



THE POWELL PRESS

TOWN OF PALM BEACH SHORES



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Appropriations

**Commerce and
Tourism**

Community Affairs

Criminal Justice

Rules

**Joint Committee
on Public Counsel
Oversight, *Alternating Chair***

Tallahassee Office:
220 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 487-5030

District Office:
2715 North Australian Ave.
Suite 105
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
(561) 650-6880

Legislative Assistants:
Diane Andre, J. D.
Andre.Diane@flsenate.gov

Kersti Myles, Esq.
Myles.Kersti@flsenate.gov

Kristofer Stubbs, Ed. D.
Stubbs.Kristofer@flsenate.gov

“A Life of Service is A Life That Counts”



Dear Residents of Palm Beach Shores,

Throughout this handout, I have summarized important legislation and provided a brief overview of the state's 2021 budget. I want to thank you for your continued support. If you ever have any issues that come up please do not hesitate to contact my office at (561) 650-6880 and we will do everything we can to assist you.

Regards,

State Senator Bobby Powell, Jr.
District 30 - West Palm Beach, FL

Legislation Highlights

- ⇒ **HB 1 Anti-Protest Bill** - Enhances penalties and establishes new crimes aimed at preventing individuals from protesting, chilling free speech and rights of assembly under the First Amendment. It also shields individuals who seek to harm or injure protestors by equipping them with affirmative defenses to civil liability for their actions. Finally, the bill overrides home rule and the ability of local governments to independently form their budgets, etc.
- ⇒ **SB 90 Election Administration** - Severely restricts citizens' access to voting, and creates additional unnecessary work for the Supervisors of Elections. Notably, the bill reduces the number of elections for which one request for a vote-by-mail (VBM) ballot is sufficient from two election cycles to one; limits use of drop boxes to a county's early voting hours and requires drop boxes at all locations to be monitored in person; removes the public records exemption related to information about a voter's prior felony conviction; requires additional identification for certain registration changes and for requests of VBM ballots, etc.
- ⇒ **HB 7051 Police Reform** - Championed by the Legislative Black Caucus, implements minimum standards for law enforcement and correctional officers, such as limiting the use of chokeholds, requiring a duty to intervene, and requiring certain disclosures on employment applications. The bill also requires independent investigations of and data collection on use of force incidents, and establishes the minimum age of arrest as seven (7) years old, etc.



Senator Bobby Powell, Jr.
District 30



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2021 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

2021 State Budget Update

\$101.5 billion budget passed
\$750 million for maintenance & construction for K-12 and higher education
\$46 million for children experiencing homelessness
\$10.2 billion from American Rescue plan; Avoided cuts to healthcare, expanded Medicare and expanded Medicaid

2021 State Budget Highlights

WPB Flood Mitigation Project	\$105,000
Jobs Growth Grant Fund	\$50M
Sadowski Affordable Housing Fund	\$209.2M
State Highway Systems and FL Ports	\$1.8B
State Emergency Operations Center	\$100M
Water Quality Improvements	\$354M
Deferred Building Maintenance	\$350M

Legislation Highlights

- ⇒ **SB 750 Impact Fees** - Requiring local governments and special districts to credit against the collection of impact fees any contribution related to public facilities or infrastructure; providing limitations on impact fee increases; requiring specified entities to submit an affidavit attesting that impact fees were appropriately collected and expended; requiring school districts to report specified information regarding impact fees, etc.
- ⇒ **HB 735 Preemption of Local Occupational Licensing**: Preempts licensing of occupations to state; prohibits local governments from imposing or modifying licensing requirements; specifies certain local licensing may not be enforced; specifies certain specialty contractors are not required to register with Construction Industry Licensing Board; prohibits local governments from requiring certain specialty contractors to obtain license; specifies job scopes for which local government may not require license; authorizes counties & municipalities to issue journeyman licenses, etc.
- ⇒ **SB 76 Homeowners Insurance** The bill made changes to laws related to property insurance, including increasing the amount of attorney's fees paid by plaintiffs when winning a case against their insurance company and shortening the time for homeowners to file hurricane claims from 3 to 2 years.
- ⇒ **SB 60 County and Municipal Code Enforcement** The bill amends local government code enforcement statutes to prohibit county and municipal code inspectors and code enforcement officers from initiating an investigation into violations of local codes or ordinances based upon an anonymous complaint. body before an investigation may occur, etc.

Email: Powell.bobby.web@flsenate.gov ~ FB: [@Statesenatorbobbypowell30](https://www.facebook.com/Statesenatorbobbypowell30) ~ Twitter: [@Bobbypowelljr](https://twitter.com/Bobbypowelljr) ~ IG: [@Senatorpow](https://www.instagram.com/Senatorpow)