



# FLORIDA RESTAURANT & LODGING ASSOCIATION

## 2026 Legislative Agenda





# FRLA Government Relations Team



Carol Dover  
***FRLA, President/CEO***



Samantha Padgett  
***FRLA, VP Government  
Relations & General Counsel***



Heather Campbell  
***FRLA, Government  
Relations Manager***



Andie Levings  
***FRLA, Executive Assistant  
to President/CEO***



Warren Husband  
***Metz, Husband &  
Daughton, PA***



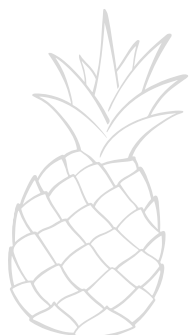
Andy Palmer  
***Metz, Husband &  
Daughton, PA***



Alli Liby-Schoonover  
***Metz, Husband &  
Daughton, PA***

## QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

Vice President of Government Relations & General Counsel,  
Samantha Padgett at [spadgett@frla.org](mailto:spadgett@frla.org)  
Government Relations Manager,  
Heather Campbell at [hcampbell@frla.org](mailto:hcampbell@frla.org)



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## Tourist Development Tax

The Tourist Development Tax (TDT) is Florida's designated source of revenue for the promotion and marketing of tourism. Tourism is Florida's largest industry and the biggest driver of our economy. Promoting and marketing tourism in Florida is vital for the long-term prosperity of our residents and communities.

TDT needs to be preserved for the promotion and marketing of tourism, but there are concerns regarding how the money is being directed that need to be addressed. Clear checks and balances would ensure that TDT revenues are used according to the statute. Consistent auditing standards would create accountability and transparency.

We do not support eliminating, sweeping, or swapping these funds. We do support transparency, accountability, and clarification of administration and use.

There are many different entities involved in this issue. We support bringing the impacted parties to the table to find realistic and practical solutions that address concerns while also facilitating the promotion and marketing of Florida's tourism industry.

## Food Additives and Labeling

Adopting state-specific standards for food additives and food labeling will create difficulties in sourcing, supply, and compliance. Complying with standards different than those of neighboring states will make it challenging and expensive to produce or acquire compliant products. The federal government is hard at work evaluating and assessing these same challenging issues.

We support compliance with a consistent federal standard. If it is determined that a Florida-specific standard is needed, food suppliers, retailers, and merchants need a VERY long runway in order to serve the needs of its customers and comply with new regulations in this space.



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## VISIT FLORIDA Funding

VISIT FLORIDA plays a vital role in attracting visitors to our beautiful state from all over the world, and the good work of VISIT FLORIDA has never been more necessary. FRLA supports continued funding for VISIT FLORIDA. FRLA further supports removing the sunset date to facilitate continued strategic planning and marketing.

## Auxiliary Containers

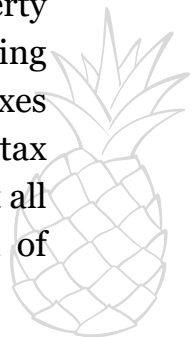
FRLA supports updating the statutory language of the preemption on local plastic bag regulations to remove outdated provisions and more clearly define a key term. Defining “auxiliary container” will provide a stronger understanding of the materials and items that are covered by the preemption.

## Hemp Beverages

Hemp beverages have been gaining popularity in the marketplace. If the state chooses to make such sales lawful, the existing licensing and regulatory system for alcohol should be adapted and expanded to include these intoxicating beverages. Just as restaurateurs and hoteliers have been licensed to lawfully sell alcoholic beverages for decades in compliance with Florida statutes and regulations, they should also be permitted to sell these intoxicating beverages in compliance with the laws and regulations set forth by the state.

## Property Taxes

We applaud the work of Florida’s Legislature and Governor to examine the issue of property taxes and make home ownership more affordable for Floridians. As solutions are being considered, we urge our policymakers to ensure that reductions in residential property taxes do not lead to increases in commercial property taxes. Though commercial property tax increases may not be paid directly by individuals, they result in cost increases that impact all Floridians and Florida’s overall economy. Property taxes should be affordable for all of Florida’s citizens, both residential and corporate.





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## Water Quality

Florida's beaches, rivers, and lakes attract millions to our beautiful state annually. Poor water quality negatively affects Florida's tourism-based economy, as well as its residents and communities.

FRLA supports sound and sustainable water quality policies that balance the needs of various groups and industries while also seeking to protect health of our water supply long into the future and the beauty of our state.

## Arts and Culture Funding

Unique cultural experiences, museums, and art-focused offerings draw citizens and visitors to communities throughout Florida. Be it music, theater, art, history, or world-renowned festivals, these cultural offerings play a key role in the success of Florida's tourism industry.

FRLA encourages the legislature to fund Florida's meaningful and impactful artistic and cultural endeavors.

