

FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION



Florida Sheriffs Association 2022 Legislative Priorities

Controlled Substances/Drug Control

Florida continues to work to solve its opioid epidemic. Treatment and recovery support services are needed for those who are addicted to drugs, but enhanced tools are needed to hold drug dealers accountable for their criminal actions that are flooding our communities with deadly drugs. This legislation will make important changes to hold those that supply controlled substances and illegal drugs to users accountable, while also protecting recovering addicts who are seeking treatment at a drug treatment facility.

Support HB 95 by Rep. Plakon & SB 190 by Sen. Brodeur

Florida Model Jail Standards

The Florida Model Jail Standards (FMJS) were developed 25 years ago and continue to serve as the minimum standards which jails must meet to ensure the constitutional rights of those incarcerated are upheld. Through these standards, Florida has remained at the forefront of detention related services and continues to stand out as the model for jail standards. Just as our laws continue to evolve, we must continue to review and improve these standards to reflect the changes in good practices and Florida law. HB 1561 and SB 1236 will further strengthen the standards of all jails across Florida.

Support HB 1561 by Rep. Bush III & SB 1236 by Sen. Jones

DJJ 21 Day Solution

This legislation would make changes to s. 985.24 and 985.26 of the Florida Statutes and allow, not require, judges to hold juveniles in secure detention, or be placed on supervised release (home detention), for more than the current 21 day maximum when juveniles have committed serious crimes. The current 21 day maximum was established in 1978 and is antiquated. The average time it takes today across Florida is about 100 days from arrest to trial. The courts are powerless today to keep juveniles who a threat to public safety off the street between day 21 and day 100, or the time trial begins. There is nothing in this bill that requires judges to place juveniles in secure detention or on supervised release for longer periods of time. The bill only allows judges the discretion to do so, which they now lack under current law.

Support HB 7029 by Rep. Brannan & SB 7040 by Sen. Perry

Florida Sheriffs Association Legislative Platform

Law Enforcement

Marsy's Law: Support legislation to clarify Marsy's Law protects victim information when they ask for their information to be protected.

Jails, Corrections & Re-Entry

Early Release: Support Truth in Sentencing laws requiring convicted criminals to serve at least 85% of their sentence.

Mandatory Minimum Sentencing: Oppose the elimination of mandatory minimum sentences.

Expunction of Criminal Records: Oppose unlimited expunction of criminal records.

Administration

Florida Retirement System: Support returning length of service to 25 years and the retirement age to 55 years for Special Risk Class employees.

Florida Retirement System: Support reducing the amount of time a law enforcement officer must remain retired before being rehired from 12 months to 30 days.

Florida Retirement System: Support legislation to assess the financial impact and necessary funding required for an ad hoc cost of living adjustment for future Special Risk Class retirees.

Budget

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Funding: Support continued funding to train law enforcement officers to safely assess and identify people in mental health crisis and help connect them with community treatment and keep them out of the criminal justice system.

Community Mental Health Funding: Support funding for mental health services that will assist persons after they are released from county jails and have to transition back into the community.

