



Government Cost Savings Task Force

Implementation of the January 2009 Florida TaxWatch Budget Watch Report, Constructive Ideas to Help Florida Address the Budget Shortfall

1) Renegotiate Non-Client-Service Contracts

Implemented, but still more to do

SB 44A directs each state agency to renegotiate existing and proposed contracts to achieve substantial savings where possible. SB 2A also requires the renegotiation of contracts and leases by the Department of Corrections.

2) Sell or Lease Unnecessary or Underutilized State Assets

Implemented, but still more to do

SB 44A requires the Department of Management Services to produce a list of all “state-owned surplus real property” worth more \$1,000 to determine the “potential cost savings and revenue opportunities” from their sale or lease.

3) Streamline Bureaucracy in PreK-12 Education

Not implemented

4) Expand Virtual Higher Education Offerings

Not implemented

5) Evaluate Technology Expenditures for Employees

Implemented

SB 44A requires Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA), in consultation with the Department of Management Services (DMS), to “develop recommendations regarding the prudent issuance and use of state-owned wireless communications devices.

6) **401(a) Special Pay Plan**

Not implemented

7) **Eliminate Unnecessary Duplication in Reading Programs and Services**

Not implemented

8) **Delay Purchase of New Textbooks**

Not implemented

9) **Reduce Excess Credit Hours Unnecessary for Baccalaureate and Associates Degrees Paid for By State**

Not implemented

10) **Department of Management Services' State Real Estate Portfolio Improvements**

Not implemented

11) **Cut Leadership and Senior Management Salaries**

Not implemented

12) **Cut Legislative Operating Expenses**

Implemented

13) **Reduce Selected Exempt Service Positions by 5 percent**

Not implemented

14) **Reduce Career Service and OPS Positions by 5 percent**

Not implemented

15) Utilize Outsourced Post Claim Audit Program(s) to Recover Unnecessary and Fraudulent Medicaid Payments

Partially implemented

SB 44A requires OPPAGA to examine the option of contracting a private entity to identify and recover fraudulent Medicaid claims on a contingency basis.

16) Utilize Outsourced Post Claim Audit Program(s) to Recover Unnecessary and Fraudulent Payments through Non-Medicaid Related Programs

Not implemented

17) Develop Sustainable Advanced Detection System to Reduce or Eliminate Unnecessary and Fraudulent Medicaid Payments

Not implemented

18) Increase Sanctions (Minimum Fines) for Medicaid Overbilling

Not implemented

19) Adopt Policies to Immediately Avoid Building Three New Prisons

Partially implemented

SB 2A requires the Department of Corrections to maximize the work release capacity to reduce costs.

20) Healthcare Provider Services Assessment (HPSA)

Implemented

SB 8A implemented the Florida TaxWatch recommendation to establish a Healthcare Provider Services Assessment on nursing homes. This industry-supported fee will increase net revenue to nursing homes by increasing the draw-down of federal funds, allowing nursing homes to avoid cuts.

21) Collect All the Federal Aid that Florida has Earned

Partially implemented

SB 44A requires the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to “consider methods to ensure that state agencies receive the maximum amount of federal funds” to which the stat is entitled, and directs each agency to “review its operations” to ensure maximum collections.

22) Offer Tax Amnesty

Not implemented

23) Increasing Tax Compliance

Not implemented

24) Rescind Unexpended Funds Appropriated for Member Projects/Budget Turkeys

Not implemented

25) Reduce or Eliminate Non-Essential Programs

Not implemented

26) Maximize Flexibility for Class Size Reduction

Implemented, but still more to do

SB 2A implemented an \$80 million reduction in spending on class size reduction by loosening the CSR requirements

27) Temporarily Suspend Funding to the School Recognition Program

Not implemented

28) Tighten the Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Partially implemented

29) Propose a Constitutional Amendment Modifying or Eliminating the Class Size Reduction

Not implemented

30) Policies to Reduce Prison Population and Related Costs

Partially implemented

SB 44A directs OPPAGA to examine the option of expanding the use of alternative inmate placements for low-risk inmates.

31) Prudential-Davis Productivity Awards

Not implemented

32) Utilize Competitive Costing for Providing All Services

Not implemented

33) Consolidate the Management of State Assets

Not implemented

34) 401(a) FICA Alternative Pay Plan

Partially implemented

35) Merge or Consolidate Duplicative Administrative and System Support Functions Across State Agencies

Not implemented

36) Administrative Overhead Reductions

Not implemented

37) Reduce Required Paperwork

Not implemented

38) Streamline Quality Assurance and Licensure Review and Monitoring Requirements

Not implemented

39) Delay New Programs or Initiatives

Not implemented

40) Require Agencies to Provide A List of Unnecessary Statutorily Required Reports

Not implemented

41) Forbid Elected Official from Entering DROP Program

Partially implemented

42) Consolidate State Agencies

Not implemented