



# **GATORMUN XXIII**

**Florida County Commission on Tourism and  
Development**

## **Background Guide**

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Ethan Casillas

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# Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development

## **Letter from the Director:**

My wonderful Delegates

Welcome to the Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development! This specialized committee is all about the attractions that have come to define Florida, from the sandy beaches, to the lush swamplands, and the unforgettable theme parks. My name is Ethan Casillas, and it is truly my pleasure to serve as your Director.

I'm a Junior at the University of Central Florida, double-majoring in Economics and Political Science. I've been doing MUN for about seven years now, and this is the third GatorMUN I've had the opportunity to be a part of. At UCF MUN, I'm the Chief of Staff for our high school conference, and have been able to debate from Miami to Montréal. In all my time debating, these high school conferences have been the most fun, with the most antics, so I hope y'all have a great time!

This committee takes place in modern-day Florida, with y'all serving as representatives of the many counties on a specialized 'county commission'. This commission is aimed at increasing tourism to the various counties, and utilizing this income domestically. Y'all will be collaborating to draft and pass 'legislation' to change the state's tourism laws, build/destroy tourism-related infrastructure, and fund projects to accomplish the committee's goals. The passed changes will be reflected in periodic updates, which will specifically reference major consequences and unexpected events.

In your research, I recommend identifying tourism centers and infrastructure (or lack thereof) within your county along with why they might be succeeding or failing. If you have any questions regarding specifics, please don't hesitate to ask!

So long, good luck, goodbye!

*Ethan Casillas*

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# Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development

## Rules of Procedure

### Quorum

A majority of voting members answering to the roll at each session shall constitute a quorum for that session. This means that half plus one of all voting members are present. Quorum will be assumed consistent unless questioned through a Point of Order. Delegates may request to be noted as "Present" or "Present and Voting."

### Motion to Suspend the Rules for the Purpose of a Moderated Caucus

This motion must include three specifications

- Length of the Caucus
- Speaking Time
- Reason for the Caucus

During a moderated caucus, delegates will be called on to speak by the Committee Director. Delegates will raise their placards to be recognized. Delegates must maintain the same degree of decorum throughout a Moderated Caucus as in formal debate. This motion requires a simple majority to pass.

### Motion to Suspend the Rules for the Purpose of an Unmoderated Caucus

This motion must include the length of the Caucus. During an unmoderated caucus, delegates may get up from their seats and talk amongst themselves. This motion requires a simple majority to pass. The length of an unmoderated caucus in a Crisis committee should not exceed fifteen minutes.

### Motion to Suspend the Meeting

This motion is in order if there is a scheduled break in debate to be observed. (ie. Lunch!) This motion requires a simple majority vote. The Committee Director may refuse to entertain this motion at their discretion.

### Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

This motion is in order at the end of the last committee session. It signifies the closing of the committee until next year's conference.

### Points of Order

Points of Order will only be recognized for the following items:

- To recognize errors in voting, tabulation, or procedure
- To question relevance of debate to the current Topic
- To question a quorum.

A Point of Order may interrupt a speaker if necessary and it is to be used sparingly.

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## Points of Inquiry

When there is no discussion on the floor, a delegate may direct a question to the Committee Director. Any question directed to another delegate may only be asked immediately after the delegate has finished speaking on a substantive matter. A delegate that declines to respond to a question after a formal speech forfeits any further questioning time.

## Points of Personal Privilege

Points of personal privilege are used to request information or clarification and conduct all other business of the body except Motions or Points specifically mentioned in the Rules of Procedure. Please note: The Director may refuse to recognize Points of Order, Points of Inquiry or Points of Personal Privilege if the Committee Director believes the decorum and restraint inherent in the exercise has been violated, or if the point is deemed dilatory in nature.

## Rights of Reply

At the Committee Director's discretion, any member nation or observer may be granted a Right of Reply to answer serious insults directed at the dignity of the delegate present. The Director has the ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY to accept or reject Rights of Reply, and the decision IS NOT SUBJECT TO APPEAL. Delegates who feel they are being treated unfairly may take their complaint to any member of the Secretariat.

## Directives

Directives act as a replacement for Draft Resolutions when in Crisis committees, and are the actions that the body decides to take as a whole. Directives are not required to contain operative or preambulatory clauses. A directive should contain:

- The name(s) of the author(s)
- A title
- A number of signatories/sponsors signatures' necessary to
- introduce, determined by the Director

A simple majority vote is required to introduce a directive, and multiple directives may be introduced at once. Press releases produced on behalf of the body must also be voted on as Directives.

## Friendly Amendments

Friendly Amendments are any changes to a formally introduced Directive that all Sponsors agree to in writing. The Committee Director must approve the Friendly Amendment and confirm each Sponsor's agreement both verbally and in writing.

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## Unfriendly Amendments

Unfriendly Amendments are any substantive changes to a formally introduced Directive that are not agreed to by all of the Sponsors of the Directive. In order to introduce an Unfriendly Amendment, the Unfriendly Amendment must be the number equivalent to 1/3 of Quorum confirmed signatories. The Committee Director has the authority to discern between substantive and non-substantive Unfriendly amendment proposals.

## Plagiarism

GatorMUN maintains a zero-tolerance policy in regards to plagiarism. Delegates found to have used the ideas of others without properly citing those individuals, organizations, or documents will have their credentials revoked for the duration of the GatorMUN conference. This is a very serious offense.

## Crisis Notes

A crisis note is an action taken by an individual in a Crisis committee. Crisis notes do not need to be introduced or voted on, and should be given to the Crisis Staff by sending the notes to a designated pickup point in each room. A crisis note should both be addressed to crisis and have the delegate's position on both the inside and outside of the note.

## Motion to Enter Voting Procedure

Once this motion passes, and the committee enters Voting Procedure, no occupants of the committee room may exit the Committee Room, and no individual may enter the Committee Room from the outside. A member of the Dias will secure all doors.

- No talking, passing notes, or communicating of any kind will be tolerated during voting procedures.
- Each Directive will be read to the body and voted upon in the order which they were introduced. Any Proposed Unfriendly Amendments to each Directive will be read to the body and voted upon before the main body of the Directive as a whole is put to a vote.
- Delegates who requested to be noted as "Present and Voting" are unable to abstain during voting procedure. Abstentions will not be counted in the tallying of a majority. For example, 5 yes votes, 4 no votes, and 7 abstentions means that the Directive passes.
- The Committee will adopt Directives and Unfriendly Amendments to Directives if these documents pass with a simple majority. Specialized committees should refer to their background-guides or Committee Directors for information concerning specific voting procedures.

# Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development

## Roll Call Voting

A counted placard vote will be considered sufficient unless any delegate to the committee motions for a Roll Call Vote. If a Roll Call Vote is requested, the committee must comply. All delegates must vote: "For," "Against," "Abstain," or "Pass." During a Roll Call vote, any delegate who answers, "Pass," reserves his/her vote until the Committee Director has exhausted the Roll. However, once the Committee Director returns to "Passing" Delegates, they must vote: "For" or "Against."

## Accepting by Acclamation

This motion may be stated when the Committee Director asks for points or motions. If a Roll Call Vote is requested, the motion to Accept by Acclamation is voided. If a delegate believes a Directive will pass without opposition, he or she may move to accept the Directive by acclamation. The motion passes unless a single delegate shows opposition. An abstention is not considered opposition. Should the motion fail, the committee will move directly into a Roll Call Vote.

## Tech Policy

Technology will not be allowed throughout the course of the committee. Delegates are prohibited from using their technology inside the committee room. However, they are encouraged to do research before and during assigned breaks.

## **Introduction to Committee**

The Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development is a fictional committee aimed at increasing tourism to the state, and using it to advance the committee's goals. Reeling from the pandemic and recent state legislation, tourism is enduring stagnation which is threatening local economies. Delegates will represent various Floridian counties to improve tourism state-wide, responding to the consequences of their passed legislation and unexpected updates as tourists' expectations change.

While the overall mission of the Commission is to increase tourism to the state, there are two important matters delegates should consider: First, improving equitable tourism among the counties and their many attractions; Second, ensuring that tourism is sustainable and beneficial to local Floridian citizens, ecosystems, and industries. As the figurative oligarchs governing over the state of Florida, delegates will have the authority to make as many (or few) changes to their counties as they see fit through their passed legislation and joint-directives.

# Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development

## Committee Structure

### Specialized Procedures

**Delegate Positions** – Delegates will represent a county in the state of Florida, and have general autonomy over the functions, institutions, and resources within their assigned county<sup>1</sup>. Resembling a General Assembly committee, delegates will not represent individuals, and will be referred to as “Representative of [County]” or simply by the county’s name.

**Updates** – Delegates should expect the dais to present updates either near the beginning of each committee session, or shortly after the passing of influential directives. These updates are intended to promote debate or provide additional information.

**Directives** – Since there is no backroom and fewer updates, directives should be longer and more detailed than in a crisis committee, but not necessarily as long or detailed as a General Assembly Resolution. Directives must be written on paper, digitally typed directives will not be accepted.

To note, any delegate may author a clause directly influencing another county, regardless of its representative’s approval. For example, a delegate may write a clause that closes Disney World without approval from the Representative of Orange County. Whether that directive is adopted is up to the committee during voting procedures, there is no veto.

**Joint Private Directives (JPD)** – Delegates may collaborate with others to author JPDs, which are kept private from the rest of the committee. These JPDs are to be written in the same format as a regular directive, but each author must indicate written approval for the measures taken within the JPD.

So as to not overload the dais with JPDs, a delegate is only allowed to submit one per update, but there is no maximum author limit to a single JPD. If a delegate submits multiple JPDs, only the first submitted will be considered. JPDs may only directly influence the counties of its authors, though it may indirectly impact others.

**Notepads/Private Directives** – This committee will not be using private directives. Therefore, there will not be note-cycles or a backroom impact on the committee beyond JPDs.

<sup>1</sup> While it is not the dais’ mission to force negative outcomes, if a directive, say, redirects all of a county’s funds or bans tourists, delegates can expect the obvious consequences.

# Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development

## **Committee Background**

### Introduction

Contributing over \$127.7 Billion to the Floridian economy, tourism is the largest industry in the state, employing 1.4 million and generating \$17.1 Billion in taxes. For many counties, the revenue generated from tourism subsidizes government programs, public works projects, and ensures economic stability for smaller sectors. Whether it be a theme park, wildlife area, beach, or historic site, every county in the state of Florida hosts some form of tourist attraction. Several businesses, professions, and even entire towns are propped-up by the profitability of tourism. In fact, much of the Floridian infrastructure is developed around tourism, with long stretches of highways and clusters of hotels designed to accommodate the hundreds of millions of tourists that pour into the state every year.

Unfortunately, tourism is responsible for many negative consequences on the environment, businesses, and residents around tourism centers. Primarily, large-scale tourism is directly linked to higher costs of living, overburdened infrastructure, and limitations on domestic growth for other industries. Often, we see that transportation infrastructure is insufficient to handle both resident Floridians and incoming tourists, while elevated costs create a harsh economic landscape. The effects on the environment are arguably worse, as businesses and tourists pollute, mistreat, or otherwise harm the wildlife, ecosystems, and environment all over the state. Commercialization of preserves and parks allows for misuse, and threatens man-made hazards ranging from littering to irreversible wildfires.

Moreover, the distribution of tourism is all but equitable. Only a few counties in Florida receive the vast majority of tourists, leaving the rest to resort to alternative industries for revenue and requiring much more domestically-raised funds for county programs. These smaller counties often do not have the funding to reinvest into developing infrastructure, agriculture, or public goods and services. As a result, these counties often cannot maintain major tourist attractions due to insufficient traction, leaving them underfunded and perpetuating the downward spiral.

This committee's mission is to increase tourism to the state and the revenue generated from this sector. Each delegate's mission is to ensure that their county is benefitting from these changes, and possibly reshaping their county's structures to either be more receptive to increased tourism or strong without it. Of course, delegates may decide that tourism is not beneficial to the county they represent and advocate for legislation that allows growth in other industries. Serving as unnamed representatives of a county, there will be no character motivations beyond the advancement of the county's development through the inclusion (or rejection) of tourism.

## Types of Floridian Tourist Attractions

### Amusement/Theme Parks



Central Florida is home to the most famous theme parks and amusement parks. Locations like Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando Resort, Busch Gardens can be found along Interstate-4 (I-4) and are defining attractions for the whole state. Every year, about 80 million tourists visit these parks, generating over tens of billions of dollars. From thrilling roller coasters to heaps and heaps of merchandise, these parks attract tourists from every corner of the globe. The hospitality industry built around these parks, to say hotels, restaurants, and transportation services cater to the near endless stream of tourists that pour into the state. Further, in and around the parks are also seasonal events, parades, festivals, and celebrations that spike the visitor count several times a year.

While Florida's theme parks continue to bring in tens of millions of visitors each year, they also face growing issues tied to their massive popularity. The heavy flow of tourists along the I-4 corridor has caused significant congestion, air pollution, and strain on surrounding infrastructure. Water and energy use at the parks remain exceptionally high, placing pressure on local resources, especially during the infamous summer and spring breaks. Continuous expansion projects to outdo competitors often result in large-scale construction that disrupts nearby communities and ecosystems. The overwhelming demand for service labor has also sparked concerns about low wages, long hours, and limited worker protections. Smaller, family-owned attractions struggle to keep up against major corporations like Disney and Universal, widening the economic gap within Florida's tourism industry.

### Beaches



Ask any Florida resident living within an hour's drive of the coast, and you'll know that every city and town floods with tourists any time the weather is fair. It's no wonder why, since the state is world-renowned for its soft sandy beaches stretching from the First Coast by Jacksonville, all the way down to the Gold Coast by Miami, and back up to the Emerald Coast by Pensacola. Spanning over 800 miles from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico, destinations like Miami, Clearwater, Daytona, and Siesta Key are some of the most visited locations for their beaches. Over 100 million visitors swarm to Florida's shores generating billions of dollars for the local cities and towns. These population centers source upwards of half of their revenue from the constant influx of tourists, often designing their infrastructure around supporting visitors' journeys to and from the beach.

As beautiful as Florida's beaches are, they face increasing problems from both tourism and nature itself. With every influx of visitors, more and more litter is scattered across coastlines straining local cleanup resources and polluting local wildlife. Overdevelopment along the shore has destroyed the dunes and wetlands that protect against storm surges and provide habitats for wildlife.

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Rising sea levels and stronger hurricanes have only worsened these effects, washing away sand and damaging the infrastructure that supports coastal tourism. Towns and cities spend millions of dollars each year on beach nourishment projects just to preserve their shorelines. Moreover, pollution from sunscreen, boat oil/gas, and non-degradable plastics continues to cause irreversible harm to marine habitats and ecosystems.

## Cultural Attractions



Florida's vibrant cultural heritage can be seen in its wide array of historic landmarks, art centers, and museums that tell the story of the state's diverse past and thriving cultural sphere. From the colonial streets of America's oldest city, St. Augustine, to the art deco-style architecture of Miami's South Beach, these sites capture the soul of Florida's identity. Every year, millions of visitors explore destinations like the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami, the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, and the Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales. These cultural institutions not only preserve the state's history but also generate significant revenue, drawing tourists eager to experience Florida beyond its beaches and theme parks. Major cities like Tampa, Orlando, Miami, and Jacksonville host frequent art festivals, theater performances, and heritage celebrations that attract both local, national, and international tourists.

Florida's many cultural landmarks and heritage districts also face mounting challenges as tourism and urban growth continue to expand. Historic centers like St. Augustine, Ybor City, and Key West are struggling to preserve their character under the pressure of rising visitor numbers and modern development. Constant foot traffic wears down centuries-old buildings, while new construction threatens to overshadow or replace historical architecture. Gentrification and tourism has hiked-up property values, displacing local communities that give these districts their authenticity. Meanwhile, museums and performance venues remain financially dependent on tourism revenue, leaving them vulnerable during economic downturns or hurricane seasons. Seasons which pose another growing threat, as flooding and humidity damage irreplaceable artifacts and historic sites.

## Ecological Sites



Little is more beautiful than the vast miles of ecological sites and protected wildlands showcasing Florida's stunning biodiversity. From Everglades National Park in the south to the Okefenokee Swamp in the north, Florida is home to some of the most remarkable protected ecosystems in the country. Every year, millions of eco-tourists visit these sites to experience the state's subtropical wilderness firsthand. The Everglades alone, often called the "River of Grass," draws over a million visitors annually and contributes hundreds of millions of dollars to Florida's economy through tourism and conservation programs. Other popular ecological sites, like the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, the Ocala National Forest, and the Big Cypress National Preserve provide habitats for countless rare and endangered species. Communities surrounding these ecological landmarks thrive by supporting sustainable tourism through eco-lodges, guided tours, and wildlife excursions.

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Despite their natural beauty and economic value, Florida's ecological sites are facing mounting threats that endanger their long-term health and sustainability. Rapid tourism growth has led to overcrowding in sensitive areas like the Everglades, the Florida Keys, and popular freshwater springs, putting immense pressure on already fragile ecosystems. Pollution from boats, sunscreen chemicals, and litter left by visitors disrupts marine habitats and damages coral reefs that take centuries to form. Additionally, increased development to accommodate tourists, such as new resorts, roads, and marinas continue to encroach on wetlands and wildlife corridors. Rising sea levels and climate change further compound these issues, threatening to submerge coastal preserves and alter delicate habitats. Overuse of natural springs for recreation has also depleted water quality and flow, endangering aquatic life and local water supplies. Conservation efforts and park regulations attempt to balance tourism with preservation, but enforcing sustainable practices remains a constant challenge. Without stronger environmental protections and public awareness, Florida's ecological treasures risk losing the very qualities that make them such vital and beloved attractions.

## Urban Attractions



Florida's cities and metropolitan areas are massive, drawing tens of millions of visitors annually. From the skylines of Miami to the downtown streets of Orlando and Tampa, every city offers its own unique attractions and atmosphere. In 2024 alone, Miami welcomed over 28 million visitors, while Orlando saw more than 75 million, together generating tens of billions of dollars in tourism revenue for the state. These cities are filled with entertainment districts, luxury shopping centers, art galleries, and waterfront venues that appeal to travelers from all over the globe. Places like Miami's Wynwood Walls, Tampa's Riverwalk, and Orlando's International Drive have become defining landmarks of Florida's urban culture. Surrounding these hotspots are hundreds of hotels, restaurants, and public spaces that thrive off the constant movement of people through city streets.

While Florida's cities bring in millions of visitors and drive much of the state's economy, they also face growing problems from their rapid expansion. Traffic congestion has become a daily struggle in places like Tampa, Orlando, and Miami, where millions of tourists fill already-crowded streets and highways. Overdevelopment and constant construction have gentrified the character of many neighborhoods, replacing historic areas with high-rises and resorts built to meet tourist demand. Sharply increasing housing costs and short-term rentals have pushed out long-time residents, while increased waste and pollution strain quickly obsolescing city infrastructure. Festivals and nightlife, though profitable, often create noise, crowding, and safety concerns that local governments struggle to manage. The balance between welcoming visitors and preserving livability for residents grows more difficult every year.

# Florida County Commission on Tourism and Development

## Infrastructure and Tourism

Much of Florida's modern infrastructure has been built with tourism in mind, shaping how cities grow, where people move, and what contributes to the economy. The vast network of highways, airports, and public transportation networks serves both residents but the hundreds of millions of visitors annually. These systems are used so frequently, State and local governments have dedicated billions to expanding roads, airports, and rail connections to keep pace with increasing rates of tourism. The SunRail commuter line in Central Florida, the Brightline high-speed rail connecting Miami to Orlando, and the growing network of regional airports make it easier for visitors to explore the state without relying solely on cars. Specifically, (I-4) serves as a corridor that links much of the state's largest tourist attractions from stretches from Orlando to Tampa and Daytona. Likewise, I-95 and I-75 funnel tourists south along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, directly to major beach towns and urban centers. Orlando International Airport, one of the busiest in the world, saw over 58 million passengers in 2023, while Miami International handled nearly 52 million. Notably, Florida's major ports, Port Canaveral, PortMiami, and Port Everglades, stand as some of the busiest cruise terminals globally, generating upwards of \$20 billion annually. Still, the successes of Florida's tourism infrastructure are constantly challenged by a growing population and record-high tourist count, placing enormous stress on highways, airports, and utilities all over the state. Traffic congestion is now common in every major road in Florida,, while airports frequently operate at or near capacity during peak seasons.

Much of Florida's urban and residential structures have been constructed around tourism, accelerating across both major hubs and smaller towns. For example, Orlando alone now boasts more than 480 hotels, alongside about 47,000 vacation rental units and 26,000 timeshare properties. Even towns less than 'the big three' have adjusted, as communities near major attraction zones, for example in Osceola County or Pinellas County, have seen subdivisions, condo hotels, and short-term rental units rise, capitalizing on overflow demand when hotel rooms in major cities are full. Despite this undeniable growth, the boom in coastal development due to tourism has placed ever-more people at risk of flooding, hurricanes, and sea-level rise, putting pressure on local governments to upgrade drainage, roads, and seawalls. Maintaining this infrastructure has become both costly and complicated as balancing price and convenience for visitors with environmental protection and community needs remains one of Florida's biggest planning priorities.

## Inequality in Tourism and Development

Indisputably, the economic and social benefits of tourism tend to be heavily concentrated in the major metropolitan, coastal, and theme park counties, leaving smaller, rural, and less-visited counties with far less direct gain. As a result, many rural counties receive very low tourist revenue to reinvest into local development. Even as tourism grows across the state, 32 Florida counties designated as "rural" by the Department of Economic Opportunity only saw \$24.7 million in tourism revenue.

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As an example, from April 2023 to March 2024, Marion County, a mid-sized county in terms of tourism, welcomed about 1.4 million visitors who generated just over \$1 billion. Whereas Wakulla County, one of the “rural” counties with little to no tourist infrastructure, saw a mere \$276,000 in tourist revenue.

To try closing those gaps, less-popular counties have begun to put in place a variety of initiatives aimed at economic diversification, infrastructure investment, and leveraging what they do have. Through rural infrastructure funding, many small counties are receiving grants: in September 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis announced over \$122 million in funds toward critical rural infrastructure projects, things like road improvements, bridges, drainage, etc. in some of these “rural” counties. Additionally, the Florida Chamber’s “Rural Renaissance” initiative highlights that Florida’s 32 rural counties have grown their GDP by 56.6% between 2018–2023, outpacing non-rural counties’ growth of 49.1% in the same timeframe. In some smaller counties, tourism development tax revenue has been modest but increasing in-step with others at the same level of development.

Given all this, many of these smaller counties find themselves at a crossroads: increase tourism, or emphasize other economic paths. On one hand, these counties have reason to want more tourism when it brings in additional income, helps support local businesses, and generates tax revenue that boosts development. On the other hand, more tourism requires costly expansions to infrastructure, not considering the additional environmental strain, and even some cases of cultural or community disruption.

## State of the Committee

With the disparity in economic development growing ever-clearer in the state of Florida, this council is convening on one issue: tourism. As a pillar in the state’s total revenue, generating billions every year, only a choice few counties actually see any of this income. Consolidated in a choice few coastal and metropolitan counties, the remainder are left to dry as they receive less than half of the tourism revenue as the others. Namely Orange, Miami-Dade, Hillsborough, and Lee counties together capture the majority of Florida’s \$127.7 billion in annual tourism revenue and support over 1.4 million jobs. Meanwhile, smaller and rural counties continue to experience limited tourism inflows, with many collecting less than \$500,000 annually in Tourist Development Tax revenue by comparison.

As a result, counties with robust tourism industries are benefitting from greater tax income, advanced interconnected infrastructure networks, and steady population growth, which in turn attracts further investment. In contrast, lesser-visited areas struggle to finance even minor road improvements, expand residential or commercial projects, or modernize utilities, hindering both economic growth and quality of life. The uneven distribution of tourism revenue also impacts planning priorities, as state and local resources often favor regions with established industries, leaving rural communities with fewer means to compete or modernize. Addressing this imbalance is not only a matter of economic fairness but also one of sustainable statewide development, ensuring that all counties can participate in Florida's continued growth.

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However, the current tourism industry is not without its flaws, and might warrant systemic change as-is. Florida beaches and wildlife reserves find themselves littered with garbage and pollution with every fair-weather season risking the lives of plants and animals in the skies and seas. The state's transportation infrastructure struggles to keep-up with the swelling numbers, clogging every major roadway in the state and congesting the cities with cars, interfering with the daily lives of locals and furthering air pollution. As local markets adjust prices to tourist's budgets, the cost of living skyrockets in these dense urban and coastal areas with little to no match in quality of life or development. Importantly too, as these prices increase major cities and local communities are seeing an exodus of Floridians to states with lower cost of living as prices push struggling communities out.

## Questions to Consider

1. How should each county work to achieve more equitable gains from tourism?
2. What motivations do less tourism-reliant counties have to boost tourism to the state?
3. How should infrastructure be developed to accommodate the number of tourists?
4. In what ways should statewide transportation be developed to increase traction to counties that receive less tourism?
5. Should protections be put in place to safeguard the Floridian citizens and environments from the effects of tourism? How?
6. By what means is the revenue generated from tourism allocated across the state? Should this system be reformed? How?
7. What alternatives do counties have to tourism in terms of generating funding? What role should these alternatives play going forward?
8. What can be done to increase tourism to the state?
9. How would Floridians react to changes made to their existing relationship with tourists?
10. What can I do in committee to advance my county's interests?

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## Positions

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| Broward County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Hillsborough County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Palm Beach County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|             |             |                                                                                                |
| Citrus County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Lafayette County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Pinellas County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Collier County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Lee County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Sarasota County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Duval County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Leon County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | St. Johns County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Escambia County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Liberty County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | St. Lucie County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Hamilton County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Monroe County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Washington County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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