

**Lynnea Dawes**

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**From:** cfhla@memberclicks-mail.net on behalf of CFHLA  
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IN THIS  
EDITION:

TALLAHASSEE

TDT GRANTS

HAYNIE

PAC / PC

APPS

LINKS

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## TALLAHASSEE

On **Wednesday, January 20th**, a delegation of over **25 CFHLA Members** traveled to Tallahassee for **2016 Florida Tourism Day** at the state Capitol.

INTEREST

Florida Governor  
Rick Scott

State of Florida  
Senate

State of Florida  
House of  
Representatives

Orange County

Osceola County

Seminole County

City of Orlando

City of  
Kissimmee

City of Sanford

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The CFHLA Tourism Day Delegation

The CFHLA Delegation met with the following State Representatives and Senators to discuss [CFHLA's 2016 Legislative Priorities](#):

State Representative  
**Bruce Antone**  
(District 46)

State Representative  
**Jason Brodeur**  
(District 28)

State Representative  
**Bob Cortes**  
(District 30)

State Senator  
**Nancy Detert**  
(District 28)

State Representative  
**Eric Eisnaugle**  
(District 44)

State Representative  
**Matt Gaetz**  
(District 4)

Senate President  
**Andy Gardiner**  
(District 13)

State Senator

(District 11)

State Representative  
**Mike La Rosa**  
(District 42)

State Representative  
**Mike Miller**  
(District 47)

State Representative  
**Rene Plasencia**  
(District 49)

State Senator  
**David Simmons**  
(District 10)

State Senator  
**Darren Soto**  
(District 14)

State Representative  
**Jennifer Sullivan**  
(District 31)



The CFHLA Tourism Day Delegation visited State Representative Jason Brodeur

CFHLA THANKS the following Hospitality Leaders who participated in this important political activity:

**Cindy Andrews,**  
[Sunbrite Outdoor Furniture, Inc.](#)

**Dave Bartek,**  
[Loews Hotels](#)

**Mark Bastis,**  
[Hvatt Regency Orlando International Airport](#)

**Jackie Bozzuto,**  
Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A.

**Ross Burke,**  
Blue Heron Beach Resort

**David Chilton,**  
Sunshine Recycling Inc.

**Greg Combs,**  
DryFast Systems

**Brent Dickson,**  
Awnclean U.S.A. Inc.

**Amy Diehl,**  
Awnclean U.S.A. Inc.

**Alan Fickett,**  
Global Sourcing Intl, LLC

**Bill Friedrich,**  
Embassy Suites Orlando I-Drive / Convention Center

**Al Gardner,**  
A & L Associates

**Maureen Haggerty,**  
Spinout Guest Laundries

**Chadwick Hardee,**  
APDC Services, Inc.

**Jim Haughney,**  
Orange Lake Resort

**Dan Kline,**  
Magical Memories Villas

**Jay Leonard,**  
Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area /  
Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area

**Greg Moore,**  
The Mall at Millenia

**Keith Odza,**  
Wyndham Vacation Rentals

**Mark Politte,**  
DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Orlando

**Jetse Pottinga,**  
Melia Orlando Suite Hotel

**Doug Ridge,**  
Orlando World Center Marriott

**Fred Sawyers,**  
Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin Resort

**Ron Silveira,**  
F.P.I.S., Inc. Brochure Distribution & Travel Marketing

**Chuck Simikian,**  
Nickelodeon Suites Resort

**Erin Sims,**  
Spinout Guest Laundries

**Chris Stewart,**  
American Resort Development Association (ARDA)

**Jeff Swirsky,**  
Floridays Resort Orlando

**Brian Wong,**  
Celebration Suites



CFHLA PAC / PC Board Chairman Jay Leonard of the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area / Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area with Florida Senate President Andy Gardiner, and CFHLA Board Chairman David Bartek of Loews Hotels

[Transportation](#) for providing round-trip motor coach transportation for the CFHLA Tourism Day Delegation!



The CFHLA Tourism Day Delegation meets with State Representative Bob Cortes (District 30)



The CFHLA Delegation meets with State Senator Darren Soto (District 14)

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## TDT GRANTS

On Wednesday, January 13th, the [CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee](#) met with Orange County Government officials **Eric Gassman** (Deputy County Administrator) and **Fred Winterkamp** (Manager of Fiscal & Business Services) at the [DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld](#) (Thank you meeting host, GA Committee Chairman Scott Tripoli).

Mr. Gassman and Mr. Winterkamp were invited to the committee meeting to discuss the potential creation of a **Tourist Development Tax (TDT) Grant Application** for Orange County. As approved by the CFHLA Board of Directors at the November Board Retreat, CFHLA is currently collaborating with County Officials to explore the possibility of a grant application - to allow the **Orange County Tourist Development Council** to properly review or analyze proposed uses of TDT funds for venue projects and events. This will allow the Council to determine which projects would provide the strongest **"Return On Investment"** relating to hotel occupancy and overall economic impact.

In order to monitor this priority, and to continue the discussion with County Officials relating to a potential TDT grant application process, the CFHLA GA Committee approved an **Orange County TDT Grant Application Subcommittee** comprised of the following Governmental Affairs Committee Members:

**Jackie Bozzuto,**  
Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A.

**Doug Ridge,**  
Orlando World Center Marriott

**Sharon Smoley,**  
Walt Disney World Company

**Brian Wong,**  
Celebration Suites

Additionally, at this meeting, the CFHLA GA Committee welcomed two CFHLA Board Members to the Committee for 2016, **Keith Wolling** of the B Resort and Spa Lake Buena Vista and **Brian Wong** of Celebration Suites.

In February, the GA Committee will meet with **Orange County Commissioner Scott Boyd** to further discuss the TDT grant application proposal as well as other Hospitality-related issues in Orange County.

**Furthermore, CFHLA recognizes the 2016 Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting Sponsor:**



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## HAYNIE

At the February **CFHLA STR Membership Luncheon**, CFHLA will present **Orange County Comptroller Martha Haynie** with the **2015 CFHLA Public Servant of the Year Award**.

Comptroller Haynie, who is retiring this year after **28 years of service to Orange County**, is being recognized by CFHLA for her career of fiscal service and partnership to **Central Florida's Hospitality and Tourism Industry**. Comptroller Haynie has always made herself available to support CFHLA and provide presentations on the **Tourist Development Tax** to CFHLA Members.

Details on the date and location for the CFHLA February Membership Luncheon are being finalized and will be announced in the coming days.

## PAC / PC

On February 17th, the **CFHLA Political Action Committee (CFHLA-PAC)** and **CFHLA Political Committee (CFHLA-PC)** will meet for the first time in 2016.

As you may know, 2016 will feature dozens of contested races for political office at both the local and regional level, all with important implications for **Central Florida's Hospitality Industry.**

The CFHLA-PAC has already received early endorsement requests from a number of local candidates and will begin **interviewing candidates and announcing endorsements** for School Board, City of Orlando Commission, Orange County Commission, Osceola County Commission, Seminole County Commission, State House and State Senate during the months of May, June and July.

Please **Save the Dates** of **Wednesday, June 1st** for the **CFHLA - PAC Reception Fundraiser** and **Thursday, September 29th** for the **Tee It Up for Tourism CFHLA-PC Golf Outing and Luncheon.**

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## APPS

*Please consider downloading the following Mobile Applications (Apps) on your smartphone devices:*

[FL House - Stay "up to date" on current legislative developments.](#)



For more information and download instructions, please [CLICK HERE](#).

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**[VoterVoice - Connect with CFHLA to monitor legislative priorities and to participate in "call to action" movements.](#)**





iOS (iPhone) Users, [CLICK HERE](#) to download.

Android Users, [CLICK HERE](#) to download.

Please contact **CFHLA Public Policy Director Kevin Craig**  
at 407-313-5035 should you have  
questions relating to these mobile applications.

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## LINKS

*Below please find news articles, relating to the  
political interests of the Hospitality Industry:*

**[Uber-Friendly Bill passes House  
but Senate May Hold Challenges](#)**

**[Medical Marijuana Makes  
2018 Ballot in Florida](#)**

**[Proposed Bill Would Allow Bed Taxes  
to Pay for Law Enforcement](#)**

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