



THE FLORIDA SENATE
SENATOR JEFF ATWATER
President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**SENATE PRESIDENT JEFF ATWATER ANNOUNCES REMAINING SENATE
LEADERSHIP TEAM AND COMMITTEE CHAIR APPOINTMENTS**

Tallahassee, Fl -- Senate President Jeff Atwater (R-Palm Beach) today announced the appointment of **Senator JD Alexander (R-Lake Wales)** as the Chair of the Policy and Steering Committee on Ways and Means and **Senator Alex Diaz de la Portilla (R-Miami)** as the Senate Majority Leader for the 2008-2010 term.

"Floridians clearly said on Election Day that they want their elected leaders to work together to solve problems," said President Atwater. "We face unprecedented economic challenges. However Florida has survived tough situations before. I have the utmost confidence in these two individuals and their commitment to Florida."

President Atwater also named the following Policy and Steering Committee chairs: Senator Gaetz, Senator King, Senator Haridopolos, and Senator Pruitt. The Policy and Steering Committees, under the leadership of the chairs, will hear legislation, work with their respective committee chairs, and set the special order calendar.

"I am grateful for the willingness of these individuals to dedicate their time and talents in this capacity," President Atwater said. "These Senators will play a vital role in ensuring that legislation has been thoroughly studied and debated."

Appropriations Chair - Senator JD Alexander (R-Lake Wales)

Senator JD Alexander is has one of the brightest minds in the Senate. He is known for his ability to grasp and understand complex issues and skillfully navigate the obstacles in order to identify and achieve successful solutions. Senator Alexander is a fifth generation Floridian. He was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1998, where he served two terms. In 2002, Senator Alexander was elected to the Senate. Most recently Senator Alexander chaired the Senate General Government Appropriations Committee.

- More -

Majority Leader - Senator Alex Diaz de la Portilla (R-Miami)

Senator Alex Diaz de la Portilla is known for his passion for service and skillful intellect. He will work tirelessly to assist his colleagues as they serve their constituencies; ensuring that they are successful public servants. Senator Diaz de la Portilla was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1994, where he served three terms. In 2000, he was elected to the Senate, where he served as President Pro Tempore 2002-2004. Most recently Senator Diaz de la Portilla chaired the Senate Commerce Committee.

Attached is a complete listing of committee assignments

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**SENATE PRESIDENT JEFF ATWATER
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
2008 - 2010**

President Pro Tempore: Mike Fasano

**Majority Leader: Alex Diaz de la Portilla
Minority Leader: Al Lawson**

GROUP I

Policy and Steering Committee on Energy, Environment, and Land Use

Jim King, Chair	Paula Dockery
Nan Rich, Vice Chair	Rudy Garcia
Dave Aronberg	Mike Haridopolos
Mike Bennett	Gary Siplin
Larcenia Bullard	Eleanor Sobel
Lee Constantine	Alex Villalobos
Charlie Dean	

Agriculture

Charlie Dean, Chair	Carey Baker
Larcenia Bullard, Vice Chair	Durell Peaden
Dave Aronberg	

Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

Jim King, Chair	Steve Oelrich
Arthenia Joyner, Vice Chair	Ken Pruitt
Mike Fasano	Garrett Richter
Dan Gelber	Chris Smith
Mike Haridopolos	

Community Affairs

Mike Bennett, Chair	Andy Gardiner
Gary Siplin, Vice Chair	Tony Hill
Thad Altman	Jeremy Ring
Ted Deutch	Ronda Storms
Rudy Garcia	Stephen Wise

**SENATE PRESIDENT JEFF ATWATER
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2008 - 2010**

President Pro Tempore: Mike Fasano

**Majority Leader: Alex Diaz de la Portilla
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Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Lee Constantine, Chair
Eleanor Sobel, Vice Chair
Nancy Detert

Paula Dockery
Dennis Jones
Nan Rich

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
2008 - 2010**

President Pro Tempore: Mike Fasano

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GROUP II

Policy and Steering Committee on Commerce and Industry

Don Gaetz, Chair	Arthenia Joyner
Jeremy Ring, Vice Chair	Charlie Justice
Ted Deutch	Evelyn Lynn
Alex Diaz de la Portilla	Durell Peaden
Rudy Garcia	Garrett Richter
Andy Gardiner	Chris Smith
Dennis Jones	

Banking and Insurance

Garrett Richter, Chair	Al Lawson
Chris Smith, Vice Chair	Jeremy Ring
JD Alexander	Ronda Storms
Mike Bennett	Alex Villalobos
Mike Fasano	

Commerce

Rudy Garcia, Chair	Evelyn Lynn
Dan Gelber, Vice Chair	Steve Oelrich
Victor Crist	Durell Peaden
Nancy Detert	Nan Rich
Charlie Justice	Eleanor Sobel

Regulated Industries

Dennis Jones, Chair	Alex Diaz de la Portilla
Ted Deutch, Vice Chair	Tony Hill
Dave Aronberg	Jim King
Charlie Dean	Stephen Wise

**SENATE PRESIDENT JEFF ATWATER
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Transportation

Andy Gardiner, Chair
Larcenia Bullard, Vice Chair
Thad Altman
Carey Baker
Lee Constantine

Paula Dockery
Mike Haridopolos
Arthenia Joyner
Gary Siplin

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GROUP III

Policy and Steering Committee on Social Responsibility

Ken Pruitt, Chair
Al Lawson, Vice Chair
Carey Baker
Lee Constantine
Nancy Detert
Paula Dockery
Don Gaetz

Dan Gelber
Charlie Justice
Gary Siplin
Ronda Storms
Frederica Wilson
Stephen Wise

Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

Ronda Storms, Chair
Nan Rich, Vice Chair
Nancy Detert
Alex Diaz de la Portilla

Rudy Garcia
Tony Hill
Charlie Justice
Stephen Wise

Criminal Justice

Paula Dockery, Chair
Frederica Wilson, Vice Chair
Victor Crist
Charlie Dean

Ted Deutch
Jim King
Gary Siplin
Alex Villalobos

Education Pre-K - 12

Nancy Detert, Chair
Frederica Wilson, Vice Chair
Larcenia Bullard
Lee Constantine

Don Gaetz
Eleanor Sobel
Ronda Storms
Stephen Wise

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Health Regulation

Don Gaetz, Chair	Mike Bennett
Eleanor Sobel, Vice Chair	Andy Gardiner
Thad Altman	Dennis Jones
Dave Aronberg	Al Lawson

Higher Education

Steve Oelrich, Chair	Evelyn Lynn
Chris Smith, Vice Chair	Ken Pruitt
Larcenia Bullard	

Judiciary

Lee Constantine, Chair	Mike Haridopolos
Arthenia Joyner, Vice Chair	Durell Peaden
Carey Baker	Garrett Richter
Mike Fasano	Jeremy Ring
Dan Gelber	

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GROUP IV

Policy and Steering Committee on Governmental Operations

Mike Haridopolos, Chair	Mike Fasano
Dave Aronberg, Vice Chair	Tony Hill
JD Alexander	Jim King
Mike Bennett	Al Lawson
Charlie Dean	Steve Oelrich
Ted Deutch	Jeremy Ring
Alex Diaz de la Portilla	

Ethics and Elections

JD Alexander, Chair	Andy Gardiner
Charlie Justice, Vice Chair	Arthenia Joyner
Carey Baker	Nan Rich
Alex Diaz de la Portilla	Garrett Richter
Mike Fasano	

Governmental Oversight and Accountability

Mike Haridopolos, Chair	Dennis Jones
Gary Siplin, Vice Chair	Jim King
Victor Crist	Al Lawson
Charlie Dean	Jeremy Ring

Military Affairs and Domestic Security

Dave Aronberg, Chair	Tony Hill
Steve Oelrich, Vice Chair	Evelyn Lynn
Mike Bennett	Durell Peaden
Ted Deutch	Alex Villalobos

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Reapportionment

Mike Haridopolos, Chair
Chris Smith, Vice Chair
Mike Bennett

Charlie Dean
Al Lawson

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Minority Leader: Al Lawson**

GROUP V

Policy and Steering Committee on Ways and Means

JD Alexander, Chair	Charlie Justice
Ted Deutch, Vice Chair	Al Lawson
Thad Altman	Evelyn Lynn
Carey Baker	Durell Peaden
Victor Crist	Ken Pruitt
Mike Fasano	Nan Rich
Don Gaetz	Gary Siplin
Dan Gelber	Alex Villalobos
Mike Haridopolos	Frederica Wilson
Tony Hill	Stephen Wise

Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations

Victor Crist, Chair	Arthenia Joyner
Frederica Wilson, Vice Chair	Alex Villalobos
Dennis Jones	

Education Pre-K - 12 Appropriations

Stephen Wise, Chair	Nancy Detert
Gary Siplin, Vice Chair	Rudy Garcia
Larcenia Bullard	Garrett Richter

Finance and Tax

Thad Altman, Chair	Ken Pruitt
Charlie Justice, Vice Chair	Jeremy Ring
Mike Bennett	

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General Government Appropriations

Carey Baker, Chair
Al Lawson, Vice Chair
Dave Aronberg

Charlie Dean
Steve Oelrich

Health and Human Services Appropriations

Durell Peaden, Chair
Nan Rich, Vice Chair
Don Gaetz

Mike Haridopolos
Eleanor Sobel

Higher Education Appropriations

Evelyn Lynn, Chair
Dan Gelber, Vice Chair
Lee Constantine

Ted Deutch
Jim King

Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations

Mike Fasano, Chair
Tony Hill, Vice Chair
Alex Diaz de la Portilla
Paula Dockery

Andy Gardiner
Chris Smith
Ronda Storms

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GROUP VI

Rules

Alex Villalobos, Chair	Charlie Justice
Dave Aronberg, Vice Chair	Jim King
JD Alexander	Al Lawson
Lee Constantine	Evelyn Lynn
Victor Crist	Ken Pruitt
Ted Deutch	Gary Siplin
Don Gaetz	Chris Smith
Rudy Garcia	Eleanor Sobel
Andy Gardiner	Ronda Storms
Dennis Jones	Stephen Wise

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee

Arthenia Joyner, Chair	Alex Villalobos
Charlie Dean	

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight

Lee Constantine, Chair	Rudy Garcia
Thad Altman	Dan Gelber
Paula Dockery	Chris Smith

Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

Alex Diaz de la Portilla, Alt. Chair	Jeremy Ring
Larcenia Bullard	Stephen Wise
Andy Gardiner	

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Joint Legislative Committee on Everglades Oversight

Gary Siplin, Chair
Steve Oelrich

Garrett Richter

Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

Tony Hill, Chair
Nancy Detert

Mike Haridopolos
Frederica Wilson

Joint Legislative Sunset Committee

Ronda Storms, Co-Chair
Thad Altman
Durell Peaden

Nan Rich
Eleanor Sobel

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GROUP VII

Joint Legislative Budget Commission

Ken Pruitt, Alt. Chair
JD Alexander
Lee Constantine
Mike Fasano

Rudy Garcia
Charlie Justice
Al Lawson

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GROUP VIII

Select Committee on Florida's Economy

Don Gaetz, Chair
Jeremy Ring, Vice Chair
JD Alexander
Mike Bennett
Dan Gelber
Mike Haridopolos

Tony Hill
Jim King
Ken Pruitt
Garrett Richter
Eleanor Sobel