



August 18, 2005

2006 Election Preview

**Term Limits and
Other Political
Opportunities
Claim One-Quarter
of Legislative Seats
in 2006**



Term limits will force an end of service for five Senators and 19 Representatives in 2006. Fourteen more are calling call it quits or plan to run for other available open seats in the Florida Legislature or Congress.

Florida's constitutional provision "Eight is Enough" will sack a group of 24 Florida incumbent legislators who will "term out" of service in 2006. The practical effect of the now bi-annual legislative exodus is already evident at local district levels as potential candidates for "open" legislative seats begin to gauge their ability to raise early money and their potential for being elected. Early endorsements and ample fund-raising are generally viewed by political pundits as the measure of a candidate's true viability.

In addition to those legislators terming out, another 14 legislators are leaving their elected positions for personal reasons or for other political opportunities such as Congress or for an open seat in the Florida Senate. In all there are presently 38 open seats in the Florida Legislature up for grabs in 2006 – nearly 25 percent of all seats.

At this early test period in the election process there is a flurry of political jockeying throughout Florida. Early fund-raising for open seat candidates can be difficult as most

contributors prefer not to make commitments until a race's slate of candidates is final in July 2006, the deadline all candidates must officially qualify with the State Division of Elections for a particular seat.

Open Seats	Senate	House
Term-Limited	5 (3R/2D)	19 (12R/7D)
Vacant	3 (1R/2D)	11 (5R/6D)
Total	8 (4R/4D)	30 (17R/13D)
Percent	20%	25%

Notable activity in particular Senate districts:

▪ *Senate Panhandle Area*

SD 1: Incumbent Charlie Clary (R-Destin) terms out. Notable candidate: Rep. Holly Benson (R), who is leaving her House seat early to run for this Senate seat.

▪ *Senate North Central Area*

SD 14: Incumbent Rod Smith (D-Gainesville) leaving early to run for Governor. Notable candidates: Rep. Ed Jennings (D), leaving his House seat early to run for this Senate seat, and former Rep. Perry McGriff (D).

▪ *Senate Tampa Bay Area*

SD10: Incumbent Jim Lee (R-Brandon) terms out. Notable candidate: former Rep. Sandy Murman (R).

SD 16: Incumbent Jim Sebesta (R-St. Pete) terms out. Notable candidates: Reps. Kim Berfield (R), Frank Farkas (R), and Charlie Justice (D). Berfield and Justice are leaving their House seats early to run for this Senate seat; Farkas terms out of the House in 2006.

SD18: Incumbent Les Miller (D-Tampa) leaving early to run for Congress. Notable candidates: Reps. Arthenia Joyner (D) and Frank Peterman (D), both leaving their House seats early to run for this Senate seat.

▪ *Senate Southeast Area*

SD30: Incumbent Ron Klein (D) terms out and is running for Congress. Notable candidates: Reps. Anne Gannon (D) and Irv Slosberg (D), both leaving their House seats early to run for this Senate seat.

SD32: Incumbent Skip Campbell (D) terms out. Notable candidate among several: former Rep. Stacy Ritter (D).

▪ *Senate Southwest Area*

SD37: Incumbent Burt Saunders leaving early to run for Attorney General. No announced candidates.

Most open House seats will field candidates who would be newcomers to the Legislature. Notable activity in particular House districts:

▪ *House Panhandle Area*

HD 3: Incumbent Holly Benson (R-Pensacola) leaving early to run for the Senate.

HD 6: Incumbent Allan Bense (R-Panama City) terms out.

▪ *House North Central Area*

HD 11: Incumbent Dwight Stansel (D-Live Oak) terms out.

HD 23: Incumbent Ed Jennings (D-Gainesville) leaving early to run for the Senate.

HD 44: Incumbent Dave Russell (R-Spring Hill) terms out.

▪ *House Central Area*

HD 38: Incumbent Fred Brummer (R-Apopka) terms out.

HD 41: Incumbent Randy Johnson (R-Winter Garden) terms out and is running for CFO.

▪ *House Tampa Bay Area*

HD 48: Incumbent Gus Bilirakis (R-Palm

Harbor) terms out and is running for Congress.

HD 50: Incumbent Kim Berfield (R-Clearwater) leaving early to run for the Senate.

HD 51: Incumbent Leslie Waters (R-St. Pete) terms out.

HD 52: Incumbent Frank Farkas (R-St. Pete) terms out and is running for the Senate.

HD 53: Incumbent Charlie Justice (D-St. Pete) leaving early to run for the Senate.

HD 54: Incumbent Everett Rice (R-Indian Shores) leaving early to run for Attorney General.

HD 55: Incumbent Frank Peterman (D-St. Pete) leaving early to run for the Senate.

HD 58: Incumbent Bob Henriquez (D-Tampa) terms out.

HD 59: Incumbent Arthenia Joyner (D-Tampa) leaving early to run for the Senate.

▪ *House Southwest Area*

HD 70: Incumbent Nancy Detert (R-Venice) terms out.

HD 73: Incumbent Bruce Kyle (R-Ft. Myers) terms out.

HD 76: Incumbent Dudley Goodlette (R-Naples) terms out.

▪ *House Southeast Area*

HD 82: Incumbent Joe Negron (R-Stuart) leaving early to run for Attorney General.

HD 86: Incumbent Anne Gannon (D-Delray Beach) leaving early to run for the Senate.

HD 93: Incumbent Chris Smith (D-Ft. Lauderdale) terms out.

HD 95: Incumbent Ron Greenstein (D-Coconut Creek) terms out.

HD 99: Incumbent Eleanor Sobel (D-Hollywood) terms out.

HD 100: Incumbent Tim Ryan (D-Dania Beach) terms out.

HD 105: Incumbent Ken Gottlieb (D-Miramar) terms out.

HD 107: Incumbent Gus Barrerio (R-Miami) terms out.

HD 120: Incumbent Ken Sorrenson (R-Key West) terms out.

**Carlton Fields
Political Action and Election Counsel**

Our lobbying team, comprising former Gov. Bob Martinez, Rheb Harbison and Michael Olenick, has a proven record of operating successfully within Florida's political circles.

In the area of political action and counsel, the team has a working understanding of the dynamics of state races for the Cabinet and the Legislature. As in past years, Carlton Fields' lobbyists will interview each legislative candidate in forums throughout the state to identify those candidates who are most likely to support the positions of our clients.

As well, the team fully understands the 2006 election goals of 2007-08 Senate President-Designee Ken Pruitt (R-Port St. Lucie) and 2007-08 Speaker-Designees Marco Rubio (R-Miami) and 2009-10 Ray Sansom (R-Ft. Walton Beach).

***i* For more information ...**

Please contact Rheb Harbison in Tallahassee at 850.224.1585 or by email at rharbison@carltonfields.com.

Update on Select Citizen Initiative Campaigns to Amend the Florida Constitution in 2006.

Amendment Title	July 22	August 12th	August 15th	Increase since Friday	Increase in last month
Independent Nonpartisan Commission to apportion legislative and congressional districts which replaces apportionment by legislature	9,244	24,264	42,727	18,463	362%
Implementation of Apportionment and Districting Commission 2007	9,209	24,237	42,243	18,006	359%
Additional Standards to be followed in apportioning legislative and congressional districts	9,244	24,317	41,860	17,543	353%
Florida Marriage Protection Amendment	21,261	33,419	50,903	17,484	139%
Extending existing sales tax to non-taxed services where exclusion fails to serve public purpose	35,101	39,465	42,757	3,292	22%
Initiative requiring legislative determination that sales tax exemptions serve a public purpose	35,105	39,469	42,761	3,292	22%
Initiative directing manner by which sales tax exemptions are granted by the legislature	35,225	39,482	42,774	3,292	21%

i For more information on 2006 Citizen Initiative Petitions...

Please hit <http://election.dos.state.fl.us> then click "Proposed Amendments," or contact Tami McQueen in Tallahassee at 850.224.1585 or by email at tmcqueen@carltonfields.com.