit and
15 removing any excess bonuses or deferred compensation(c). Repeated violations may result in
16 increased fines, restrictions on government contracts or subsidies, and public reporting
17 of noncompliance (d). These measures ensure accountability and uphold fairness and equity.

18
19 Section 3. Definitions.

- 20 a. "CEO" Chief Executive Officer
21 b. "Excess Compensation" means any amount of pay, bonus, or benefits given to a
22 CEO that exceeds the legal limit set by the pay cap.
23 c. "Deferred compensation" refers to any portion of a CEO's salary, bonus, or
24 benefits that are earned now but paid later.
25 d. Fines will be determined for violations. With the First violation: 20% of excess
26 pay, Second violation: 35% of excess pay, Third or repeated violations: 50% of
27 excess pay + restrictions on government contracts or funding.

28
29 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

30 *****

31 **SUMMARY**

32
33 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
34 additions.

35
36 Pro: Capping CEO pays 20 times the lowest company salary helps reduce income inequality and
37 promotes fairness within the workplace. It encourages responsible leadership by limiting
38 excessive risk-taking, boosts employee morale and productivity, and demonstrates social
39 responsibility, and improving public trust in the company. By narrowing the pay gap, companies
40 can create a more equitable and sustainable work environment for all employees
41

42 Con: Capping CEO pay, while promoting fairness, may have potential drawbacks. It could make
43 it harder for companies to attract and retain top executive talent, as highly experienced CEOs
44 might seek positions without strict limits and higher pay throughout the company.
45 Implementation can be complex, requiring a lot of overview and careful monitoring of salaries,
46 bonuses, and deferred compensation. Additionally, companies might try to circumvent the cap by
47 reclassifying compensation, and some argue it could reduce incentives for ambitious decision-
48 making or innovation

49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT02
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, & Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to a Florida autobahn.

7
8 Section 1. Speed limitless highway system between major cities with no commercial vehicles
9 allowed.

10
11 Section 2. State controlled access highway system limited to only registered personal
12 vehicles meeting weight restriction of 4.0 tons and minimum speed requirement of 65 mph.

13
14 Section 3. Temporary permitting will be allowed for out-of-state vehicles as long as they meet
15 the above criteria and standards.

16
17 Section 4. Funding will be provided by permitting the process of the cars and toll by
18 plate system.

19
20 Section 5. Definitions.

21 Autobahn - a German, Austrian, or Swiss expressway.

22 "German drivers have relished their freedom to hurtle as fast as they like down the autobahn"

23
24 Toll by plate - video tolling is a form of electronic toll collection, which uses video or still
25 images of a vehicle license plate to identify a vehicle liable to pay for a road toll.

26
27 This bill shall take effect upon becoming law.

28 *****

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill will effectively create a place where car enthusiasts will be able to safely enjoy the
31 performance capabilities of their vehicles, and citizens will be able to get from one end
32 of Florida to the other significantly faster

33
34 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
35 additions.

36
37 Pro: It makes transportation faster across Florida.

38
39 Con: It makes the road more dangerous

40
41

42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT03
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to age requirement for driving electric scooters.
7

8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to restrict the age of people allowed to drive electric
9 scooters. Those who are eligible to drive an electric scooter must be at least 15 years of age and
10 have a valid Florida permit. When driving an electric scooter, one must wear a helmet and follow
11 state traffic laws.

12 Section 2.

- 13 a. This bill does not need to be funded.
- 14 b. This bill will be enforced by legal guardians, police officers, and school
15 officials in surrounding areas.
- 16 c. If a person driving an electric scooter violates the rules, they may be eligible for a
17 ticket that goes incremental by \$100 for each offense.

18 Section 3.

- 19 a. The term “electric scooter” will be defined as a motorized vehicle that
20 goes from 10 to 25 miles per house.

21
22
23 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

24 *****

25 **SUMMARY**

26
27 This bill will enforce the age limits and traffic laws for electric scooters. To drive an
28 electric scooter, one must be at least 15 years of age with a valid Florida permit.

29
30 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
31 additions.

32
33 Pro: Ensure the safety of pedestrians, cars, and those driving electric scooters.
34

35 Con: Requires more time for those who are charged to enforce the law.
36
37
38
39
40

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT04
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to fare-free public transportation in the State of Florida.
7

8 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to increase access to transportation, reduce financial barriers
9 for Florida residents, decrease traffic congestion, and support economic mobility
10 by eliminating passenger fares on state-supported public transit systems.
11

12 Section 2. Transportation costs limit access to employment, education, and essential services for
13 many Florida residents. Public transit fare revenue represents a relatively small portion of total
14 transit operating budgets, while fare collection and enforcement create additional administrative
15 costs. Eliminating fares may increase ridership, reduce congestion, and improve overall system
16 efficiency.

17 This act requires all public transportation systems receiving state funding to operate as fare-free
18 systems. Fare-free service shall apply to local bus systems, streetcars, and state-supported
19 commuter rail and regional transit authorities. No passenger shall be denied access to service
20 based on inability to pay, and fare enforcement actions shall be prohibited.

21 Revenue previously generated from fares shall be replaced through state transportation
22 appropriations and supplemental assessments on large commercial parking facilities and high-
23 volume freight transportation operations, as determined by the Florida Department of
24 Transportation. All replacement funds shall be deposited into a Public Transit Operations Trust
25 Fund and used solely for transit operations and maintenance.

26 The Florida Department of Transportation shall oversee implementation of this act, distribute
27 replacement funding to transit agencies, and submit an annual report evaluating ridership,
28 operational costs, and system performance.
29

30 Section 3.

31 “Public transportation” means bus, rail, or fixed-route transit services available to the general
32 public.

33 “Fare-free” means no monetary payment is required to access transit services.

34 “State-supported” means receiving funding from the State of Florida
35
36

37 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law July 1st, 2028

38 *****

39 **SUMMARY**

40
41 This bill will eliminate fares on Florida’s public transit systems to expand access, reduce
42 congestion, and improve transportation equity.
43

44 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
45 additions.

46
47 Pro: Removes transportation cost barriers for students, workers, seniors, and individuals with
48 disabilities

49 Increases public transit ridership and system accessibility

50 Reduces administrative costs associated with fare collection and enforcement

51 May decrease traffic congestion and vehicle emissions by encouraging transit use

52

53 Con: Increases tax burden on high-net-worth individuals

54 Raises concerns about long-term revenue stability

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT05
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to prohibiting ICE agents from concealing their identity.
7

8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to help ICE operations be safer for those they target. The
9 agents must be easily identified as ICE agents, and they need to have badges and all forms of
10 necessary identification visible. They will be prohibited from wearing face coverings and masks,
11 with the allowance of medical masks.
12

13
14 Section 2. This bill is specifically targeting ICE and immigration agents. This bill will be
15 enforced by the state of Florida and ICE facilities in Florida.
16

17
18 This bill shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law

19 *****

20 **SUMMARY**

21
22 This bill will prohibit ICE and immigration agents from concealing their identities while
23 working.
24

25 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
26 additions.
27

28 Pro: This will makes ICE operations safer for those they want to take into custody
29

30 Con: This could cause safety issues for agents
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT06
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to the revision of the Florida Move Over Law to specific wording.

7
8 **Section 1. Purpose of Revision**

9 FLHSMV Summary:

10 Under Florida law, vehicles are required to Mover Over a lane for an emergency, service, utility,
11 and disabled vehicle stopped on the side of the road, or slow down to 20 mph below the posted
12 speed limit if it is not safe to move over.

13 Slow down to 5 mph when the posted speed limit is 20 mph or less.

14
15 Revision:

16 Under Florida Law, vehicles are required to Move Over a lane and slow down to 20 mph below
17 the posted speed limit for an emergency, service, utility, and disabled vehicle stopped on the side
18 of the road. ~~or slow down to 20 mph below the posted speed limit if it is not safe to move over. If~~
19 it is not safe to move over, stay 20 mph under the speed limit until safely past the disabled
20 vehicle.

21 Slow down to 5 mph when the posted speed limit is 20 mph or less.

- 22
23
 - The revision to the current law will reinforce the safety of the individuals in or
 - 24 near the disabled vehicle.
 - The current law does not specify slowing down even if the driver does move
 - 25 over a lane.
 - The specification will ensure divers do not move over a lane at a dangerous
 - 26 speed to pass a disabled vehicle.

27
28
29
30 **Section 2. Implementation**

- 31
 - The Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) would include the
 - 32 update to its website, law, and driving manuals.
 - High school Drivers Education courses are required to teach the Florida Move
 - 33 Over Law; new drivers will be aware of the law.
 - Experienced drivers would be informed when the law is revised through the
 - 34 FLHSMV’s website and regular public safety campaigns.
 - Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) would enforce the law.

35
36
37
38
39 **Section 3. Penalties**

- 40
 - Currently, if a driver refuses to adhere to the Florida Move
 - 41 Over Law, they are required to pay a fine (around \$129-\$164+ depending on
 - 42 specifics), three points on your license, potential insurance increases, and court fees.

43 **Section 4. Definitions**

44 *Disabled Vehicle:* As of January 1, 2025, Florida’s Move Over law has been expanded to include
45 any vehicle parked on the side of the road with hazard lights flashing, emergency flares, or
46 visible emergency signage. (Even disabled vehicles or a vehicle with a flat tire is protected under
47 the law.)

48
49 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

50 *****

51 **SUMMARY**

52
53 This bill will revise the current Florida Move over Law to specify slowing down to 20 mph
54 whether the driver can or cannot move over a lane.

55
56 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
57 additions.

58
59 Pro: This law specification and slower speed will provide a safer road environment for the
60 occupant of the disabled, potentially hazardous vehicle and for the drivers around them.

61
62 Con: Some drivers may find this addition unnecessary and overly restrictive.
63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT07
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to creating statewide smart communities
7

8 Section 1. The Department of Community Affairs shall establish a Smart Community Safety
9 Program.

10 Section 2. The program shall provide grants to local governments for the installation of smart
11 streetlights, emergency call systems, and improved lighting in public spaces such as parks,
12 parking lots, and transit stops. Participation in the program shall be voluntary, and local
13 governments must submit a proposal. This will be funded through state public safety grants and
14 existing community envelopment funds; no additional taxes shall be levied.
15

16 Section 3. Local government proposals must outline the targeted areas, community input efforts,
17 and estimated costs and implementation timeline.
18

19 Section 4. Definitions

20 “Smart Streetlights”- Streetlights equipped with enhanced lighting, emergency alert buttons, and
21 non-invasive sensors.

22 “Emergency Call Systems”- Publicly accessible devices that allow individuals to contact
23 emergency services immediately.
24

25 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law immediately

26 *****

27 **SUMMARY**

28
29 This bill will give grants to local governments to create smart communities that will help
30 increase safety.
31

32 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
33 additions.
34

35 Pro: Improves public safety, uses technology responsibly, helps vulnerable communities, local
36 control, builds community trust.
37

38 Con: Privacy concerns, high implementation costs, unequal access, technology
39 dependence, maintenance and oversight challenges.
40

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GCT08
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to modernization of state transportation infrastructure.
7

8 Section 1. This act will modernize state transportation infrastructure, such as repairing or
9 replacing structurally deficient bridges, roads, and traffic management systems.

10 Section 2. The Department of Transportation will oversee this. Funding shall consist of
11 legislative appropriations, state grants, public/private partnership contributions, and any other
12 funds authorized by law. Any project over \$10 million shall be subject to an
13 audit. The Department of Transportation must also receive annual reports detailing
14 the project's progress, fund expenditures, and outcomes.

15
16
17 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law January 1, 2027

18 *****

19 **SUMMARY**

20
21 This bill will modernize transportation infrastructure throughout the state of Florida.

22
23 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
24 additions.

25
26 Pro: Helps keep up roads and transportation infrastructure.

27
28 Con: Funding may be costly to taxpayers.
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GTC09
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to the purchase of firearms by Sworn Law Enforcement Officers under the age of
7 21.

8
9 Section 1. This bill will provide an exception for the purchase of handguns and handgun
10 ammunition by certain law enforcement officers. Sworn law enforcement officers under the age
11 of 21 who are authorized to carry and use firearms in the course of their official duties shall be
12 allowed to purchase handguns and handgun ammunition for lawful purposes, as this is consistent
13 with public safety and law enforcement readiness.

14
15 Section 2.

16 Notwithstanding any provision of law restricting the purchase of firearms or ammunition based
17 on age, a person who is at least 18 but under 21 years of age may purchase a handgun and
18 handgun ammunition if the person is a sworn law enforcement officer employed by a federal,
19 state, county, or municipal law enforcement agency.

20
21 This bill applies only to officers who are authorized by their employment agency to carry a
22 firearm in the performance of their official duties. Proof of active employment, a
23 law enforcement certificate, and sworn status shall be required at the time of purchase. Nothing
24 in this act limits an employing agency’s authority to establish or enforce its own firearms
25 policies.

26
27 Section 3. Definitions.

28 *Sworn Law Enforcement Officer* – shall be defined as “a person who is employed by a law
29 enforcement agency and has taken an oath of office and possesses arrest powers under the laws
30 of this state or the United States.”

31 *Lawful purpose* - shall be defined as “any purpose for which the purchase, possession, or use of a
32 handgun or ammunition is authorized by law.”

33
34
35 This bill shall take effect on August 1st, 2026

36 *****

37 **SUMMARY**

38 This bill will allow sworn law enforcement officers in Florida who are at least 18 but under 21
39 years of age to purchase handguns and handgun ammunition for lawful purposes, exempting
40 them from general age restrictions.

42 Coding: Words in ~~struck-through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
43 additions.

44

45 Pro: Ensures young sworn law enforcement officers can legally obtain firearms and ammunition
46 consistent with their training and responsibilities.

47

48 Con: Will increase administrative and verification burdens on firearm sellers and law
49 enforcement agencies to confirm eligibility.

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: GTC10
County:	Referred to Committee: Government, Commerce, and Transportation

72

Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

73

A Bill to Be Entitled:

74

An act relating to the construction, funding, and enforcement of a recycling center for each

75

county in the State of Florida.

76

Section 1. Each of Florida’s sixty-seven (67) counties and two (2) tribes must create a recycling

77

center for all six (6) categories. These are:

78

- Newspaper

79

- Aluminum cans

80

- Steel cans

81

- Glass

82

- Plastic bottles

83

- Cardboard

84

Section 2. Funding

85

There shall be a categorical grant given to each county, totalling \$390,000. This grant may only

86

be used for recycling. The grant will fall under the Solid Waste Facility Trust Fund Agreement,

87

administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

88

Section 3. If a county takes a grant, that county must completely participate in the program, and

89

offer full services for all six (6) categories. If a county chooses to forgo the grant, that county

90

must only offer services for three (3) categories, as is currently required.

91

This bill shall take effect upon November 1, 2026.

92

93

SUMMARY

94

This bill will allow counties to offer more recycling than is currently available.

95

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are

96

additions.

97 Pro: Decreased environmental impact from garbage centers, as well as decreased plastic
98 production and pollution.

99 Con: As this program is optional, many counties may choose to forgo the grant, resulting in
100 reduced impact.

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS01
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to prohibiting conversion practices on minors.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to ban conversion therapy and practices from being
9 performed on minors. This is to prevent minors from being forced to go through these practices
10 without their consent and without fully understanding what is happening. Minors have very
11 crucial years where they develop and figure themselves out, forcing them to change themselves
12 against their will. However, it prohibits that. This practice is directly aimed at youth and is used
13 as an attempt to manipulate and change them at their parents' wishes, disregarding their own.
14 Minors simply should not be forced into such practices due to lacking full cognitive development
15 and therefore they will be banned.

16
17 Section 2. This bill should be enacted on a statewide level with any place offering these
18 practices immediately, quitting offering these services to minors.

19
20 Section 3. Conversion therapy: Conversion therapy is the pseudoscientific practice
21 of attempting to change an individual's sexual orientation, romantic orientation, gender identity,
22 or gender expression to align with heterosexual and cisgender norms.

23
24
25 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

26 *****

27 **SUMMARY**

28
29 This bill will prohibit minors from undergoing conversion therapy or practices.

30
31 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
32 additions.

33
34 Pro: This helps protect minors who may be in an unsupportive environment

35
36 Con: Some may view this as impeding on parents' rights
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS02
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to raising the age to buy alcohol or drink in public establishments to 25 years of
7 age.

8
9 Section 1. The purpose of the bill is to raise the drinking age to 25 in the state of Florida.

10
11 Section 2. Any place that serves alcohol would undergo training and compliance check yearly. If
12 establishments do not follow regulations, fines as well as the suspension of selling licensing will
13 occur. Checks would be conducted by local police and sheriffs' offices. The training will be
14 conducted by the Florida Department of Business and Regulation, and business owners will need
15 to pass the Florida Bar Exam.

16
17 Section 3. Frontal Lobe Development- the part of the brain that is in control of impulse control,
18 problem solving, planning and speech doesn't fully mature until mid to late 20's- majority 25
19 years old.

20 Long term use of alcohol can cause damage to the frontal lobe. This will
21 impair executive functions of the brain
22 Short term use can temporarily disable frontal lobe functions

23
24 Section 4. Florida Bar Exam- Two-day test for anyone wanting to run a business that serves
25 alcohol.
26 Florida Department of Business and Regulation- responsible for licensing and business in the
27 state of Florida.

28
29 This bill shall take effect on January 1st, 2027

30 *****

31 **SUMMARY**

32
33 This bill will raise the drinking age to 25

34
35 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
36 additions.

37
38 Pro: Protects brain development.

39
40 Con: Conflicts with the other states and the world's age of drinking.

41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS03
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to not charging emergency ambulance usage by the public.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to have ambulance usage for emergencies free, so that more
9 Floridians will be less hesitant about using ambulance services based on the fear of cost.

10
11 Section 2. A person will not be charged for using/calling an ambulance for help in times of an
12 emergency.

13
14 Section 3. To make up for the gap in cost of EMS, there shall be a new fund created, in the
15 Florida Department of Treasury called the "Emergency Medical Transport Fund". In
16 which annual government budgeting, partnerships with hospitals, healthcare companies,
17 reallocating taxes, and the money collected from people who use an ambulance for a non-life-
18 threatening emergency will all go to this fund. Local governments and EMS stations/groups
19 will need to file an request for reimbursement from the Florida Department of Treasury detailing
20 how much money they would have gotten if paid for by the public and the money needed based
21 on the equipment that they used, so that they could continue conducting business and working
22 as usual, in which the Treasury will use the Emergency Medical Transport Fund
23 to reimburse those stations on a timely and professional manner.

24
25 Section 4. Definitions

- 26 • The term "emergency" is defined as life-or-death situations, intense pain and fear for
27 safety, and questionable long-term dangerous scenarios.
- 28 • The term "ambulance" is defined as a medical vehicle equipped for taking sick or injured
29 people to and from the hospital, especially in emergencies.

30
31 This bill shall take effect 120 days after passage.

32 *****

33 **SUMMARY**

34 This bill will put less stress on the public on having to worry about paying ambulance fees
35 and expanding more usage and accessibility for healthcare services.

36
37 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
38 additions.

39
40 Pro: More people will use ambulances to help improve their health, and health care access will
41 rise.

42 Con: Reimbursement to EMS's may be backed up or slowed at some point do to certain
43 governmental circumstances.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS04
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to obesity prevention and sugary drink tax act.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to reduce obesity rates and fund public health initiatives.

9
10 Section 2. A state excise tax of \$0.02 per ounce is imposed on sugar-sweetened beverages sold
11 within Florida. The tax shall be paid by distributors and may not be advertised as a separate
12 charge to consumers. Revenue generated shall be deposited into the Public Health Nutrition Fund
13 and used for:

- 14 1. Obesity prevention programs
- 15 2. Nutrition fitness initiatives
- 16 3. Community fitness initiatives
- 17 4. Healthcare services in underserved communities

18
19 Section 3. Labeling Requirements: Retailers shall display a notice stating, “Drinks with
20 added sugar increase the risk of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.”

21
22 Section 4. Exemptions:

- 23 1. 100% fruit or vegetable juice
- 24 2. Milk and dairy-based beverages
- 25 3. Medical nutrition products

26
27 Section 5. Enforcement and Penalties: The Department of Revenue shall administer and enforce
28 the tax. Penalties shall apply for noncompliance or tax evasion.

29
30 Section 6. Definitions

31 “Sugar-sweetened beverage”- means any non-alcoholic drink containing added caloric
32 sweeteners.

33
34 “Distributor”- any entity that sells sugar-sweetened beverages to retailers within the state.

35
36
37 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

38 *****

39 **SUMMARY**

40
41 This bill will impose a tax on all sugar-sweetened drinks to help prevent obesity.

43 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
44 additions.

45

46 Pro: Improves public health, encourages healthier choices, generates revenue for health
47 programs, reduces long-term healthcare costs, and targets a leading source of added sugar

48

49 Con: Government overreach, economic impact on small businesses, and questionable
50 effectiveness

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS05
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to the Raising of Taxes Imposed on Nicotine-Containing Products.
7

8 **Section 1. Purpose and Target**
9

10 The purpose of this bill is to increase the state excise tax on all nicotine containing products by
11 5% to reduce youth nicotine use, discourage consistent nicotine purchase,
12 generate additional public health funding, and ensure consistent taxation across all nicotine
13 delivery systems.

- 14 • public health protection
- 15 • youth prevention
- 16 • consistent taxation
- 17 • revenue generation

18
19 This bill targets:

- 20 • retailers selling nicotine products
- 21 • manufacturers distributing nicotine products in Florida
- 22 • consumers purchasing nicotine products

23
24 **Section 2. Application and Enforcement**

25 A 5% excise tax increase shall be applied to all nicotine containing products sold within the State
26 of Florida, including but not limited to:

- 27 • Combustible cigarettes
- 28 • Vape liquids containing nicotine
- 29 • Nicotine pouches
- 30 • Heated tobacco products
- 31 • Smokeless tobacco

32 The Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR), Division of Alcoholic
33 Beverages and Tobacco, shall be responsible for:

- 34 • collecting the increased tax
- 35 • monitoring retailer compliance
- 36 • issuing penalties for violations

37 **Section 3. Funding Allocation**
38

39 Revenue generated from the tax increase shall be directed as follows:

- 40 • 40% to youth nicotine prevention programs
 - 41 • 40% to statewide public health initiatives
 - 42 • 20% to enforcement and compliance operations\
- 43

44 **Section 4. Definitions**

45

46 *Nicotine containing product:* Any product that delivers nicotine to the body through inhalation,
47 oral absorption, or combustion.

48 *Excise tax:* A state imposed tax on specific goods at the point of sale or distribution.

49 *Retailer:* Any business licensed to sell nicotine products within the State of Florida.

50

51

52 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

53 *****

54 **SUMMARY**

55

56 This bill will increase the excise tax on all nicotine containing products by 5%.

57

58 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
59 additions.

60

61 Pro:

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

- Reduces youth access and usage
 - Generates new funding for prevention programs
 - Creates consistent taxation across nicotine products
 - May discourage adults who frequently consume nicotine-containing products
-
- Increases cost for adult consumers
 - Retailers may oppose additional regulation
 - Potential shift to untaxed or illicit products

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS06
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to disposable toilet seat covers.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to mandate that all statewide public restrooms have
9 disposable toilet seat covers. If any public restroom is found not to have disposable toilet covers,
10 that establishment will be fined \$700. The establishment must have disposable toilet cover within
11 the next month, or it will be fined an additional \$300. Homes are not required
12 to install disposable toilet seat covers.

13
14 Section 2.

- 15 a. This bill will be funded by state taxes
- 16 b. This bill will be enforced by local health departments

17
18 Section 3.

- 19 a. The term “public restrooms” will be defined as family, female, and male bathrooms that
20 are available. This includes port-a-potties.
- 21 b. The term “establishment” will be defined as any building to have a public restroom such
22 as a grocery or clothing store, doctors' office etc.

23
24
25 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

26 *****

27 **SUMMARY**

28
29 This bill will mandate that all public restrooms will have disposable toilet seat covers to prevent
30 the spread of diseases and bathrooms to become more sanitary.

31
32 Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
33 additions.

34
35 Pro: This bill will help prevent the transfer of diseases (E. coli, skin irritations, norovirus etc.).

36
37 Con: Establishments will have to install these toilet seat covers that may cost extra money.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS07
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to requiring all persons diagnosed with STDs to have that information included
7 on their driver’s license or government issued identification.
8

9 Section 1. All drivers' licenses or state-issued identification must list whether an individual has
10 one or multiple STDs on the bottom right corner of the license. If the individual doesn’t have an
11 STD, their license will list the section as “Clean.” This new section will not remove or replace
12 the donor section of the license; it will be placed right above it.
13

14 Section 2. If an individual has a license that has the prior format, he or she can get it updated for
15 free. If an individual does not update their license by the year 2027, he or she will be fined a
16 \$1,000 fee. If an individual doesn’t know if or if not, they have an STD; they can obtain a free
17 STD check at the county’s health department. If an STD test is conducted at the health
18 department, the individual will have to wait for the results before updating their driver’s license,
19 If the information is delayed after the deadline, the fine does not apply.
20

21 Section 3. Definitions

22 a. “STD” is any viral incurable sexually transmitted disease.
23
24

25 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law (January 1, 2027)

26 *****

27 **SUMMARY**

28
29 This bill requires state-issued driver’s licenses and identification cards to indicate whether an
30 individual has a diagnosed STD to increase public awareness and encourage testing and
31 disclosure. The bill provides free license updates and access to no-cost STD testing through
32 county health departments, while establishing penalties for failure to update identification within
33 the required timeframe.
34

35 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
36 additions.
37

38 Pro: Brings awareness to Floridians about others who have STDs so they may protect
39 themselves.
40

41 Con: Infringes on one's right to privacy.
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS08
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services Committee

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to unauthorized public camping and public sleeping.
7

8 **Section 1. Purpose.** The purpose of this Act is to protect public health, safety, and community
9 security by prohibiting unauthorized camping or sleeping on public property. It also aims to
10 provide support and referral pathways for unsheltered individuals to access structured behavioral
11 health services and safer, designated environments.
12

13 **Section 2. Funding, Enforcement, and Targets.**

- 14 • **Funding:** Implementation shall be supported by state allocations to regional
15 Continuums of Care and existing local government resources. Counties facing
16 financial constraints may request temporary exemptions or phased implementation
17 plans from the Department of Children and Families (DCF).
- 18 • **Enforcement:** Local law enforcement agencies and the Department of Children
19 and Families (DCF) are responsible for monitoring compliance. Additionally, any
20 resident, business owner, or the Attorney General may bring a civil action in a court
21 of competent jurisdiction against a local government that fails to enforce these
22 prohibitions.
- 23 • **Targets:** This bill targets counties and municipalities to prevent them from
24 allowing unregulated encampments on public rights-of-way, sidewalks, or parks. This
25 prohibition applies except in areas officially designated for temporary public camping
26 that meet the standards outlined in Section 3.

27 **Section 3. Definitions.** To ensure this law is understood by all citizens, the following terms are
28 defined:

- 29 • **“Public Camping”** is defined as residing overnight in an outdoor space in a
30 temporary shelter like a tent, shack, or lean-to without a permit or prior
31 authorization.
- 32 • **“Designated Area”** means a specific piece of land officially approved by a
33 county and certified by the state for temporary public sleeping that meets hygiene,
34 security, and accessibility standards established by the Department of Health and the
35 Department of Children and Families.
- 36 • **“Civil Enforcement”** means a process where regular citizens or business owners
37 can use the court system to make sure the government is following the law.
- 38 • **“Behavioral Health Services”** means any programs that provide help for people
39 struggling with mental health issues or substance abuse.
40

41
42 This bill shall take effect October 1, 2026.

43 *****

44 **SUMMARY**

45

46 This bill will prohibit local governments from allowing public sleeping or camping on public
47 property without a permit or official designation. It allows counties to designate specific sites for
48 these activities only if they meet state standards for sanitation, security, and access to health
49 services. The bill establishes civil enforcement rights for residents and businesses to ensure
50 compliance with the law.

51

52 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
53 additions.

54

55 Pro:

56 Improves public health by requiring designated camping sites to have clean running water,
57 operable restrooms, and professional security. Protects community property values and safety by
58 preventing unregulated encampments in residential neighborhoods or business districts.

59

60 Con:

61 May place a heavy financial and logistical burden on local governments that lack the immediate
62 resources to build and maintain these sites. Could lead to increased legal costs for cities if they
63 are sued by residents during the transition period of setting up new facilities.

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS09
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to age requirements for ear piercings.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to allow people 16 years of age or older to get
9 ear piercings without parental consent. Anyone younger than 18 will still need parental
10 permission for ear piercings placed on the tongue, or front of face (eyebrow, lip etc.)

11
12 Section 2.

- 13 a. This bill does not need to be funded.
- 14 b. This bill will be enforced by business places such as salons and tattoo parlors,
15 which will check valid driver's license or passport to make sure the person is at least
16 16 years of age.

17 Section 3.

- 18 a. The term "Ear Piercings" will be defined as making holes for the purpose of
19 wearing earrings anywhere on the ear, nose, or bellybutton.

20
21
22 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

23 *****

24 **SUMMARY**

25
26 This bill will lower the required age from 18 to 16 for ear piercings which includes nose and
27 belly button. This allows minors to get them without parental consent.

28
29 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
30 additions.

31
32 Pro: Gives 16-year-olds a sense of freedom and expression.

33
34 Con: Parents or schools may not want minors getting ear piercings.
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: HHS10
County:	Referred to Committee: Health and Human Services

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to mandating that employers provide paid parental leave.
7

8 **Section 1. Requirement**

9 All businesses in the state of Florida are hereby required to provide paid parental leave to all
10 employees. Mothers shall receive at least thirty (30) days of paid leave prior to giving birth, and
11 at least ninety (90) days of paid leave after. Fathers shall receive at least fifteen (15) days of paid
12 leave prior to birth, and at least thirty (30) days of paid leave after.
13

14 **Section 2. Adoption Provision**

15 Employees adopting or receiving a child via adoption shall receive at least ninety (90) days of
16 paid leave upon reception, contingent on the child being one year old or younger upon reception.
17 If an adopted child is older than twelve (12) months and younger than thirty-six (36) months,
18 employees shall receive at least thirty (30) days of paid leave.
19

20 **Section 3. Premature and Late-Birth Provision**

21 In the case of leave based on birth or surrogacy, the birth date will be determined ahead of time
22 and certified by a medical professional. If the birth is premature, subsequent post-birth leave
23 shall come into effect immediately. If birth occurs after the expected date, employees shall
24 receive up to ten (10) more days of paid leave and subsequent mandatory unpaid leave until
25 birth.
26

27
28 This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

29 *****

30 **SUMMARY**

31
32 This bill will make mandatory paid parental leave a requirement for all employers in the state of
33 Florida. Mothers and fathers will receive paid time off before and after birth.
34

35
36 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
37 additions.
38

39 Pro: People will face less stress and have more time to focus on building their families without
40 worrying about their employment.
41

42 Con: Employers will have to pay workers without receiving their service in return, as well as
43 having to hold their job for an extended period.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ01
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to the ban of minors receiving tattoos.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to protect the health, safety, and well-being of minors by
9 prohibiting the application of tattoos to individuals under the age of 18.

10
11 Section 2. Prohibition

12 (a) A person may not tattoo, brand, or permanently mark the body of an individual who is under
13 18 years of age.

14 (b) This prohibition applies regardless of parental consent.

15 (c) Any tattoo artist or business that violates this section shall be subject to penalties as provided
16 by law.

17
18 Section 3. Enforcement

19 (a) This act shall be enforced by the Florida Department of Health and local law enforcement
20 agencies.

21 (b) Violations may result in fines, license suspension, or other disciplinary actions against the
22 tattoo establishment.

23
24 Section 4. Definitions

25 a. *Minor* means an individual under 18 years of age.

26 b. *Tattoo* means a permanent mark or design placed on the body using ink or pigment.

27 c. *Tattoo establishment* means any location, permanent or temporary, where tattooing is performed.

28 d. *Prohibition* means a legal restriction that forbids or does not allow a specific action or activity.

29 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law January 1, 2027

30 *****

31 **SUMMARY**

32
33 This bill prohibits tattooing individuals under the age of 18 in Florida in order to protect minors
34 from permanent body modifications and potential health risks.

35
36 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
37 additions.

38
39 Pro: This bill protects minors from making permanent decisions at a young age and promotes
40 health and safety.

41
42 Con: This bill limits personal choice and parental authority over decisions involving their
43 children.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ02
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to offenses by adolescents resulting in death or serious injury.
7

8 **Section 1. Purpose and Intent**

9 (a) It is a second-degree felony for 12 years old and older to intentionally lure or entice a child
10 under 18 into or out of a structure or vehicle for a non-lawful purpose, resulting in death
11 or serious injury.

12 (b) Existing laws have a similar punishment for people 18 years old and older. It
13 is demonstrated that most children 12 years old and older can distinguish between death and life
14 and should bear the responsibility for intentionally causing harm to another child under the age
15 of 18 years old.
16

17 **Section 2. Implementation and Enforcement**

18 (a) The Florida Attorney General and Florida Department of Corrections are responsible
19 for implementation and enforcement of this Act.
20

21 **Section 3: Funding**

22 The Florida Department of Children and Families is responsible for funding this Act.
23

24 **Section 4: Definitions**

25 (a) "Severe injury" is severe bodily physical or mental harm, creating a substantial risk of death,
26 serious permanent disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of a body part or organ,
27 including fractures, severe burns, amputations, internal injuries, or unconsciousness.
28

29 This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2028.

30 *****

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill relates to offenses by adolescents 12 years old and older, resulting in death or serious
33 injury to another child under the age of 18 years old, equating these offenses to a second-degree
34 felony.
35

36 Coding: Words in ~~struck through type~~ are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
37 additions.
38

39 Pro: This Act will reduce the crime rate by young offenders that are 12 years old and older.
40

41 Con: This Act will require additional funding and specialized schools and jails for adolescent
42 offenders.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ03
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to lowering the drinking age to 18.

7
8 Section 1. To allow individuals of ages 18-20 years old to purchase and consume alcoholic
9 beverages.

10
11 Section 2. Definitions.

12 (a) An alcoholic drink is any beverage containing ethanol (ethyl alcohol)

13
14
15 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law (or add a date.)

16 *****

17 **SUMMARY**

18
19 This bill will allow individuals of 18-20 years old to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.

20
21 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
22 additions.

23
24 Pro: will give more privileges to young adults

25
26 Con: may subject them to addiction during the tail end of their development.
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ04
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to making the juvenile court of jurisdiction begin at ten (10) years of age.

7
8 Section 1. Youth between the ages of ten (10) and eighteen (18) may fall within juvenile
9 court jurisdiction, meaning children under the age of ten (10) would no longer be subject to the
10 juvenile justice system.

11
12 Section 2. Children under the age of ten (10) are eligible to be tried in juvenile court unless...

- 13 a. They are accused of committing violent felony.
- 14 b. They are accused of committing a violent misdemeanor for the third time.
- 15 c.

16 Section 2. This legislation will be enforced by local courts, local judges, and attorney generals.

17
18 Section 3. Definitions

19 a. Juvenile court jurisdiction: the authority of a juvenile court to hear cases involving
20 minors. It allows the juvenile justice system to serve young people and can help them transition
21 to adulthood successfully.

22 b. Violent felonies: a serious crime that involves the use of force or the threat of force
23 against a person or their property. These include but are not limited to assault with a deadly
24 weapon, robbery, battery, and murder.

25 c. Violent Misdemeanor: A less severe criminal offense that involves the usage or threat of
26 violent force that results in minor injuries or risks. Examples include simple assault, stalking, and
27 domestic battery with minor injury.

28
29 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

30 *****

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill will keep children under the age of ten (10) out of the juvenile justice system unless
33 they commit serious violent crimes.

34
35 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
36 additions.

37
38 Pro: By keeping younger kids that lack the full cognitive and emotional maturity out of the
39 formal justice system, the potential harm of labeling them as criminals at an early age will be
40 reduced.

41
42 Con: Children under ten (10) are not held accountable for their actions, which may encourage
43 them to repeat their offense(s) since there were no consequences.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ05
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to minors performing and being convicted of sexual crimes and offenses.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to punish but also reform minors who are convicted or
9 caught performing sexual crimes and offenses. Within this bill, sexual crimes and offenses
10 will include sharing sexually explicit images without consent, sexual battery, exploitation, and
11 any non-consensual sexual acts, even if they are with other minors. This bill is to help show that
12 the state takes sexual crimes seriously, even when they are committed by a minor. It is also to
13 help the offenders in terms of helping them understand the root of their issues and to help
14 them not repeat offenders.

15
16 Section 2. Minors convicted or found guilty of sexual crimes will face sentencing based on
17 current state laws and serve any time that the judge finds reasonable. On top of any charges
18 or anything given to them, they will also follow what is written in this bill. The offender will first
19 have a psychological evaluation done to see if there are any treatments recommended by a
20 psychologist. They will also have to participate in community service for at least one month so
21 they can understand the community they made a negative impact on.

22
23 Section 3. Funding for this bill would come from government grants and state funding. This bill
24 would be enforced by law enforcement on the local and state levels.

25
26
27 This bill shall take effect upon January 1, 2027.

28 *****

29 **SUMMARY**

30
31 This bill will help with the punishment and rehabilitation of minors who commit sexual crimes
32 or offenses.

33
34 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
35 additions.

36
37 Pro: This bill can help offenders feel the impact of what they have done

38
39 Con: There may be issues with funding and actual enforcement as most sexual criminals
40 go unconvinced

41
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ06
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to minors, second chances, and records.

7
8 Section 1. This bill gives minors a second chance and is not permanently burdened by mistakes
9 made during childhood.

10
11 Section 2. This bill allows automatic sealing(a) of most minor (b) juvenile records at age 18,
12 except for violent crimes or repeat offenses (c). It ensures that youth are not permanently tied
13 down to childhood mistakes. Promoting growth and development while improving access to
14 further education, jobs, housing, and promoting rehabilitation.

15
16 Section 3. Definitions.

17 (a) “Automatic Sealing,” allowing the record to exist in the court system but not available to
18 employers, schools, or the public.

19 (b) “Minors”: Children under the age of 18.

20 (c) “Violent Crimes” are included, but not limited to

- 21 1. Homicide – including murder and manslaughter
- 22 2. Aggravated Assault – causing serious bodily injury or using a deadly weapon
- 23 3. Battery – resulting in serious injury
- 24 4. Sexual Assault / Sexual Battery – any nonconsensual sexual activity
- 25 5. Kidnapping / Abduction – unlawful taking or restraint of another person
- 26 6. Robbery – taking property by force or threat of force
- 27 7. Armed Robbery – Robbery committed with a weapon
- 28 8. Domestic Violence – violent acts against a household or family member

29
30
31 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law on January 1st, 2027

32 *****

33 **SUMMARY**

34
35 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
36 additions.

37
38 Pro: Protects youth from lifelong punishments for minor offenses and promotes long-term
39 outcomes. While keeping serious offender records accessible.

40
41 Con: This could make it hard for schools, employers, or law enforcement to know
42 the previous history of minor offenses. Letting minors off too easily and disregarding minors to
43 take accountability for bad decisions.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ07
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to restricting the unlawful possession of firearms by minors.
7

8 **Section 1. Purpose.** The purpose of this Act is to enhance public safety by strengthening
9 accountability for minors who unlawfully possess or use firearms. This Act seeks to prevent
10 repeat offenses, provide rehabilitative education, and ensure that minors charged with serious
11 firearm offenses are appropriately detained while awaiting adjudication.
12

13 **Section 2. Enforcement, Penalties, and Targets.**

- 14 • **Targeting:** This bill applies to any minor under the age of 18 who is found to possess a
15 firearm in violation of Florida law.
- 16 • **Enforcement:** Law enforcement officers are authorized to make warrantless arrests for
17 the misdemeanor of the crime of possession of a firearm by a minor. The Department of
18 Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is responsible for providing mandatory classes on the risks and
19 consequences of youthful firearm offending.
- 20 • **Penalties:**
 - 21 ○ **First Offense:** Upgraded to a first-degree misdemeanor; the court may order
22 detention up to 5 days, participation in educational programs, or community service.
 - 23 ○ **Second Offense:** Upgraded to a third-degree felony; the minor may serve up to
24 21 days in secure detention and perform 100–250 hours of community service or
25 restitution.
 - 26 ○ **Third or Subsequent Offense:** The minor shall be adjudicated by delinquent and
27 may be committed to a residential program or secure juvenile facility.
 - 28 ○ **Mandatory Detention:** Any minor charged with possessing or discharging a
29 firearm on school property shall be held in secure detention for a probable cause
30 of hearing within 24 hours, in accordance with state juvenile procedure.
31

32 **Section 3. Definitions.**

- 33 • **“Minor”** means any individual under the age of 18 who has not been emancipated or had
34 the disabilities of nonage removed by a court.
- 35 • **“Secure Detention”** means any juvenile facility providing temporary physical restriction
36 pending adjudication, disposition, or placement.
- 37 • **“Adjudicated Delinquent”** means a formal court finding that a juvenile has committed
38 a criminal offense.
- 39 • **“Withhold of Adjudication”** means a judicial decision to withhold formal delinquency
40 adjudication while still imposing penalties; under this act, a withhold counts as a prior
41 offense for sentencing purposes.
42

43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80

This bill shall take effect July 1, 2026.

SUMMARY

This bill increases the severity of penalties for minors found in unlawful possession of firearms, upgrading first-time offenses to a misdemeanor and repeat offenses to a third-degree felony. It mandates secure detention for juveniles caught with firearms on school property and requires residential placement for those with multiple offenses.

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Provides a strong deterrent against juvenile gun violence by ensuring serious consequences for first-time and repeat offenders. Enhance community and school safety by requiring mandatory detention for minors caught with weapons on campus.

Con: Early felony records may limit educational and career opportunities for minors; increased secure detention may contribute to overcrowding and higher costs for juvenile facilities.

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ08
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to age requirements for ear piercings.

7
8 Section 1. The purpose of this bill is to allow people 16 years of age or older to get
9 ear piercings without parental consent. Anyone younger than 18 will still need parental
10 permission to get ear piercings placed on the tongue, or front of face (eyebrow, lip etc.)

11
12 Section 2.

- 13 a. This bill does not need to be funded.
- 14 b. This bill will be enforced by business places such as salons and tattoo parlors,
15 which will check valid driver's license or passport to make sure the person is at least
16 16 years of age.

17
18 Section 3.

- 19 a. The term "Ear Piercings" will be defined as making holes for the purpose of
20 wearing earrings anywhere on the ear, nose, or bellybutton.

21
22
23 This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law

24 *****

25 **SUMMARY**

26
27 This bill will lower the required age from 18 to 16 for ear piercings which includes nose and
28 belly button. This allows minors to get them without parental consent.

29
30 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
31 additions.

32
33 Pro: Gives 16-year-olds a sense of freedom and expression.

34
35 Con: Parents or school may not want minors getting ear piercings.
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ09
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An Act relating to juvenile criminal records; providing for automatic sealing and expungement;
7 and promoting rehabilitation and reintegration.
8

9 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to reduce lifelong consequences for juvenile offense
10 while maintaining public safety. Nonviolent juvenile offense records shall be automatically
11 sealed when an individual reaches the age of 18. Sealed records shall not be accessible to
12 the public, employers, or educational institutions. Expunged records shall be permanently
13 destroyed. The Department of Juvenile Justice shall implement an automatic sealing procedure
14 without requiring a petition from the individual.
15

16 Section 2. Eligibility:

- 17 1. The individual completes all court-ordered requirements
- 18 2. No felony offenses are committed within two years
- 19 3. The offense was nonviolent

20
21 Section 3. Exceptions:

- 22 1. Violent felony offenses
- 23 2. Sex offenses
- 24 3. Records required for ongoing law enforcement investigations

25
26 This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2027

27 *****

28 **SUMMARY**

29
30 This bill will seal the records of minor mistakes with the law that were non-violent.

31
32 Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are
33 additions.

34
35 Pro: Gives youth a second chance, improves access to jobs and education, and eliminates costly
36 legal petition processes

37
38 Con: Limits public access to criminal history, victims may feel justice is minimized, risk of
39 repeat offenses being hidden, and administrative burden on state agencies
40
41
42

1 **FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE**

Sponsors:	Committee/Bill Number: JJ10
County:	Referred to Committee: Juvenile Justice

2
3 Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature
4 A Bill to Be Entitled

5
6 An act relating to restorative discipline practices prior to juvenile justice referral in the State of
7 Florida.

8
9 Section 1. The purpose of this act is to reduce unnecessary juvenile justice involvement, address
10 student behavior through restorative practices, and limit school-based referrals to the juvenile
11 justice system for minor misconduct.

12
13 Section 2. Florida schools play a significant role in referrals to the juvenile justice system,
14 particularly for nonviolent and low-level disciplinary incidents. Research indicates that early
15 justice system involvement can negatively impact educational outcomes and increase the
16 likelihood of repeated offenses. Restorative discipline practices emphasize accountability,
17 conflict resolution, and repairing harm without formal punishment.

- 18 ▪ This act requires Florida public school districts to exhaust restorative discipline practices
19 before referring a student to the juvenile justice system for nonviolent, school-based
20 offenses. Restorative practices may include mediation, restorative conferencing,
21 counseling, behavioral intervention plans, or school-based support services.
- 22 ▪ Referrals to juvenile justice shall remain permitted for incidents involving violence,
23 credible threats of harm, weapons, or repeated serious misconduct where restorative
24 interventions have been attempted and documented.
- 25 ▪ Each school district shall adopt written restorative discipline guidelines and provide
26 training to administrators, teachers, and school resource officers on restorative practices
27 and referral standards.
- 28 ▪ County-Level Implementation:
29 Each county shall ensure coordination between school districts, juvenile justice agencies,
30 and community service providers to support restorative discipline programs. Counties
31 may partner with nonprofit organizations or regional service providers to deliver
32 restorative services, particularly in rural or under-resourced areas.
- 33 ▪ The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, in coordination with the Florida Department
34 of Education, shall oversee implementation, provide technical assistance, and collect data
35 on school-based referrals and outcomes.

36
37 Section 3. Definitions

38 “Restorative discipline practices” means non-punitive approaches that focus on accountability,
39 conflict resolution, and repairing harm.

40 “School-based offense” means misconduct occurring on school property or during a school-
41 sponsored activity.

42 “Nonviolent offense” means an incident that does not involve physical injury, weapons, or
43 credible threats of harm.

44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law July 1st, 2027

SUMMARY

This bill will require Florida schools to use restorative discipline practices before referring students to the juvenile justice system for nonviolent school-based offenses.

Coding: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Reduces unnecessary juvenile justice involvement
Improves educational and behavioral outcomes
Addresses the school-to-prison pipeline
Encourages accountability without criminalization

Con: Requires training and program implementation
May limit immediate disciplinary options
Raises concerns about consistency across districts