



HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



REPRESENTATIVE RAY RODRIGUES, MAJORITY LEADER

REFRESHER: HB 11 GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

BACKGROUND

HB 11 amends current laws relating to government accountability and auditing to further ensure state and local governments are held accountable.

Last session's government accountability bill, CS/CS/CS/HB 479, passed the House, but died in the Senate. It was reintroduced by Chair Metz and was reported favorably by the Government Accountability Committee on November 7, 2017.

The bottom line: HB 11 makes government more transparent, efficient, and accountable to the taxpayers.

BILL HIGHLIGHTS

- Some of the reforms to hold government accountable include:
 - Ensuring state agencies and other government entities have internal controls in place to curb waste, fraud, and abuse and promote efficiency in their operations.
 - Increasing transparency by requiring budget documents for cities and counties to be available online for a certain amount of time so citizens know how their tax dollars are being spent.
 - Establishing the statewide travel management system in law and requiring certain public entities to report public officer and employee travel information in the system to further increase transparency.
 - Limiting the amount that may be reimbursed per day for travel lodging expenses for certain employees under certain circumstances.
 - Reforming public testimony laws so people will have the opportunity to speak at local board and commission meetings without having to submit their comments in advance.
 - Increasing accountability by requiring independent certified public accountants auditing local government entities to determine whether an entity's annual financial report is consistent with its audited financial statements.
 - Promoting efficiency by requiring the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation to notify the Legislature of any clerk not meeting workload performance standards.