

ORANGE



COUNTY
FLORIDA

State Legislative Session Wrap Up

April 21, 2026

SESSION OVERVIEW

By the Numbers:

- 1897 bills filed
- 236 bills passed both chambers
- 26 fewer bills than 2025
- 495 bills followed by Orange County



KEY PRIORITIES

Wins

Despite considerable momentum, several impactful Growth Management bills and amendments were stopped because of bipartisan opposition

Losses

Further erosion of Home Rule; no resolution to SB 180 impacts

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

SB 840

SB 180 Fix

Considered the post-SB 180 attempt to address unintended impacts of the 2025 legislation. The effort had strong support in the Senate but failed to advance in the House.

SB 354

Blue Ribbon Projects

Unsuccessful effort to create a state framework for extremely large developments (15,000 acres), overriding local planning and zoning

Rural Boundary

Late Session Amendment

Would have weakened rural boundary protections by treating restrictions as a taking, overriding voter-approved rural boundary protections

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Affordable Housing
House Bill 1389

Land Use and Development Regulations
House Bill 399

Agricultural Enclaves
House Bill 691

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SB 145

Sovereign Immunity

Legislature raises sovereign immunity tort caps from \$200,000 per person and \$300,000 per incident to \$350,000 per person and \$500,000 per incident

SB 1134

“DEI” Prohibition

Bill prohibits counties from funding or taking official DEI-related actions and restricts related contracting and grant spending

HB 1217

“Net-Zero” Prohibition

State would restrict local governments from adopting or funding net-zero greenhouse gas policies and implementing climate-related emission targets

KEY PRIORITIES

Local Government Spending

HB 1329

Data Centers

SB 484

Commercial Service Airports

HB 919

UNSUCCESSFUL PROPOSALS

Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners
House Bill (HJR) 27

Prohibited Uses of Public Funds by Political Subdivisions
House Bill 605

Public Safety
House Bill 1427

STATE BUDGET

The House and Senate introduced budget proposals during Week 6

Proposals are \$1.4 billion apart, a relatively small gap

A special session is needed to finalize the budget



ADDITIONAL ISSUES

Property Tax Reform

- The House introduced several proposals that addressed property tax reform. Proposals ranged from full elimination of non-school property taxes on homesteads to a gradual phase out to assessment and cap changes.
- Only one proposal passed the full House, House Bill 203, which would have placed a constitutional amendment on the ballot to eliminate non-school property taxes on homestead properties.
- There is no Senate approach, currently.

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