



PREPARING TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

The House's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 totals \$97 billion, an increase of 5.2% over the current year. Nearly all of this increase is related to \$4.4 billion of additional federal funds the state has received for the federal share of spending for the highest Medicaid caseload in Florida's history and to help public schools continue to stay open to serve Florida's children.

The increase in state funds is a modest \$387.5 million, which is less than 1% over the current year. Difficult decisions were made to prioritize the state's recurring resources and ensure the budget is structurally balanced.

The House's proposed budget also leaves more than \$5 billion in reserves to ensure Florida is prepared for the future.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS FOR LONG-TERM SUCCESS

The House's proposed budget outlines a plan to invest Florida's share of the federal American Rescue Plan dollars in the state's infrastructure and to rebuild reserves to the highest level in history. These proposals include:

- \$3.5 billion to address deferred maintenance needs in state and school facilities.
- \$2.0 billion to offset revenue losses in the State Transportation Trust Fund.
- \$1.0 billion to fund a new Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund (not included in reserve).
- \$630 million for environmental programs including beach renourishment, resiliency, and septic-to-sewer conversions.
- \$350 million to increase the Budget Stabilization Fund to the maximum amount.
- \$324 million for staffing and information technology for Cybersecurity, Workforce, and Reemployment Assistance.
- \$140 million in additional funds for the Sadowski Housing Trust Funds.
- Remaining funds are directed to remain in the General Revenue Fund as unallocated reserves.

POLICY AREA HIGHLIGHTS

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

- \$665.8 million for Everglades Restoration and Protection of Florida's Water Resources including projects for Everglades restoration, springs, stormwater and wastewater grants, and the Resilient Florida Grant Program.
- \$100 million for Florida Forever for acquisition of conservation lands.
- \$200 million for Beach Restoration Projects (including federal stimulus funds). This is the highest level of funding for these projects in history.
- \$50.7 million for State Park Improvements. This is the highest level of funding for these projects in history. The State Park System will also be able to participate in the Deferred Building Maintenance Program funded with federal stimulus funds.
- \$43.9 million for the final Citrus Canker Eradication Claims.

HEALTH CARE

- \$3.1 billion (\$1.3 billion General Revenue) to fund the Medicaid Price Level and Workload. The funds will serve an anticipated 4.6 million beneficiaries, the highest caseload in Florida's history with no reductions to eligibility groups or services.
- \$239.8 million (\$92.9 million General Revenue) to extend postpartum Medicaid-eligibility of pregnant women from 60 days following birth to 12 months following birth. This will help 97,600 mothers maintain their health care benefits and ensure a healthy start for their babies.
- \$9.0 million for Minority Health Equity Planning to develop strategies to reduce minority morbidity and mortality in the priority areas of HIV/AIDS, chronic diseases, and infant mortality to eliminate health disparities

PREK-12 EDUCATION

- \$22.6 billion total funds for the Florida Education Finance Program (\$12.8 billion state funds and \$9.9 billion local funds). This provides an increase in total FEFP funds of \$139.7 million over current year and an increase of \$181.38 for a total funds per student of \$7,967.99.
- Funds are based on projected actual student enrollment, but a reserve fund is provided for additional students who may re-enroll in the fall.
- \$1.8 billion of federal stimulus funds for public schools to continue to stay open, enroll students, and remediate learning loss for students.

POLICY AREA HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

HIGHER EDUCATION

- \$7.9 billion for higher education programs. Although this a decrease of 6.8% from current year appropriations, overall funding remains \$528.8 million (7.2%) over what it was just five years ago. Florida's higher education system has also received an unprecedented amount of federal stimulus funds totaling \$2.4 billion to offset these reductions to state funds.
- Tuition and fees, as well as funding for need-based financial aid, are held at current levels to ensure higher education is affordable for Floridians.

JUSTICE

- Proviso authorizes the DOC to develop an innovative and comprehensive plan to address Correctional Officer salaries and retention. The plan calls for the consolidation of prisons (2) and would fully reinvest the savings back into the department. No reductions to Corrections funding.
- \$18.2 million for the DOC for phase two of a four-year phased transition for correctional officers to move from 12 hour shifts to 8.5 hour shifts in state-operated correctional institutions, and to provide enhanced delivery of basic recruit training for newly hired correctional officer trainees to also aid in recruitment and retention.

INFRASTRUCTURE & TOURISM

- \$9.2 billion for the Transportation Work Program plus an additional \$2.0 billion of federal stimulus funds to backfill lost revenue to keep our state infrastructure going.
- \$280.2 million for affordable housing programs (including federal stimulus funds).
- \$202 million to implement a consumer-first workforce IT system (including federal stimulus funds). This will help get our Floridians back to work.

STATE ADMINISTRATION & TECHNOLOGY

- \$32.1 million for distributions to fiscally constrained counties.
- \$28.8 million to repair and maintain state buildings, including the Capitol Complex.
- \$21.4 million to continue the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System.

