

1  **2009 Elections & Law**

**An Overview**

Florida Association of Special Districts  
2009 Annual Conference  
David E. Ramba

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**State Offices**

**General Election Held November 7, 2008**

- State Senator (odd-numbered districts)
  
- State Representative (All Districts)

3  **Florida Senate Districts**

Panhandle: No Offices  
North Florida: 1, 3, 5, 7  
Tampa Bay: 11, 13,  
West Coast: 21, 23, 37,  
Central: 9, 15, 17, 19  
South Florida: 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 39

4  **Florida House Districts**

Panhandle: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8  
North Florida: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19,  
20, 21, 23  
Central Florida: 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38,  
39, 40, 41, 42, 49, 64, 65, 66, 77, 79  
Tampa Bay: 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58,  
59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 67, 68, 69, 70  
Treasure Coast: 29, 30, 31, 32, 80, 81, 82  
West Coast: 71, 72, 73, 101, 112  
South Florida: 78, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95,  
96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110,  
111, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120

5  **2008 Election Results**

**Party Breakdown**

- Florida Senate
  - unchanged with 26 Republican-controlled seats and 14 Democrat-controlled seats.
- Florida House of Representatives
  - change slightly: the Democrats net a gain of one seat
  - party breakdown of 76 Republican-controlled seats to 44 Democrats-controlled seats.
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6  **2008 Election Results**


**Constitutional Amendments**

- six constitutional amendments on the ballot
  - four amendments gained the 60% vote necessary to pass: Amendment 2 (Florida Marriage Protection), Amendment 3 (Hurricane Hardening Improvements), Amendment 4 (Conservation Lands) and Amendment 6 (Working Waterfronts).
  - two amendments that did not gain the necessary 60% vote were Amendment 1 (Repeal of Alien Land Law) and Amendment 8 (Local Option Community College Funding).

7  **2009 Legislative Session**

Highlight Results

- Budget
- Environment
- Education
- Economic Development and Stimulus
- Special Districts

8  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**

- Purchasing by Special Districts (HB 247 (Pafford)/SB 712(Pruitt))
- Codification of Special Districts
- Commercial and Residential Property Assessment Limitations (HB 97 (Domino)/SB 532 (Lynn))
- Impact Fees (HB 227 (Aubuchon)/SB 580 (Haridopolos))

9  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**

**Cont'd**

- 1.35% Cap on Ad Valorem Tax (HB 385 (Rivera)/SB 738 (Bennett))
- State and Local Government Revenue Limitations (HB 905 (Flores)/SB 1906 (Haridopolos))
- Moratorium on Impact Fees (SB 630 (Bennett)/HB 1129 (Grimsley))
- Public Construction Projects (HB 611 (Hukill)/SB 616 (Haridopolos))

10  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**


**Cont'd**

- Property Assessments (HB 917 (Workman))
- Ad Valorem Assessments/Challenges(SB 1006 (Fasano)/HB 521 (Lopez-Cantera)/SB 1102 (Storms))
- Payments in Lieu of Taxes (HB 929 (Bembry))
- Senior Services Special Districts (SB 666 (Rich)/HB 761 (Skidmore))

11  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**

**Cont'd**

- Local Government Expenditures for Political Advertising or Electioneering(SB 216 (Justice)/HB 591 (Long))
- Local Government Accountability (HB 931 (Schultz)/SB 1368 (Dean))
- Surplus Public Funds (SB 732 (Smith)/HB 569 (Roberson))
- Community Development Districts (HB 821 (O'Toole)/SB 1602 (Baker))

12  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**

**Cont'd**

- Transparency in Government Spending (HB 971 (Hukill)/SB 1972 (Storms)/SB 594 (Aronberg))
- Firefighters and Municipal Police Officers (HB 005 (Hooper)/SB 538 (Baker))
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- Special Risk Class (HB 673 (Domino)/SB 1572 (Deutch))

13  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**  
**Cont'd**

- Discretionary Sales Surtaxes(HB 365 Hooper)/SB 1000 (Fasano))
- Firefighter Memorial Flag (SB 198 (Justice)/HB 171 (Heller))
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- Firefighter Death Benefits (HB 259 (Soto)/SB 792 (Baker))
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- Fire Prevention and Control(HB 693 (Taylor)/SB 1606 (Aronberg))

14  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**  
**Cont'd**

- First-Responder Service Fees (HB 1043 (N. Thompson))
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- Health and Prescription Drug Insurance (HB 175 (Soto)/SB 356 (Justice))
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- Financial Disclosure and Gift Ban (SB 252 (Constantine)/HB 1089 (Kiar))

15  **2009 Legislation Special Districts**  
**Cont'd**

- Breach of Duty(SB 1142 (Wise))
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- Public Officials Salaries and Bonuses (SB 2020 (Storms))
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- Expedited Permitting Process (HB 73 (Schenck)/SB 852 (Fasano))
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- Community Renewal Act (SB 360 (Bennett))