

## THE GOOD

**SB 382/HB 1445 AGRICULTURE BILL** (Also known as the Fertilizer Ordinance Restriction for Local Governments)

Because of the insistence of the fertilizer manufacturing, retail sales and landscapers in getting their way, this bill came back twice the last day to only be amended by level-headed Senators that eventually killed the bill. We now can go forward with our local fertilizer ordinances!

### **SB 550 WATER BILL**

This was the ONLY water bill to pass this session (thank goodness), and it really is quite good. It was stripped of the bad language changing the legislative intent of water supplies (as originally found in HB 1109) and is now Sen. Constantine's farewell gift to the state. It addresses septic tanks in this state and requires inspections every five years to keep the bad ones from leaking into the aquifer and our waterways. It also raises the bar on water pollutants going into our water and protection of springs.

**FLORIDA FOREVER WAS FUNDED**...minimally, but funded. This keeps the program alive in the state.

## THE BAD

**HJR 7231 REAPPORTIONMENT** (Counteracts Amendments 5 and 6 from Fair Districting)

Right along party lines for the most part, this resolution was passed by both chambers as a "clarifying" amendment to the people's petition initiative making redistricting more fair to communities. This whole thing is a sham, but will appear on this November's ballot as **Amendment 7**. I urge you NOT to vote for this amendment if you want fair districts drawn in this state.

## THE UGLY

**SB 282** (The bill reenacting the Department of Community Affairs for 10 years)

This bill passed the Senate and sat all week in the House only to die. What this means is the **DCA has been sunset**. I asked Secretary Pelham yesterday whether the sunset actually kills the department immediately, he said no because the legislature funded it one more year. However, next year look for all funding to cease and our state's growth management overseer gone. This was the work of **Speaker Cretul and incoming Speaker Dean Cannon** who kept this bill from a House vote. You can **thank Representative Kevin Ambler** who tried to the very end to get this on the floor.

**Two appointment to the Public Service Commission** offered by Governor Crist for confirmation were politically defeated to teach him a lesson by the Republicans. These two people had been serving on the PSC and are the reasons why the utilities did not get their huge rate increases they wanted. The people lose.

**Texting while driving** you would think is a no-brainer bill, but never got passed by either chamber. Is this bunch totally out of touch with people????? Reality????? Oh, right, it's all about politics, not people.

Next year will be even worse with extremism ruling both chambers – **Dean in the House and Haridopolos in the Senate.**

Thank you again for participating in our democratic process, such that it is, and hopefully you will pay enough attention to the **people** that are running this November. We need representation of the people, by the people and for the people to change this culture.

Sine die! (without day)

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