

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: January 20, 2015

Date Submitted: January 8, 2015

To: Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Board

From: Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Stacey Hannigon, Special Projects Coordinator

Subject: Review and Approval of the 2015 Legislative Priorities

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item seeks Board approval of the County's 2015 Legislative Priorities to be presented to the Gadsden County Legislative Delegation on January 26, 2015.

Background:

Each year in preparation for the Florida Legislative Session, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners presents the County's Legislative Priorities to our local Legislative Delegation for representation during the Session. In 2015 the Gadsden County Legislative Delegation will include Senator Bill Montford and Representative Alan Williams. Through the input and collaboration of the Board, County Staff, the County's Lobbyists and our local municipalities, we are able to develop a comprehensive representation of the Legislative funding needs that currently exist in the county.

Analysis:

The attached 2015 Legislative Priorities provide a broad spectrum of funding objectives that are aimed at meeting the current needs realized by the Board and our local municipalities. As was the case in 2014, the County's two priority project funding requests are for (1) Renovations to the Gadsden County Courthouse and (2) Construction of a new Agriculture Education and Promotion Facility. Other priorities include: (1) Protecting Revenue Sharing and Funding for High Priority Programs, (2) Mitigating the Impact of the Change to the County Medicaid Cost Share Formula, (3) Providing Funding for Critical Infrastructure and Municipal Water Projects and (4) Economic Development to include Reauthorizing Enterprise Zone Authority, Protecting Current Jobs and Providing the Tools for Effective Job Expansion and Growth.

Fiscal Impact:

Successful funding of any Gadsden County Legislative Priority during the 2015 Session will tremendously impact the level of services provided to our residents, pave the way for local economic growth and assist in the upkeep and improvement of our local infrastructure. Legislative project funding for these larger, more financially demanding projects will allow budgeted County and municipal funds to be utilized in maintaining present levels of service, investing into other projects that do not qualify for Legislative funding and reducing the fiscal strain sometimes experienced in local government.

Options:

1. Approval of the Gadsden County 2015 Legislative Priorities
2. Provide staff with other direction

County Administrator's Recommendation:

Option #1

Attachments:

1. Gadsden County 2015 Legislative Priorities

2015 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

INCLUDING LEGISLATIVE ISSUES EXPRESSED BY
GADSDEN COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND COMMUNITY INTERESTS



ADOPTED ON JANUARY 20, 2015 BY:

THE GADSDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice-Chairman - District-1
Commissioner Dr. Anthony O. Viegbesie – District-2
Commissioner Gene Morgan – District-3
Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chairperson – District-4
Commissioner Sherrie Taylor – District-5

THE GADSDEN COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

Senator Bill Montford
Representative Alan Williams

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	Page 2
Introduction	Page 3
Priority Project Requests	Page 4
Revenue Sharing & High Priority Programs	Page 5
Major Program Priorities	
A. Transportation Infrastructure	Page 6
B. Sidewalk Projects	Page 6
C. Local Parks	Page 7
D. Small County Solid Waste/Recycling Program	Page 7
E. Funding for Small County Tax Collectors	Page 7
F. Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Funding	Page 7
G. Agriculture & Municipal Water Projects	Page 8
H. Local Economic Base / Economic Enhancement	
1. Rural Job Creation & Rural Economic Base	Page 9
2. Florida State Hospital & Gadsden Correctional Facility	Page 9
3. Opportunity Florida	Page 9
4. State Enterprise Zone Program	Page 9
5. Creek Entertainment Gretna Expansion Plan	Page 12
I. Rural Health Care & Medicaid County Cost Share	
1. Addressing Rural Health Care	Page 12
2. County Medicaid Cost Share	Page 12
Organizational Partners and County Contacts	Page 15

PREFACE

The primary interest of the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners is to meet the needs of the public through high-quality efficient governmental services.

The 2015 Legislative Program for Gadsden County is intended to promote policies, programs and areas of funding that are important to providing services that improve the quality of life for the citizens of Gadsden County.

Gadsden County generates its revenues through various revenue programs and grants that are critical to fund its day to day operations.

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners is appreciative of all the support and efforts that will be provided on its behalf and pledge to give its best effort to stand with the Florida Legislature to overcome the problems posed during these uncertain and unstable economic times.

QUICK FACTS

- Gadsden County is the 43rd largest county in Florida, with a population of 47,588.
- Gadsden County is defined by the State of Florida as a fiscally constrained county.
- In October 2014, Gadsden County was accepted as a Competitive Florida Partnership community.
- The 2013 taxable value of property tax in Gadsden County was \$1,339,761,534. The 2014 taxable value decreased by \$24,068,163 or (1.80%) to \$1,315,693,371 compared to a State of Florida average taxable value increase of 6.72%.
- In Gadsden County, 1 cent of sales tax will generate \$2,946,690 or \$61.92 per capita. This is \$97 less than the \$159.32 that 1 cent will generate on a statewide per capita basis.
- Due to a number of economic factors, Gadsden County is included as part of the Rural Areas of Opportunity program and is eligible for special statutory provisions, waivers, and incentives to assist in economic development and funding programs.
- On an annual basis, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners receives substantial funding from State authorized revenue and program sources. In 2013, funding from State and Local sources, other than Ad Valorem, provided \$15,163,169 or an amount that would be equivalent to 11.3 mills of property tax.

INTRODUCTION

Gadsden County receives significant support from the State of Florida.

Municipalities in the county rely heavily on State Agency programs to meet the need of Gadsden's citizens and the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners is appreciative of all the support.

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners pledges support for the Gadsden County Legislative Delegation as they work to address the needs of Gadsden County's residents.

Priorities to Guide the 2015 Legislative Session

Gadsden County submits the following Legislative Priorities and Policy Proposals for consideration by the Governor, Cabinet Members, Members of the Florida Legislature, the Leadership within State Agencies and other local, state, and federal interests that may be supportive of Florida's small and rural communities.

MAJOR LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES

- *Provide Funding for Gadsden County Projects;*
- *Provide Funding in High Priority Programs in High Need Areas (i.e. Transportation, Parks, Infrastructure, Public Safety, Health Care and Nutrition);*
- *Ensure Effectiveness of Economic Development Efforts that Stimulate Employment Growth;*
- *Oppose Unnecessary Regulation that Impedes Growth and Development;*
- *Protect State Public Employment in Gadsden County;*
- *Oppose Privatization of Florida State Hospital and Gadsden Correctional Facility;*
- *Oppose Proposals that Shift Cost from State to Local Level, Oppose "one size fits all" Mandatory Requirements;*
- *Oppose Actions that Increase Local Costs;*
- *Support Legislation that Reduces Fiscal Costs Relating to Agency Actions in Small Counties; and,*
- *Oppose Unfunded Mandates*

FUNDING FOR PRIORITY PROJECT REQUESTS

A. Gadsden County Courthouse Renovation Funding

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$550,000 to support continued renovations of the Gadsden County Courthouse. The 100 year old Gadsden County Courthouse is a signature public building in Gadsden County, serving as the longstanding centerpiece of community pride and governmental services.

Maintaining the Courthouse is a priority commitment of the community and the Gadsden County Commission. The Commission has been committed to a program of maintenance and renovation to keep the Courthouse functional as a public facility. Funding this project will significantly complement local efforts that ensure the restoration and critical maintenance work of the building. Over the past three years, the Commission allocated \$318,100 for Courtroom renovations, roof repairs, window replacement, restroom remodeling, technological upgrades and sewer line replacement.

The \$550,000 requested will provide resources for external painting; restoration of the cupola windows, clock and bell; cleaning and sealing the terrazzo flooring; as well as the raising and restoration of the courtroom ceiling.

B. Funding for New Agriculture Education and Promotion Facility Grant

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners is requesting funding for a new Agricultural Center through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Agriculture Education and Promotion Facility Grant. The application is requesting \$1,050,000 to construct a new facility that will house Extension and USDA offices and provide much needed space to accommodate educational program offerings. The application presents local match of 98% through land value, construction plans, infrastructure development and operating funds. The construction site of the new facility is located in the Gadsden County Enterprise Zone, the Quincy Brownfield Area and in a county designated as a Rural Area of Opportunity. The anticipated completion date is December 2016, provided that funding is received by July 2016.

The current facility was planned, constructed and completed during the administration of Governors Spessard Holland, Millard F. Caldwell, and Fuller Warren to house Farm Services and the Cooperative Extension Service in Gadsden County. It was also intended to promote livestock and crop marketing and production education. The facility was dedicated on October 19, 1951.

The current condition of the building is deplorable, hazardous and simply inadequate. Cinder blocks and bricks are falling apart - cracks in the brick facade are visible to visitors entering the building. Roof leaks allow water to intrude into both the office spaces and arena, creating mold and mildew conditions. As a result, office equipment has to be unplugged and relocated to protect them from water damage. Finally, external reviews by the University of Florida IFAS and FAM-U Agricultural Extension Offices consistently refer to the current building as a poor facility for providing quality agricultural education programs to the people of Gadsden County.

PROTECT REVENUE SHARING AND HIGH PRIORITY PROGRAM FUNDS

Protect Revenue Sharing, Fiscally Constrained Funding and Provide Funding for Grant Programs Important to Gadsden County

A major part of the County's operating budget is supported through State Revenue Sharing funds, Fiscally Constrained funding, and grant funding that assist small counties in providing services and programs. Gadsden County relies heavily on state agency program funding to support Library Services, Transportation Disadvantaged Programs, Rural Health Programs, Aerial Photography, Emergency Services, Recycling Programs, and other infrastructure projects. Although funding varies slightly from year to year, the funding is substantial and Gadsden County requests continued support for these funding programs.

In 2013, funding from State and Local sources other than Ad Valorem provided almost \$15,163,169.

- State and local revenue source (excluding Ad Valorem) generated \$14,060,641.
- Funding from state grants programs totaled \$1,102,528.

State and Local Revenue Sources utilized by the Gadsden County BOCC, with 2013 amounts:

• State Revenue Sharing	\$ 696,136
• Local Government ½ Cent Sales Tax Distribution	\$1,537,160
• ½ Cent Sales Tax-	\$1,130,317
• Fiscally Constrained ½ Cent Sales Tax	\$ 621,571
• Fiscally Constrained Amendment 1	\$1,247,354
• Diesel Fuel Tax	\$ 800,528
• Local Option Gas Tax	\$1,232,836
• Constitutional 2 Cent per Gallon Fuel Tax	\$1,010,395
• County Gas Tax	\$ 446,005
• Indigent Ordinance Surtax	\$1,487,244
• Small County Surtax	\$2,083,136

Major sources of program funding utilized by the Gadsden County BOCC (with approximate amounts):

• Office of the Governor - Emergency Preparedness Grants	\$ 98,444
• Florida DEP – Small County Solid Waste Grant	\$ 56,614
• Florida DACS – Mosquito Control	\$ 18,227
• Florida Department of Corrections – Payment In Lieu of Taxes	\$100,000
• Florida DOS – State Aid to Libraries	\$298,791
• Florida Housing Fin. Corp. – State Housing Initiative Partnership	\$ 78,113
• Florida DOT – Public Trans. Joint Part. Agree. (Non-recurring Project)	\$ 13,900
• Florida DOT – Small County Outreach Program (Non-recurring Project)	\$162,201
• Florida DOT – Small County Rd Assist. Prog (Non-recurring Project)	\$ 92,535
• Florida DOT – Transportation Disadvantaged Program	\$ 30,000
• Florida Department of Health – Emergency Medical Services	\$ 22,570
• Florida Dept of Management Services – E911 System/Training	\$ 47,838
• Florida Department of Management Service – E911 Upgrade	\$129,425
• Florida Department of Management Services – Mapping Services	\$ 53,870

MAJOR PROGRAM PRIORITIES

A. Support Funding for Transportation Infrastructure

Transportation funding is a continued priority for Gadsden County. The Board of County Commissioners works closely with the Department of Transportation and the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) which includes all of Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon and Wakulla counties. The CRTPA assists in the development of a long range transportation plan which creates an integrated regional multimodal transportation network that supports sustainable development patterns and promotes economic growth.

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests support for the Gadsden County projects represented in the Florida Department of Transportation Five Year Work Program.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| • Quincy Loop | 2015 - \$ 550,000 |
| • Sidewalks, Road Resurfacing & Paving Projects: | |
| ○ SR 10 From North Avenue to Lanier Drive | 2016 - \$ 188,159 |
| ○ SR 12 From Yon Creek BR to W of SR 10 | 2016 - \$ 4,558,178 |
| ○ SR 8 From West of SR 10 to Leon County Line | 2015 - \$ 2,511,206 |
| • Quincy Municipal Airport: | |
| ○ Construct Parallel Taxiway | 2016 - \$ 250,082 |
| • Transit: | |
| ○ Big Bend Transit Commuter Assistance - | 2016 - \$ 15,000 |
| ○ Big Bend Transit Commuter Assistance | 2016 - \$ 20,000 |

In addition, the Gadsden Board of County Commissioners requests continued funding for the following State Transportation Grants Program:

- County Incentive Grants Program
- Small County Road Assistance Program
- Small County Outreach Program

B. Support Funding for Sidewalk Projects

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests funding for the following sidewalk projects which will positively impact the health and wellbeing of Gadsden County's residents; allow for the safe commute of pedestrians; and enhance the appearance of our communities.

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| • St. Hebron Road | \$ 606,500 |
| • Post Plant Road | \$ 578,000 |
| • Selman Road | \$ 470,000 |
| • Strong Road | \$ 420,000 |
| • McCall Bridge Road | \$1,035,000 |
| • Spooner Road | \$ 750,000 |

TOTAL REQUEST \$3,859,500

Further, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests that the Florida Legislature avoid funding sweeps from the Florida Transportation Trust Fund which provides revenues to support the FDOT Five Year Work Program and important local grant programs.

C. Support Park Funding for Local Projects

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests funding for the following Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Small Park Fund – Development Program applications:

• Gadsden County BOCC	Scottown Park	\$ 50,000
	St. Hebron Park	\$ 50,000
• City of Gretna	South Street Park	\$ 50,000
• City of Quincy	Key Street Park	\$ 50,000
	TOTAL REQUEST	<u>\$2000,000</u>

D. Increase Funding for Small County Solid Waste and Recycling Programs

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests that the Gadsden County Legislative Delegation support continued funding for the small county solid waste/recycling grant program. The program is currently funded at \$3,000,000 and provides grants to counties with populations of 100,000 and below in the amount of \$88,000.

E. Provide Special Funding for Small County Tax Collectors

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests special funding to offset the costs that Tax Collectors in Fiscally Constrained counties incur associated with meeting the State requirement for issuing Florida Divers Licenses. It is estimated that the impact on the Gadsden County Tax Collectors Office for providing this State function is approximately \$50,000 annually.

F. Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Funding

Gadsden County receives a Payment In Lieu of Taxes grant from the Florida Legislature in the amount of \$100,000 to offset the loss of ad valorem income from the “privatized” operation of Gadsden Correctional Institute. The Commission requests that the PILT payment be increased to reflect the current property value which would increase the PILT payment to an estimated amount of \$145,000.

G. Protect and Support Agriculture & Municipal Water Projects

The primary economic base in Gadsden County is the agricultural industry. The Gadsden Board of County Commissioners requests that the Florida Legislature promote, protect, and strengthen support for the agricultural industry which is so vital to the economic base of Florida.

Sustainable water resources are critical to the economy of Gadsden County. The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners supports project funding to support water supply and access to water projects in all areas throughout Gadsden County. The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners supports steps that will ensure the availability of water supply to the citizens and businesses of Gadsden County.

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests funding support for the following municipal water systems related projects:

- Town of Havana (Water Systems Improvements -Well Replacement)
\$500,000
- City of Midway (Septic Tank Elimination Project)
\$500,000
- City of Chattahoochee (Rosedale Water System Improvements)
\$543,000
- City of Gretna (Water Systems Improvement – Construction Funding)
\$1,675,000
- City of Quincy (Replacement of One Million Gallon Ground Water Storage Tank)
\$2,044,900
- City of Quincy (Virginia Street Elevated Tank Rehab) \$253,000
- City of Quincy (Water and Gas Extension South Beyond I-10 Interchange on SR#267) \$1,046,760

TOTAL REQUEST \$6,562,660

The Gadsden County Commission requests continued State and Regional efforts to protect adequate water levels in the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint River Basin.

The Gadsden County Commission supports the continuation of the DEP study of the Total Maximum Daily Load in Lake Talquin. This study is important in identifying the point source of pollution in Lake Talquin.

H. Protect the Local Economic Base and Promote Economic Enhancement

1. Support Rural Job Creation and Protection of the Rural Economic Base

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners supports continued efforts to promote job creation in Gadsden County. The Board requests that the Legislature protect the county from actions that negatively impact local economic stability.

2. Protect Jobs at the Florida State Hospital & the Gadsden Correctional Facility While Opposing the Privatization of Public Institutions and Programs

The Florida State Hospital and the Gadsden Correctional Facility provide important employment opportunities and economic stability for Gadsden County residents. State public institutions and programs are an important part of the economic base in North Florida. It is felt that privatization proposals for existing public institutions would negatively impact the quality of services, as well as the local economy. Efforts to avoid negative impacts on quality of services, local programs, and local employment base are a priority. The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests the Florida Legislature to provide continued support for these important public sector institutions and oppose their privatization.

3. Continued Financial Support of Opportunity Florida

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners supports funding for Opportunity Florida to be continued and expanded for the Northwest Florida Business Development Council, Inc. through funds appropriated by the Florida Legislature and administered through Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity, Enterprise Florida, Inc., and other designated agencies.

4. Continue the State Enterprise Zone Program

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners supports the continuation of the State Enterprise Zone program as an important strategic tool utilized in rural areas.

RESOLUTION No. 2014-022

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXPXRESSING SUPPORT THAT THE DESIGNATION OF RURAL AREA OF OPPORTUNITY (RAO), FORMERLY KNOWN AS RURAL AREA OF CRITICAL ECONOMIC CONCERN (RACEC) CONTINUE TO APPLY TO THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION INCORPORATING CALHOUN, FRANKLIN, GADSDEN, GULF, HOLMES, JACKSON, LIBERTY, WAKULLA, WASHINGTON AND THE CITY OF FREEPORT (INCLUDING THE CITIES, TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES WITHIN EACH); AND, THAT ALL ENTERPRISE ZONES IN THESE COUNTIES AND COMMUNITIES CONTINUE TO EXIST; AND THE CONTINUATION OF ALL STAFFING GRANT FUNDING FOR THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INCORPORATED, D/B/A OPPORTUNITY FLORIDA, THROUGH FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND ADMINISTERED THROUGH FLORIDA'S DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in 1999 Governor Bush, by executive order, identified eight counties (Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington) as Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern, and that this designation was renewed in 2004 and added the area within the city limits of Freeport to this designation;

WHEREAS, in 2000 Opportunity Florida was created to promote and improve economic development in the eight counties designated as Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern;

WHEREAS, the counties of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Washington and the area within the city limits of Freeport were re-designated in 2009, as a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern for a period of five years;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 11-103 added Wakulla County to the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern:

WHEREAS, the various counties and municipalities in the Opportunity Florida region request that Governor Rick Scott renew the designation as a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern;

WHEREAS, the Florida Enterprise Zone Act was passed by the Florida Legislature in 1994 to assist local communities and residents in creating the proper economic and social environment to induce the investment of private resources in productive business enterprises;

WHEREAS, the Northwest Florida Business Development Council, Inc., in cooperation with and through the support of the nine counties, all municipalities within the Clerk of the Court

nine counties, the city of Freeport, all CareerSource Centers serving the region and corporate sector partners, has made great strides in improving the economic outlook for the Northwest Florida RACEC by assisting with recruiting new industries, supporting infrastructure projects and working together with local communities and other organizations such as the Department of Economic Opportunity and Enterprise Florida, FDOT and the Governor's Office; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the progress that has been made since 2009, there is still much work that needs to be completed to help the nine counties compete economically with other parts of the state;

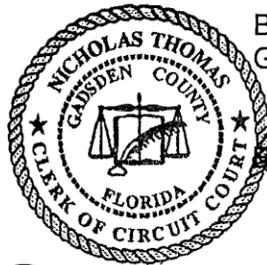
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. Support. The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners does hereby express its support of the following:

1. That the designation of Rural Areas Opportunity, formerly known as the Rural Areas of Economic Concern, continue to apply to Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Wakulla and Washington counties and the city of Freeport;
2. That all Enterprise Zones in these counties continue to exist;
3. That all staff grant funding for Opportunity Florida be continued and expanded for the Northwest Florida Business Development Council, Inc. through funds appropriated by the Florida Legislature and administered through Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity, Enterprise Florida, Inc., and other designated agencies.

Section 2. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective upon passage.

Duly Passed and Adopted on the 18th day of November, 2014.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Brenda A. Holt
Brenda A. Holt, Chairman

Nicholas Thomas

Nicholas Thomas
Clerk of the Court

5. Support Creek Entertainment Gretna's Expansion Plan

Creek Entertainment Gretna (CEG) is a licensed pari-mutuel facility that currently offers poker and simulcast wagering in addition to quarter horse racing. CEG is owned by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians (PBCI), a federally recognized tribe with land in trust in Florida. Since opening in December 2011 CEG has injected more than \$10.5 million dollars into the regional economy through payroll expenses, goods and services, corporate contributions, and government fees and taxes. CEG desires to expand its existing facility by adding slot machines.

On January 31, 2014 the Citizens of Gadsden County passed a referendum in support of CEG to have slot machines. As such, the State may negotiate a compact with PBCI to allow slot machines without impacting the current Seminole compact. We request that the Legislature include language in any gaming legislation that strongly urges the Governor to negotiate a compact with PBCI that authorizes slot machines at CEG.

I. RURAL HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAID COUNTY COST-SHARE FORMULA

1. Addressing Rural Health Care Is Critical in Gadsden County

The Gadsden County Health Department plays a vital role in providing critical primary care services to county residents. The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests continued support for the Health Department, including funding for primary health care services.

In addition, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners supports efforts to close the health-care gap that exists in many rural counties.

2. County Medicaid Cost Share

THE 2013 CHANGE TO THE COUNTY MEDICAID COST SHARE FORMULA HAS A DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON GADSDEN COUNTY AND IS UNFAIR

Senate Bill 1520, passed in the 2013 Legislative Session, changed the method of calculating what each county is required to pay in State County Medicaid Cost Share. Each county's share changed from a formula based on "Utilization" to a formula based on "Enrollment". The use of enrollees as the predominant distribution factor has a profound impact resulting in Gadsden County's share increasing by 89% over the next seven years. The total program is projected to increase by 24%.

Gadsden Board of County Commissioners requests that the Florida Legislature take steps, prior to the implementation of the changes in FY 15-16, to remedy the disparity caused by the formula change mandated in SB 1520.

Gadsden County's Medicaid Cost Share is estimated to increase 89.29%

The State Total of County Medicaid Cost Share is estimated to increase 24% by FY 19-20

- Gadsden County's utilization share in FY 12-13 was 0.239% of statewide total or approximately \$600,399.42.
- Gadsden County payment will shift over 7 years to 0.36% based on the use of enrollees as the formula factor.
- Statewide the total County Medicaid Cost Share payments are scheduled to increase 24% statewide from \$251 million in 12-13 to \$312 million in 19-20.
- Under SB 1520, Gadsden County's payment is projected to increase from \$600,399.42 in FY 12-13 to \$1,136,473 in FY19-20 or an overall increase of 89.29%.

(1) Year	(2) Statewide County Cost Share – All Counties	(3) Statewide % Increase	(4) Gadsden's Share Formula/ Payment Basis – Under SB 1520	(5) Gadsden's Projected Payment Under SB 1520	(6) Gadsden's Annual % Increase Under SB 1520
2012-13	251,406,686	-----	Gadsden pays 0.239% of County Statewide costs	600,399.42	-----
2013-14	269,600,000	7.24%	County share based on 0.239% utilization	643,848.00	7.24%
2014-15	277,000,000	2.74%	County share based on 0.239% utilization	661,520.00	2.74%
2015-16	284,257,400	2.62%	80% based on utilization /20% based on enrollees	749,947.00	13.39%
2016-17	290,823,746	2.31%	60% based on utilization /40% based on enrollees	840,007.00	12.01%
2017-18	297,439,986	2.28%	40% based on utilization /60% based on enrollees	933,509.00	11.13%
2018-19	304,920,602	2.52%	20% based on utilization /80% based on enrollees	1,033,249.00	10.68%
2019-20	312,330,172	2.43%	100% based on enrollees	1,136,473.00	9.99%

Recommendation of the Small County Coalition

The use of Enrollment as the predominant factor in calculating each county's share of the State County Medicaid Cost Share program creates a substantial shift from historical factors associated with the actual use of services by county residents.

The seven year transition estimates show that many counties experience significant increases in how much they are projected to pay well above how much their actual county residents have utilized in Medicaid services and well above the % of growth in the state total cost share fund.

It is recommended that funds be provided so that no county experiences a % increase above the % increase in the total fund, and that state funds be appropriated to reduce any county that exceeds the annual % in the state total to the % of growth in the state fund.

The formula change will have the following impact on the counties below:

<i>Alachua County's share is estimated to increase 1.61%</i>	<i>Lake County's share is estimated to increase 19.05%</i>
<i>Baker County's share is estimated to increase 73.84%</i>	<i>Lee County's share is estimated to increase 48.22%</i>
<i>Bay County's share is estimated to increase 101.70%</i>	<i>Leon County's share is estimated to increase 41.87%</i>
<i>Bradford County's share is estimated to increase 19.81%</i>	<i>Levy County's share is estimated to increase 26.55%</i>
<i>Brevard County's share is estimated to increase 15.46%</i>	<i>Liberty County's share is estimated to increase 18.46%</i>
<i>Broward County's share is estimated to increase 10.74%</i>	<i>Madison County's share is estimated to increase 108.95%</i>
<i>Calhoun County's share is estimated to increase 37.11%</i>	<i>Manatee County's share is estimated to increase 12%</i>
<i>Charlotte County's share is estimated to increase 30.67%</i>	<i>Marion County's share is estimated to increase 48.29%</i>
<i>Citrus County's share is estimated to increase 27.96%</i>	<i>Martin County's share is estimated to increase 58.44%</i>
<i>Clay County's share is estimated to increase 44.31%</i>	<i>Monroe County's share is estimated to increase 5.97%</i>
<i>Collier County's share is estimated to increase 36.24%</i>	<i>Nassau County's share is estimated to increase 53.40%</i>
<i>Columbia County's share is estimated to increase 1.60%</i>	<i>Okaloosa County's share is estimated to increase 64.24%</i>
<i>Dade County's share is estimated to increase 21.31%</i>	<i>Okeechobee County's share is estimated to increase 47.40%</i>
<i>DeSoto County's share is estimated to increase 75.21%</i>	<i>Orange County's share is estimated to increase 21.82%</i>
<i>Dixie County's share is estimated to increase 50.58%</i>	<i>Osceola County's share is estimated to increase 72.66%</i>
<i>Duval County's share is estimated to increase 19.08%</i>	<i>Palm Beach County's share is estimated to increase 18.6%</i>
<i>Escambia County's share is estimated to increase 38.18%</i>	<i>Pasco County's share is estimated to increase 18.63%</i>
<i>Flagler County's share is estimated to increase 33.12%</i>	<i>Pinellas County's share is estimated to decrease (23.65%)</i>
<i>Franklin County's share is estimated to decrease (7.26%)</i>	<i>Polk County's share is estimated to increase 27.92%</i>
<i>Gadsden County's share is estimated to increase 89.29%</i>	<i>Putnam County's share is estimated to increase 83.30%</i>
<i>Gilchrist County's share is estimated to increase 56.08%</i>	<i>Santa Rosa County's share is estimated to increase 56.91%</i>
<i>Glades County's share is estimated to decrease (19.64%)</i>	<i>Sarasota County's share is estimated to increase 32.64%</i>
<i>Gulf County's share is estimated to increase 26.97%</i>	<i>Seminole County's share is estimated to increase 5.31%</i>
<i>Hamilton County's share is estimated to increase 74.53%</i>	<i>St. Johns County's share is estimated to increase 36.68%</i>
<i>Hardee County's share is estimated to increase 152.93%</i>	<i>St. Lucie County's share is estimated to increase 61.99%</i>
<i>Hendry County's share is estimated to increase 155.95%</i>	<i>Sumter County's share is estimated to increase 63.33%</i>
<i>Hernando County's share is estimated to increase 35.92%</i>	<i>Suwannee County's share is estimated to increase 48.43%</i>
<i>Highlands County's share is estimated to increase 50.57%</i>	<i>Taylor County's share is estimated to increase 72.84%</i>
<i>Hillsborough County's share is estimated to increase 30.76%</i>	<i>Union County's share is estimated to increase 33.30%</i>
<i>Holmes County's share is estimated to increase 93.76%</i>	<i>Volusia County's share is estimated to increase 39.73%</i>
<i>Indian River County's share is estimated to increase 82.47%</i>	<i>Wakulla County's share is estimated to increase 62.23%</i>
<i>Jackson County's share is estimated to increase 81.57%</i>	<i>Walton County's share is estimated to increase 28.71%</i>
<i>Jefferson County's share is estimated to increase 21.20%</i>	<i>Washington County's share is estimated to increase 76.45%</i>
<i>Lafayette County's share is estimated to increase 220.44%</i>	

Organizational Partners and County Contacts

SUPPORT FOR THE SMALL COUNTY COALITION

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners is a participating member of the Florida Small County Coalition. The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests that the Gadsden Legislative Delegation support the Legislative Proposals of this organization.

SUPPORT FOR THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners is a participating member of the Florida Association of Counties. The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners requests that the Gadsden Legislative Delegation support the Legislative Proposals of this organization.

GADSDEN COUNTY CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information regarding the items within the Gadsden County 2015 Legislative Priorities, please contact:

Mr. Robert M. Presnell, County Administrator
850-875-8650
rpresnell@gadsdencountyfl.gov

Stacey Hannigon, Special Projects Coordinator
850-875-8650
shannigon@gadsdencountyfl.gov

Chris Doolin
Gadsden County Governmental Relations Consultant
850-508-5492
cdoolin@nettally.com

Sarah Bleakley
Gadsden County Governmental Relations Consultant
850-508-5816
sbleakley@ngn-tally.com

Alfred "Al" Lawson, Jr.
Gadsden County Governmental Relations Consultant
850-222-1286
allawsonjr@gmail.com