



## POLICY BRIEF | HB 1149 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

Governments should be accountable to the taxpayers they represent. **HB 1149** ensures that local governments are responsible and transparent stewards of taxpayer dollars.

**HB 1149 (DiCeglie) LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL TRANSPARENCY:** requires additional fiscal transparency from local governments.

- Floridians should have access to information about their local governments' fiscal decisions so they can hold their elected officials accountable.
- **HB 1149** enhances local government fiscal transparency by requiring:
  - Easy public access to local government governing boards' voting records related to tax increases and issuance of tax-supported debt (phased in over four years).
  - Easy online access to property tax Truth-in-Millage notices and a four-year history of property tax rates and amounts at the parcel level (phased in over three years).
  - Additional public meetings and expands public notice requirements for local option tax increases, other than property taxes, and new long-term, tax-supported debt issuances.
  - Local governments to conduct and consider a debt affordability analysis prior to approving the issuance of new, long-term tax-supported debt.
  - The chair of the local governing body to sign an affidavit of compliance.
- Under current law, most local governments are required to have an annual financial audit. **HB 1149** requires the auditor to report whether the local government is in compliance with the provisions of the new act created by the bill.
  - The Auditor General must request evidence of corrective action from local governments found not to be in compliance with the Act.
  - Local governments must provide evidence that corrective action has been initiated within 45 days and completed within 180 days.
  - The Auditor General must report local governments that do not take corrective action to the Legislative Auditing Committee.
- These requirements will ensure that Floridians have open, easy access to the information they need to be more engaged with their local government.

Please refer to the [bill text and staff analyses](#) for further information.