

# Monroe County Board of County Commissioners Legislative Priorities and Outcomes 2024 Session



MONROE BOCC ISSUE/PRIORITY	MONROE BOCC REQUEST	FINAL ACTION *	ACCOMPLISHED
FL Keys Stewardship Funding (for Water Quality Projects)	\$20M appropriation	<b>\$20M</b> (New proviso language sends 10M of this to DEP to distribute to Keys for water quality restoration projects)	<b>Yes</b>
FL Keys Stewardship Funding (for Land Acquisition)	\$5M appropriation	<b>\$5M</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Mooring Field Shore Side Facility Funding	\$3.9M appropriation	-	<b>No</b>
Emergency Marine Vessels Funding	\$1.1M appropriation	<b>\$1.1M</b> (Final Distribution TBD)	<b>Yes</b>
Vessel Pumpout Program Funding	\$650K appropriation	<b>\$650K</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Artificial Reef Funding	State funding for artificial reef in Florida Keys	<b>\$5M</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Monroe County Workforce Housing Bill (SB 1456/HB 1297)	Authorization to use TDC surplus for workforce housing, Clarifications to evacuation models, Protect SHIP funding (distribution exception), Land Authority qualifying requirements, Prop tax break for SFH and duplex owners that rent affordably, Exemption to FS 125 (6)	<b>Final passage of SB 1456</b> (Final bill version did not include prop tax provision or FS 125 (6) exemption.)	<b>Yes</b>
FL Keys Stewardship Land Acquisition Trust Fund (SB 566)	Include FL Keys Stewardship in the list of State priority environmental projects annually funded under the State's LATF.	<b>SB 566 died in committee</b>	<b>No</b>
Monroe County's Citizens Wind Insurance Bill (HB 565/SB 604)	Return to 10% annual rate cap, increase eligibility value of homes for coverage in Citizens from \$1M to \$1.3M, roll back requirement for Citizens-insured homes in x zones or elevated to carry flood insurance, roll back the requirement for Citizens and flood policies to be identical for contents coverage	Bills did not move in either chamber. Legislature introduced its own insurance bills and only considered those (incl allowance for surplus lines coverage for non-primary homes; and no provisions for lowering premiums, increasing coverage protections, or increasing access to Citizens.) <u>However</u> , our provision on <b>contents coverage</b> was included in Legislature's final insurance bill. Also we successfully amended out a provision that would have <b>lowered the eligibility value to \$700,000.</b>	<b>Partial</b>
Occupational/Specialty Licensing	Legislation to rollback preemption, delay its effective date, clarify Monroe's carve out	HB 1579/SB 1142 postpones the preemption for another year; agency discussions re: Monroe's carve out.	<b>Partial</b>
Vacation Rental Regulations Preemption	Oppose legislation that preempts local governments from regulating VR, and protect Monroe's existing (grandfathered) VR regulations	SB 280 passed; a mixed bag for local governments, adds back some registration and enforcement abilities, protects Monroe's grandfather.	<b>Yes</b>
Agritourism Preemptions	Oppose legislation that preempts Monroe County from regulating agritourism activities on land classified as ag and the construction of housing for ag workers on ag land	HB 339/SB 696 to expand preemption on ag tourism activities failed SB 1082 Ag worker housing preemption passed, but includes carve out for Monroe (any such housing in FL Keys ACSC is subject to ROGO)	<b>Yes</b>

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Home Rule/Local Government Preemptions	Oppose legislation that preempts local government authority	Some passed, some failed. Passed bills incl: expanded local preference preemption (only allowed for 100% locally funded projects), expansion to SB 170 (2023) allowing businesses to sue local govt's for ordinances that they claim harm their businesses to incl certain growth management actions, expedited process for issuing bldg permits for residential subdivisions (Monroe carved out). Failed bills incl: <b>county commission term limits</b> , local tourist development and sales tax repeals, local biz tax cap, sov immunity cap increases, dredge and fill, increased commission threshold for millage increase.	Partial
Agency Advocacy: Use/coordination of federal HMGP funds as match for state RF funds for County Resilience Projects	Agency (DEP) approval to use federal \$180M HMGP funds (secured by staff) as local match for state Resilient Florida funds.	DEP and State CRO approved match and assisted with contract coordination.	Yes
Agency Advocacy: Permitting New Mooring Fields	Agency (FWC) approval of a general permit for new mooring field (general permit easier/quicker)	FWC <u>reversed</u> their initial denial of the general permit.	Yes
Agency Advocacy: Changes to Derelict Vessel Grant Program	Agency (FWC) pushed for funds for current DV needs, when told it's funds had run out. Agency also asked for expedited removal times.	FWC certified forward \$500K for our current application to remove 19 DVs. FWC is making changes to procedures to expedite approvals and use of state funds for derelict vessel removal via block grant.	Yes
Environmental Funding Using Gaming Compact Revenue	Support robust State funding for environment, water infrastructure, land acquisition	SB 1683 Passed. Directs 96% of 2021 gaming compact revenues to land conservation and water infrastructure.	Yes
State Funding for Resilience	Support robust State funding for resilience	SB 1683 directs additional funds to Resilient Florida. Legislature appropriated <b>\$225M</b> for the Resilient Florida Program.	Yes
State Funding for Land Acquisition	Support robust State funding for Florida Forever	SB 1683 directs additional funds to Florida Forever. Legislature appropriated <b>\$230M</b> for Florida Forever.	Yes
State funding for Everglades Restoration	Support robust State funding for Everglades Restoration, esp projects that impact Florida Bay such as CERP/EAA reservoir	Legislature appropriated <b>\$800M</b> for Everglades Restoration.	Yes
State funding for Affordable Housing	Support robust funding of SHIP and SAIL programs	Legislature appropriated <b>\$500M</b> for affordable housing programs, including SHIP, SAIL and Hometown Heroes program.	Yes

\*Pending Governor signing bill/budget