



November 8, 2006

Democrats Gain after 16 Years
**Republicans
Maintain a
Legislative Majority,
But Lose Super
Status in the House**

Democrats take the CFO position on the Florida Cabinet with Alex Sink's big win, and all proposed constitutional amendments glide to easy wins, including the requirement that future constitutional amendments must pass by a 60 percent majority.



Florida Democrats will remain the minority party in both the Florida Senate and House of Representatives for at least the next two years; but for the first time in 16 years, Democrats picked up enough seats in the Florida House to break the strangle-hold Super Majority held by the Republicans.

A Super Majority is created when one party has enough members to win both a 3/5 and 2/3 vote. "Extraordinary votes" – as opposed to simple majority votes – are necessary to pass certain types of legislation

	Rep's	Dem's	
Florida Cabinet	3	1	4
Florida Senate	26	14	40
Florida House	78	42	120
TOTAL			164

and to waive rules of procedure – a powerful leadership weapon. Democrats picked up seven seats yesterday thereby eliminating the 2/3 majority vote in the Florida House. Going into the General Election, Republicans held an 85-35 majority. After the General Election, the margin is 78-42.



Marco Rubio

Marco Rubio, a Cuban-American Representative from Miami-Dade County, remains poised to take the reigns of the House of Representatives as Speaker at the Organizational Session

set for November 21. The Speaker's term is two years. Future Speaker-Designees are Ray Sansom (R-Fort Walton) and Dean Cannon (R-Orlando). Thus, if the Republicans can maintain control of the House, leadership has been identified for the next six years.

Democrats picked up the following seats in the Florida House:

- H36 – Orange: Incumbent Sheri McInvale lost to Scott Randolph
- H51 – Pinellas: Janet Long wins an open Republican seat
- H52 – Pinellas: Bill Heller wins an open Republican seat
- H69 – Sarasota: Keith Fitzgerald wins an open Republican seat
- H97- Broward: Incumbent Susan Goldstein lost to Martin Kiar
- H107 - Miami-Dade: Luis Garcia wins an open Republican seat
- H120 - Monroe/Miami-Dade: Ron Saunders wins an open Republican seat



Ken Pruitt

In the Florida Senate, Republicans maintained their 26-14 majority; however, two seats flipped party control. Democrat Charlie Justice defeated Republican Kim Berfield in Senate

District 16, once held by Republican Senator Jim Sebesta; Republican Sheriff Steve

Oelrich defeated Democrat Ed Jennings in Senate District 14, once held by Democratic Senator Rod Smith. The current Senate President-Designee is **Ken Pruitt** (R-Port St. Lucie), who also will be sworn into office on November 21.



Alex Sink

The big news on the Florida Cabinet is political newcomer and former Nations Bank CEO **Alex Sink**, who easily defeated Senate President Tom Lee to become the first

Democrat on the four-member Cabinet since 1998, when Bill Nelson won the State Treasurer position. Sink is highly regarded as an intellectual and conservative on business issues, which made her appealing to the state business community, particularly the banking and insurance sectors.

Republican Attorney General **Charlie Crist** won a solid victory in the Governor's race over Democratic Congressman Jim Davis; former Republican Congressman **Bill McCollum** beat state Democratic Senator Skip Campbell; and incumbent Republican Agricultural Commissioner **Charlie Bronson** easily beat Democrat Eric Copeland.

Perhaps the most notable election impact in relation to the Cabinet will be at the appointment level. Sitting as the Financial Services Commission, the Cabinet appoints the Commissioner of Insurance (now held by **Kevin McCarty**). Current law does not give any Cabinet officer direct authority over the position. Rather, appointment or removal requires the Governor and CFO to be voting on the same side. This is also true of the Commissioner of Financial Regulation (now held by **Don Saxon**).

**2006 ELECTION RESULTS
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Amendment #1: Approved

State Planning and Budget Process

Effective Date: Task Force must be appointed no later than January 2007.
Establishes a long-range budget-planning process and creates a Government Efficiency Task Force to seek input from the public, executive and judicial branches and create a long-range financial plan.

YES for Approval: 59.8%
NO for Rejection: 40.2%

Amendment #3: Approved

Requiring Broader Public Support for Constitutional Amendments or Revisions

Effective Date: January 2, 2007
Increases the number of votes needed to approve ballot initiatives from 50% +1 to 60% of those voting on the measure.

YES for Approval: 57.7%
NO for Rejection: 42.3%

Amendment #4: Approved

Protect People, Especially Youth from Addiction, Disease, and Other Health Hazards of Using Tobacco

Effective Date: Immediately
Requires 15% (\$57 million) of the 2005 tobacco settlement payments to Florida will fund a statewide tobacco education and prevention program.

YES for Approval: 60.9%
NO for Rejection: 39.1%

Amendment #6: Approved

Increased Homestead Exemption

Effective Date: January 1, 2007
Authorizes the Legislature to allow counties to increase the maximum additional

homestead exemption for low-income seniors* from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

* *Low-income seniors: 65 years old or above with a household income that does not exceed \$20,000.*

YES for Approval: 76%
NO for Rejection: 24%

Amendment #7: Approved

Permanently Disabled Veterans' Discount on Homestead Ad Valorem Tax

Effective Date: December 7, 2006
Lowers taxes for disabled veterans by allowing them to take a discount on their homestead property tax equal in proportion to the amount of disability as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

YES for Approval: 77.8%
NO for Rejection: 22.2%

Amendment #8: Approved

Eminent Domain

Effective Date: January 2, 2007
Requires private property taken by eminent domain must be retained for 10 years before it may be transferred to another private entity.

YES for Approval: 69%
NO for Rejection: 31%

Legislative Dates:
Organization Session:
 November 21, 2006

First Day of Regular Session:
 March 6, 2007

Last Day of Regular Session:
 May 4, 2007

FLORIDA CABINET

Governor

Charlie Crist (R)

Agriculture Comm.

Charlie Bronson (R)

Attorney General

Bill McCollum (R)

Chief Financial Officer

Alex Sink (D)

STATE SENATE

District 2

Durell Peadar (R)

District 4

Don Gaetz (R)

District 6

Al Lawson (D)

District 8

Jim King (R)

District 10

Ronda Storms (R)

District 12

Victor Crist (R)

District 14

Steve Oelrich (R)

District 16

Charlie Justice (D)

District 18

Arthenia Joyner (D)

District 20

Carey Baker (R)

District 22

Lee Constantine (R)

District 24

Bill Posey (R)

District 26

Mike Haridopolos (R)

District 28

Ken Pruitt (R)

District 30

Ted Deutch (D)

District 32

Jeremy Ring (D)

District 34

Nan Rich (D)

District 36

Alex Diaz de la Portilla (R)

District 38

Alex Villalobos (R)

District 40

Rudy Garcia (R)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 1

Greg Evers (R)

District 2

Dave Murzin (R)

District 3

Holly Benson (R)

District 4

Ray Sansom (R)

District 5

Don Brown (R)

District 6

Jimmy Patronis (R)

District 7

Marti Coley (R)

District 8

Curtis Richardson (D)

District 9

Loranne Ausley (D)

District 10

Will Kendrick (D)

District 11*

Debbie Boyd (D)

District 12

Aaron Bean (R)

District 13

Jennifer Carroll (R)

District 14

Terry Fields (D)

District 15

Audrey Gibson (D)

District 16

Mark Mahon (R)

District 17

Stan Jordan (R)

District 18

Don Davis (R)

District 19

Dick Kravitz (R)

District 20

Bill Proctor (R)

District 21

Joe Pickens (R)

District 22

Larry Cretul (R)

District 23

Chuck Chestnut (D)

District 24*Dennis Baxley (R)***District 25***Alan Hays (R)***District 26***Pat Patterson (R)***District 27***Joyce Cusack (D)***District 28***Dorothy Hukill (R)***District 29***Ralph Poppell (R)***District 30***Thad Altman (R)***District 31***Mitch Needelman (R)***District 32***Bob Allen (R)***District 33***Sandy Adams (R)***District 34***David Mealor (R)***District 35***Dean Cannon (R)***District 36***Scott Randolph (D)***District 37***David Simmons (R)***District 38***Bryan Nelson (R)***District 39***Geraldine Thompson (D)***District 40***Andy Gardiner (R)***District 41***Steve Precourt (R)***District 42***Hugh Gibson (R)***District 43***Charlie Dean (R)***District 44****Robert Schenck (R)***District 45***Tom Anderson (R)***District 46***John Legg (R)***District 47***Kevin Ambler (R)***District 48***Peter Nehr (R)***District 49***John "Q" Quinones (R)***District 50***Ed Hooper (R)***District 51****Janet Long (D)***District 52***Bill Heller (D)***District 53***Rick Kriseman (D)***District 54***Jim Frishe (R)***District 55***Frank Peterman (D)***District 56***Trey Traviesa (R)***District 57***Faye Culp (R)***District 58***Michael Scionti (D)***District 59***Betty Reed (D)***District 60***Ed Homan (R)***District 61***Will Weatherford (R)***District 62***Rich Glorioso (R)***District 63***Seth McKeel (R)***District 64***Dennis Ross (R)***District 65***Marty Bowen (R)***District 66***Baxter Troutman (R)***District 67***Ron Reagan (R)***District 68***Bill Galvano (R)***District 69***Keith Fitzgerald (D)***District 70****Doug Holder (R)***District 71***Michael Grant (R)*

District 72*Paige Kreegel (R)***District 73***Nick Thompson (R)***District 74***Gary Aubuchon (R)***District 75***Trudi Williams (R)***District 76***Garrett Richter (R)***District 77***Denise Grimsley (R)***District 78***Richard Machek (D)***District 79***Frank Attkisson (R)***District 80***Stan Mayfield (R)***District 81***Gayle Harrell (R)***District 82***William Snyder (R)***District 83****Carl Domino (R)***District 84***Priscilla Taylor (D)***District 85***Shelley Vana (D)***District 86***Maria Sachs (D)***District 87***Adam Hasner (R)***District 88***Susan Bucher (D)***District 89***Mary Brandenburg (D)***District 90***Kelly Skidmore (D)***District 91***Ellyn Bogdanoff (R)***District 92***Jack Seiler (D)***District 93***Perry Thurston (D)***District 94***Matthew Meadows (D)***District 95***Jim Waldman (D)***District 96***Ari Porth (D)***District 97***Martin Kiar (D)***District 98***Franklin Sands (D)***District 99***Elaine Schwartz (D)***District 100***Evan Jenne (D)***District 101***Mike Davis (R)***District 102***Eddy Gonzalez (R)***District 103***Tee Holloway (D)***District 104***Yolly Roberson (D)***District 105***Joe Gibbons (D)***District 106***Dan Gelber (D)***District 107***Luis Garcia (D)***District 108***Ronald Brisé (D)***District 109***D. Bendross-Mindingall (D)***District 110***Rene Garcia (R)***District 111***Marco Rubio (R)***District 112***David Rivera (R)***District 113***Carlos Lopez-Cantera (R)***District 114***Anitere Flores (R)***District 115***J.C. Planas (R)***District 116***Marcelo Llorente (R)***District 117***Julio Robaina (R)***District 118***Ed Bullard (D)***District 119***Juan Zapata (R)***District 120***Ron Saunders (D)*

*Potential Mandatory Recount

CARLTON FIELDS **Lobbying & Government Affairs Services**

Our focus to client service is long-term, going beyond the matter at hand to emerging trends and opportunities that may affect our clients for many years to come.

Aggressive Client Representation

We diligently lobby positions before the Florida Legislature, the Governor, Cabinet, and relevant state agencies using substantive arguments with a blend of data, political savvy, and effective communication skills.

We will identify, track, monitor, analyze and summarize legislative proposals, political and policy considerations, as directed and can assess their impact on operations.

We testify, draft legislation and amendments to legislation, pass or defeat legislative proposals, and use our extensive political relationships to advocate client positions.

Extensive Contacts and Relationships with Leadership

We work daily to maintain broad relationships across party lines with the state's highest political leaders, from the Governor and Lt. Governor to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. We also maintain excellent relationships with members of the Florida Cabinet, legislative majority and minority leaders and chairmen, state agency secretaries, government staff, and business industry leaders. Our clients have access to this vast network of contacts.

Political Consultation

We are adept at analyzing the political players and the issues involved in a particular situation beforehand. We provide our clients with likely scenarios based on current political winds and help them plan accordingly.

Political Action Counsel

We counsel clients on political contributions through corporate or political action committee giving. We completely understand the specific goals of the incoming Speaker of the House Marco Rubio, and incoming Senate President Ken Pruitt.

As well, we regularly facilitate our clients' major contributions to leadership funds and designated candidates through arranged meetings with our clients and candidates, and at fund-raising events throughout the state.

Public Affairs

For clients who have a press strategy, we also have extensive skills beyond lobbying and can help underpin an overall public affairs goal. We understand there is sometimes a need to integrate lobbying into communicating an overall key message. We are well equipped to represent a political position with legislative leadership and even the news media – drawing on years of spokesperson experience in both the public and private sectors – and helping to develop relationships and a consistent message.



CARLTON FIELDS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Contact Us:

Governor Bob Martinez

813.229.4261, Tampa

Rheb Harbison and Mike Olenick

850.224.1585, Tallahassee