



Understanding the Legislative Process: *An Educational Forum*

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Time Session

Noon Committee Meetings/ Tour Capitol/ Session

Enjoy guided tours of the Florida State Capitol buildings during Legislative Session and learn more about Florida government, civics and state history.

Find your Senators

Find your Representatives

**Appointments with your legislators should be made prior to coming to the Capitol.*

Please note that additional speakers will be joining the event as Session schedules allow. All times are subject to change.

2:00 PM Understanding the Legislative Process Kick-Off

Cabinet Meeting Room
Lower Level, The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL

2:00 PM Registration and Networking

2:30 PM Welcome and Introductions

Kelly S. Sciba

**Executive Director, Florida Commission
on the Status of Women**

R. Jai Gillum

Tallahassee First Lady

Patti W. Hamilton

**Chair, Florida Commission on the Status
of Women**

Ashley Guinn

**Chair, Legislative Forum
Florida Commission on the Status of
Women**

Remarks

Gwen Graham

Former U.S. Representative of Florida

**Times are subject to change to accommodate our legislative leaders.*

Education. Recognition. Collaboration. Information. Celebration

Understanding the Legislative Process

March 29-30, 2017

Time Session

3:15 PM **Florida 2030 Women's Town Hall**

*During this highly interactive session, input and feedback on the challenges and opportunities impacting women and families will be gathered as part of the **Florida 2030** project, a research project of the Florida Chamber Foundation and used in the 2017 FCSW Annual Report. This is your chance to strengthen your state, your organization, and your future by giving your input and feedback on the challenges and opportunities impacting your community.*

Tony Carvajal

Executive Vice President, Florida Chamber Foundation

4:30 PM **Florida Tax Watch and Its Role in Florida Government**

Learn firsthand about the mission and function of Florida TaxWatch and the impact this independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit taxpayer research institute plays in Florida's government.

Dominic Calabro

President and CEO, Florida TaxWatch

5:00 PM **Understanding Florida's Constitution Revision Commission**

Every 20 years the Constitution Revision Commission is appointed to examine the Florida Constitution, hold public hearings and possibly recommend changes to the Florida Constitution for voter consideration. Learn about the upcoming Commission and plans for 2017-2018, and how you can have a voice in this important process.

Dr. Carol Weissert

Director, LeRoy Collins Institute

5:30 PM **Capitol Reception**

Meet and greet with attendees and legislators on the 22nd Floor of the Capitol Gallery. Enjoy panoramic views of Tallahassee and the surrounding landscape from the 22nd floor observatory which also includes a gallery displaying works by many of the Florida's most prominent artists. The cocktail reception will feature light hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine. Legislators are invited to attend.

Florida Capitol 22nd Floor
Tallahassee, FL

6:00 PM **FCSW Installation of Officers**

The 2017 Florida Commission on the Status of Women Officers will be officially sworn into office.

Jeff Atwater

Florida Chief Financial Officer

Thursday, March 30, 2017

Time Session

8:00 AM *Politics in Florida Networking Breakfast*

The author of several books, Dr. MacManus is a familiar figure in the media, offering insightful commentary about the state of politics in Florida and the nation. As Florida's most-quoted political scientist, she has appeared on every major broadcast and cable television and radio network. She will discuss Florida's pivotal role in national elections as well as topics and trends in Florida Politics. Dr. MacManus will be available to sign books following the session.

Historic Capitol – Senate Chambers

Dr. Susan MacManus
Distinguished University Professor of Public Administration and Political Science, University of South Florida

9:00 AM *Group Photo*

Steps of the Capitol / Around the State Seal (Weather dependent)

9:30 AM *Understanding the Legislative Process Educational Forum*

Knott Building
Webster Hall, Room 212

9:30 AM *Beyond Schoolhouse Rock: Navigating Florida's Legislative Maze*

The Florida Legislature is charged with creating and amending the laws of Florida, subject to the governor's veto power. Legislators propose legislation in the form of bills drafted by a nonpartisan, professional staff. The bills are filed, move through the committee maze and are amended, before finally making it to the chambers floor. This is only a small part of the story. Learn the detailed and sometimes complicated process of what it takes to turn a good idea into a law in Florida.

Kathy Mears
Former Chief of Staff to Speakers Weatherford and Crisafulli

Representative Colleen Burton
Florida House of Representatives

Kristina Wiggins
Chief of Staff, Agency for State Technology

Moderator: Lt. Col. (retired) Eurydice Stanley, Ph.D.
Founder, Amused Media & Productions, LLC and Founder, The Transition Foundation

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10:30 AM Political Advocacy: Lobbying and Public Interest Communication

Effective advocacy influences the work of decision-makers. Successful communication is essential to affect positive change. Learn how to become a better advocate for the issues you represent, and understand how positive relationships between groups, lobbyists and governments can be instrumental in shaping policy.

Carol Bowen

Deputy Chief Lobbyist, Associated Builders and Contractors of Florida

Lena Juarez

Founder, JEJ & Associates

Ann Christiano

**Frank Karel Chair in Public Interest Communications,
College of Journalism and Communications
University of Florida**

Moderator: Commissioner Genean Hawkins McKinnon

President, McKinnon Associates, Inc.

11:45 AM FCSW Women's History Month Celebration Luncheon

Join the FCSW in celebrating Women's History Month by recognizing the winners of our 2017 Essay Contest and their teachers.

Florida Capitol 22nd Floor
Tallahassee, FL

1:30 PM Understanding the Legislative Process Educational Forum

1:30 PM How to Talk to Your Legislator

Talking to a legislator may seem intimidating at first, but remember, it's their job to represent your views in Tallahassee. Learn from former Senate President Ken Pruitt's insights on how to increase your effectiveness in communicating with your legislators about your important issues.

Knott Building
Webster Hall, Room 212

Senator Ken Pruitt

**President of the Florida Senate
2006-2008**

Florida Senate

2000-2009

Florida House of Representatives

1990-2000

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2:30 PM Could Serving in Office be in your Future? What Women Candidates Need to Know

We need more women in public office. Research shows that women make government more transparent, inclusive and accessible. This session will highlight talents of women who have run for office and who are serving in leadership positions, and open doors for others interested in making a difference through public service.

Representative Marti Coley
Florida House of Representatives
2005 – 2014

Rebecca Negrón
Martin County School Board

Judge Nina Ashenafi Richardson
Leon County Judge

Diane Mack
Founding President (Past), The Institute
for Women in Politics of Northwest
Florida

Moderator: Janeia Daniels Ingram
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and
Director of the Summer for
Undergraduates Program, FSU College
of Law

3:30 PM EmpowHER – Young Women’s Leadership

Young women have powerful voices. This session will focus on encouraging and inspiring young women to get involved in politics, policy and leadership. Hear from remarkable young women making a difference in the Legislative process.

Senator Lauren Book
Florida Senate

Representative Jennifer Sullivan
Florida House of Representatives

Representative Holly Raschein
Florida House of Representatives

Moderator: Renee Lopez-Cantera
VP Business Development at Eikon
Digital *Media agency* Programmatic

4:45 PM Closing Remarks

5:00 PM Forum Concludes

*Times subject to change.

**This event would not be possible without the generous support of
these organizations and the FCSW Foundation, Inc.**

BURR FORMAN LLP
results matter



Florida Senator Jack Latvala

