

Differences include –

Healthcare – Washington has promised to send \$1.5 billion for Low Income Pool (LIP) funds to reimburse hospitals for uncompensated care. More details to come next week. The Senate budget includes \$600 million in healthcare while the House budget did not budget these healthcare dollars.

Apparently, the new \$1.5 billion infusion, could help relieve pressure on the budget. **Gov Scott** wants to allocate 200 million for a South Florida water quality plan.

House leaders are concerned about economic stagnation projections in next year's tax revenue (see *Economist Amy Baker's comments in our March 24 report*) and are looking at \$1 billion plus in spending cuts. The Senate adds more dollars for water/environmental projects and higher education.

Education - there still remains a difference whereby the Senate wants include \$500 million i.e. "local required effort" property tax at the School Board level "in order to capture rising property values for schools" while the House sees this as a tax increase.

On Tuesday, **Gov Scott** stated that 1.4 million tourism jobs depend on Visit Florida and upped his budget request from \$76 million to \$100 million.

Click [S 2500](#) for Senate budget and [H 5001](#) for House Budget.

Formal budget negotiations begin next week.