



**Broward County Board of County Commissioners  
and  
Broward League of Cities**

**2010 Joint State Legislative Program**

**The Broward County Board of County Commissioners and the Broward League of Cities will continue to use their collective vision to effectively serve the citizens of Broward County and its municipalities.**

**The Broward County Board of County Commissioners and the Broward League of Cities direct staff to communicate with appropriate Members of the Florida Legislature to convey mutual agreement on the following issues:**

**Adoption**

Support legislation as referenced in Senate Bill 102 and House Bill 3 which repeals the prohibition against adoption by a homosexual.

**Affordable Housing Documentary Surtax**

Amend state law to authorize Broward County to impose a documentary tax on the sale of commercial property to be dedicated to affordable housing as already authorized to the Constitutional counties.

**Alternative Advertising/Notice Requirements**

Support legislation that authorizes counties and municipalities to provide effective public notice and advertising for various appropriate matters, not to include ad valorem taxation millage setting, by means other than newspapers, such as direct mailings, physical posting of property, internet posting, free publications, government access television channels, and other suitable alternatives.

**Amendment 4**

Oppose an amendment to the Florida Constitution that would require that voters decide all changes to a city or county's comprehensive plan.

### **Broward Independent Fire District**

Oppose a local bill to create the Broward Independent Fire District, subject to voter approval, which would be comprised of Broward County local governments providing fire and emergency medical services who voluntarily join the Fire District.

### **Climate Change/Energy**

Support legislative programs and policies that support energy efficiency and sustainability through encouragement of incentives, tax exemptions, funding for educational efforts, and rebates for local governments, individual consumers, and businesses, including incentives for solar water heaters, large commercial incentives, fuel efficient vehicle sales tax refunds, and water efficient products, in addition to the promotion of alternative energy technologies, including alternative fuels and technologies for electrical power plans, electric motor vehicles, energy conservation, distributed generation, advanced transmission methods, and the control of pollution and greenhouse gases. Additionally, support efforts to fund and implement climate change adaptation strategies to assist Florida's most vulnerable areas and incentives for regional collaboration.

### **Condominium and Homeowner Association Fees**

Support legislation which would allow condominium and homeowner associations to collect all delinquent assessment fees and have standing to sue lending institutions upon completion of foreclosure proceedings.

### **Crime Lab Funding**

Support full-funding of locally-operated crime analysis laboratories as authorized under Florida Statutes.

### **Domestic Partnerships**

Support SB 232/HB 477 setting forth fees and costs to be applied when petitioning for a dissolution of domestic partnership or registering a domestic partnership and requiring individuals who wish to become domestic partners to complete and file a Declaration of Domestic Partnership with the clerk of the courts.

### **Early Voting Expanded Sites**

Amend state law to expand early votes sites from the current use of libraries, city halls, and Supervisor of Election offices to allow for the use of additional government owned facilities.

### **Florida Competitive Workforce Act**

Support the Florida Competitive Workforce Act ensuring that all individuals regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity have equal opportunity.

### **Florida Water Law**

Ensure that the fundamentals of Florida Water Law, which are based on the principle that water is a public resource, remain intact and oppose any modifications to Florida's Riparian Rights laws that promote the underpinnings of Western Water Law.

### **Mail Ballot Elections**

Amend state law to allow the option of expanding the use of mail ballot elections.

### **Online Travel Companies**

Support amending existing transient rental tax law, and local tourist development tax law to confirm that online travel companies utilizing a “merchant” or similar business model must collect and remit all state transient rental and local tourist development taxes when receiving from a customer the consideration for the lease or rental of a hotel room or other transient accommodation.

### **Reclassification of Canals**

Oppose any attempt by the Legislature or Florida Department of Environmental Protection to reclassify canals or any other water body in a manner which lowers water quality standards or allows for water quality degradation and oppose any other efforts that would lead to lower water quality and environmental standards.

### **SHIP Funding**

Support legislation reinstating the funding for both the State Housing Initiative Partnership Program (SHIP) and the State and Local Government Housing Trust Fund (Sadowski Trust Fund) with elimination of any caps on fund distributions or diversion of funds to the General Fund.

### **TABOR**

Oppose any legislative or constitutional efforts to impose artificial expenditure or revenue caps on local governments or any efforts that further erode the capability of local governments to fulfill their financial obligations and provide necessary services to their residents.

### **Transportation**

Support utilization of land use policies that strongly encourage the development of mass transit and establishment of a funding allocation, directly to local governments, for transit operations, mass transit, transit infrastructure, and transit policy implementation.

### **Unfunded Mandates**

Oppose any legislation actions that impose unfunded mandates on a local government’s fiscal and public policy.