



# Daytona Regional CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## ADVOCACY IN ACTION

02/02/2022

### Freedom First Budget

Governor Ron DeSantis has released his \$99.7 billion Freedom First Budget. The Freedom First Budget strives to ensure Florida's promising future; Gov. DeSantis's budget plans to do so by targeting five critical areas.

First, tax relief: we have all witnessed increased gas prices, groceries, and other living expenses. Gov. DeSantis has proposed nearly \$1.2 billion tax cuts, including a .25 cent per gallon gas holiday, fee reductions, and other sale holidays.

Secondly, economic freedom and prosperity: advancing resources to support Floridians prosper by breaking down barriers and making strategic investments. The budget will boost funding to the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, the Rural Infrastructure Fund, and Florida's tourism efforts, amongst other measurements, creating a more robust economy.

Third, environmental: Gov. DeSantis is allocating hundreds of million dollars to Florida's environment. Another \$600 million will be dedicated to restoring the Everglades, bringing the four-year investment to \$3 billion. Millions of other dollars have been appropriated to water quality projects, combatting blue-green algae and addressing red tide.

Fourth is the fiscal responsibility of the state: this year, the governor has included more than \$15 billion in reserve funds, protecting the financial health of the state for years to come, along with a much-needed reform to the state's pension systems and the paydown of unfunded liabilities.

Shawn Richmond  
Director of Advocacy  
Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce  
[shawn@daytonachamber.com](mailto:shawn@daytonachamber.com)

# Freedom First Budget

Last but not least, Gov. DeSantis continued commitment to constructing the best education system in the country. The budget will help boost K-12 teachers' salaries and offer retention bonuses. The budget will also target at-risk kids' school safety and better align our education system with the needs of our 21st-century workforce. The governors' plan will build on the already advancement of higher education by increasing steam field waivers and giving discounts to other critical programs.

Gov. DeSantis' budget represents a long-term vision for our state, making it the best state in the nation to live, work, raise a family, retire and visit.

