



CAPITOL CONCIERGE

This Week at the Capitol

House Tax Package Expands TDT Use

The House Ways and Means Committee introduced a committee bill this week, [HB 7097](#), which is commonly referred to as the tax package. The bill changes how tourism tax dollars are allocated in Miami Dade County, and it also establishes a substantial expansion to the approved uses for tourism tax dollars. It will now allow tourism tax dollars to be used for water quality projects. This is, unquestionably, a noble purpose, but we're very concerned as TDT dollars are intended to be dedicated to tourism marketing and promotion. We opposed this bill before committee and expressed our concern for future uses of TDT dollars. We encouraged the committee to allow these dollars to continue to be used for their intended purpose. The Senate has not come out with a similar proposal, and we are encouraging them not to. We will keep you posted as this issue develops.

SB 1128 on Vacation Rentals

The Senate Commerce Committee heard [SB 1128](#) on vacation rentals this week, and they adopted an amendment that significantly improves the bill. The bill now requires advertising platforms to confirm the registration and license of vacation rentals on their site; collect and remit the taxes collected for bookings conducted on their site; pull down unlawful listings; and submit transparent data to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR). Local zoning authority is not addressed in the bill, and the enforcement mechanism leaves something to be desired, but the improvements are considerable. The House companion, [HB 1011](#), was heard in the House Commerce Committee this week. The amendment adopted to HB 1011 largely mirrors SB 1128. The House bill is ready for the floor, and there is one committee left to go in the Senate. The progress is positive, but we continue to work to improve the bill.

Update on E-Verify

E-Verify continues to be a very hot topic here in Tallahassee. [SB 664](#) would require the use of either E-Verify or a substantially similar process to confirm employment eligibility. The House has yet to move its companion bill. We do expect this issue to move forward; however, what it will ultimately look like has yet to be determined.

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