

The Broward Legislative Delegation Office provides a communication resource between the Federal, State, local governments and Broward County citizens to facilitate the legislative process. Our responsibilities include maintaining an efficient means for the local bill process and monitoring bills approved by the Delegation Members through the Legislature. The Legislative Delegation has a responsibility to monitor the appropriations process, securing State Revenues and other allocated funds for programs, organizations and government agencies in Broward County.

Week 4: Mar. 25 - 29

## Florida Mayors and Home Rule



(Photo: James Call, Tallahassee Democrat)

Sen. Bobby Powell, D-Palm Beach, and the Florida League of Mayors protest state lawmakers' attempts to preempt local regulations to the state. "We believe the state has a lane and local governments have a lane and when we respect those lanes we can be a great state," said Surrency, who also serves as president of the Florida League of Mayors.

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## Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

HB-9 ( Representative LaMarca) **SUMMARY ANALYSIS:**The Community Redevelopment Act authorizes counties and municipalities to create community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) as a means of redeveloping slums and blighted areas. CRAs are controlled by a governing board that either is composed of members of the local governing body creating the CRA or commissioners appointed by the local governing body. CRAs operate under a community redevelopment plan that is approved by the local governing body. CRAs are primarily funded by tax increment financing, calculated based on the increase of property values inside the boundaries of the agency.

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## 2019 FL Mayors & Home Rule

In recent years, lawmakers have preempted to the state regulation of guns, minimum wages and sick-leave benefits for workers and ride-sharing companies. The mayors say state lawmakers should stay out of local matters and let Florida's 412 municipalities govern themselves.

"To say what is good for Jacksonville is good for St. Augustine is good for Pensacola, Tallahassee, Miami, St. Pete, all across the board, that is not the right route to go," said Tallahassee Mayor John Dailey. "You have to respect the fact that different communities have different approaches and we should have the ability to set those ordinances on the local level."

Among the preemption bills moving in the Legislature is an "anti-sanctuary" measure that would outlaw local policies not to contact federal officials when an undocumented immigrant is in custody. Another bill would put the Department of Business and Professional Regulations in charge of short-term rentals. A third would require a two-thirds vote to increase a local tax.

Writer James Call [jcall@tallahassee.com](mailto:jcall@tallahassee.com).

<https://www.tallahassee.com/story/news/2019/03/27/florida-mayors-blast-legislature-bills-infringing-home-rule/3288470002/>

## CRA Legislation

The bill (HB-9) increases accountability and transparency for CRAs by:

- Requiring the governing board members of a CRA to undergo four hours of ethics training annually;
- Requiring each CRA to use the same procurement and purchasing processes as the creating county or municipality;
- Expanding the annual reporting requirements for CRAs to include audit information and performance data and requiring the information and data to be posted on the agency website;
- Providing that moneys in the redevelopment trust fund may only be expended pursuant to an annual budget adopted by the board of commissioners of the CRA, and only for those purposes specified in current law, beginning October 1, 2019;
- Authorizing the local governing body creating the CRA to adjust the level of tax increment financing available to the CRA;
- Requiring a CRA created by a municipality to provide its budget and any amendments to the board of county commissioners for the county in which the CRA is located by a time certain; and
- Requiring counties and municipalities to include CRA data in their annual financial report.

The bill provides that the creation of new CRAs on or after October 1, 2019, may only occur upon approval at a county-wide referendum held during a primary or general election and approved by two-thirds of the qualified electors. It provides for the phase-out of existing CRAs at the earlier of the expiration date stated in the agency's charter or on September 30, 2039, with the exception of those CRAs with any outstanding bond obligations. However, the governing board of a creating local government entity may prevent the phase-out of a CRA by a two-thirds vote to retain the agency.

Finally, the bill provides a process for the Department of Economic Opportunity to declare a CRA inactive if it has reported no revenues, no expenditures, and no debt for three consecutive fiscal years.

The bill may have a fiscal impact on the state and local governments. (Summary Analysis Courtesy of: [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov))

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**Broward Legislative Delegation Office** - Executive Director: Andrea C. Knowles

Broward Governmental Center, 115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 429, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Office Number: 954.357.6555 Fax Number: 954.357.6041 Email: [DelegationInfo@broward.org](mailto:DelegationInfo@broward.org) Website: [www.broward.org/legislative](http://www.broward.org/legislative)

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