

In order to keep you fully informed, we are providing this update on the transition process. We have asked Leader-designate Cruz to share this update with our Democratic colleagues as well. We want to thank Speaker Crisafulli and his team for their professionalism and generosity in assisting us with this transition process.

Committee Structure: We will release the proposed committee structure for the 2016-18 Florida House no later than Friday, September 30, 2016.

Leadership Offices: We will announce the House leadership team, including Speaker pro tempore, Majority Leader and full committee chairs, no later than Wednesday, November 9, 2016.

House Rules: A final draft of our proposed 2016-18 Rules of the Florida House of Representatives will be available for your review no later than Thursday, November 10, 2016. The availability of the proposed Joint Rules will be determined in conjunction with our partners in the Senate.

Republican Conference Rules: A final draft of our proposed 2016-18 Rules of the House Republican Conference will be available for your review no later than Monday, November 14, 2016.

Committee Vice Chairs/Subcommittee Chairs: We will break with the prior practice wherein the Speaker makes all appointments in isolation. Instead, the leadership team will work collaboratively on the appointment of the committee vice chairs and subcommittee chairs.

Committee and Subcommittee Assignments: On Tuesday, November 15, 2016, you will receive an assignment preference form along with a description of the jurisdiction and function of each committee and subcommittee. We will not make assignments until after all committee and subcommittee chairmanships have been appointed. There will continue to be a fixed number of seats on each committee and subcommittee.

Member Training: A Member-driven process requires Members to be willing, capable, and prepared. We will provide comprehensive training for new Members, for returning Members, and for prospective chairs. We will have all-House training in conjunction with our Democratic colleagues as well as separate trainings geared to our Republican Conference's needs and

responsibilities. These trainings will deal with a wide range of issues including process, policy, ethics, and civility. Our training programs will occur in November, December, and January and will continue to be an ongoing feature of the next two years. Details and dates for these trainings will be provided later in the fall.

Republican Conference Organization Meeting: As is traditional, the House Republican Conference will convene on Monday, November 21, 2016, (the day before the Organization Session).

Organization Session: As specified in the Florida Constitution, the Organization Session of the Florida Legislature will occur on Tuesday, November 22, 2016, (the 14th day following the General Election).

Offices and Parking Spaces: As some of you are aware, DMS will be undertaking extensive repairs and renovations around the Capitol complex. At this point, it does not appear that these changes will directly impact our House facilities. You will receive temporary parking and temporary office assignments prior to the start of Organization Session.

Staff: We hope to finalize staff assignments by the end of September. As is customary this time of year, a handful of our staff have given notice that they will be pursuing new opportunities. We wish them all the best going forward.

The senior staff leadership team for the 2016-18 term (some located in the Speaker's Office; some elsewhere on the 4th Floor) will include Mathew Bahl (chief of staff); Lynn Cobb, Tom Hamby & Carol Gormley (policy); Tony Cortese (process); Celeste Lewis (administration); Fred Piccolo (communications); and James Blair (external affairs). We are also pleased that JoAnne Leznoff and Stephanie Birtman have agreed to continue to serve the House in Appropriations and Rules respectively, and that Russell Hosford has agreed to serve another term as Sergeant-at-Arms. With Bob Ward having retired from the Clerk's Office, Speaker Crisafulli graciously agreed to allow our new Clerk, Portia Palmer, to start early. Portia is a former Deputy Assistant Administrator for Public Affairs for USAID and Director of Public Liaison and Intergovernmental Affairs for the U.S. Department of State. In addition, we are pleased to announce that, effective next month, Joanna Hassell will be rejoining House staff to head our education policy unit.

Interim Committee Weeks: By the end of September, we anticipate being able to release, in conjunction with our partners in the Senate, an interim committee week schedule. In the House, the traditional week in December will be used for all-House training.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I am deeply humbled by your faith and trust in allowing me to serve as your Speaker. I promise to work every day to bring honor to our Republican Conference and to the Florida House.