



2026 FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Florida's coast and ocean contribute more than \$80 billion to the state's economy and support over one million jobs. They are a defining part of the state and integral to our Florida way of life. But Florida's coastal communities and environments are increasingly under siege from the impacts of development, pollution, and sea level rise. Dynamic and proactive state leadership is needed to ensure resilient coastlines, healthy beaches, clean water, and thriving communities across Florida.

ADVANCE RESILIENCY SOLUTIONS

Florida's coastal communities, infrastructure, and marine ecosystems are increasingly threatened by sea level rise, extreme weather events, and flooding. Bold state leadership is needed to implement solutions that advance dynamic resilience, protect communities, and support critical marine and coastal environments.

Support: SB302/HB1035 Nature-Based Solutions; SB546/HB441 Conservation Lands; SB840 Land Use Regulations; SB1006/HB981 Tributaries of the St. Johns; SB1422/HB1319 Surface Waters; FY27 appropriations for Resilient Florida & Florida Forever
Oppose: SB354/HB299 Blue Ribbon Projects; HB399 Land Use & Development Regulations; SB1628 Net-Zero Policies / HB1217 Prohibited Gov't Policies Regulating Greenhouse Gas Emissions

PROTECT CLEAN WATER & PUBLIC HEALTH

Sewage spills and stormwater runoff threaten the health of beachgoers, coastal ecosystems, and economies. Consistent water quality monitoring and public notification are needed to protect public health and inform scalable solutions. We must also maintain water quality oversight and enforcement while advancing efforts to repair and update Florida's failing water management infrastructure.

Support: SB1468/HB1167 Advanced Wastewater Treatment; SB1042/HB669 Public Waters
Oppose: SB718/HB479 Water Management

REDUCE POLLUTION & MARINE DEBRIS

Each year, an estimated 7,000 tons of wasteful plastic pollution enters the ocean in Florida, posing a major threat to our waterways and marine environments, public health, and tourism-driven economy. Clean water and healthy coasts are tremendous economic assets in Florida – our waterways and beaches draw millions of visitors to the state every year and support over a million jobs. Reducing plastic pollution and marine debris helps protect these assets for Floridians today and for future generations.

Support: SB240/HB575 Auxiliary Containers; SB1464/HB1523 Food Waste & Plastic Reduction
Oppose: SB766 Waste Management / HB629 Regulation of Auxiliary Containers

About the Surfrider Foundation

The Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our ocean, waves, and beaches for all people. Surfrider's nationwide network of more than 200 volunteer-led chapters and clubs work to protect thousands of miles of United State's coastline through education, advocacy, and stewardship. In Florida, Surfrider has 12 volunteer-led chapters and 11 student clubs.