

FRA Legislative summary for FRA Membership meeting 1/09/2026

The Florida Renal Association's (FRA) Legislative Committee did NOT meet in the month of January, but Ron Watson did give a brief legislative update to the membership committee on January 9th. Below is a summary of his report.

Kidney Day 2026 is Feb 8th-10th, please save the date!!

NEWS and NOTES:

- **Congrats to Miami** – for making the college football championship game.
- **Florida awarded \$209 Million in Rural Health grants.** This is due to the Big Beautiful Bill (BBB) passage in Washington and Florida will receive this money for 5 years under the BBB.
- **ACA Subsidies** – Another attempt to extend the ACA subsidies in Washington passed the House 230-196 and will be sent to the Senate, but they are demanding changes including income limits, eliminating \$0 premiums and Health Savings Accounts. Final passage to save the subsidies looks shaky at best!
- **Gov. DeSantis calls for a Special Session on mid-decade redistricting** – The Governor has already given up on getting the maps changed during regular session and has called for a special session April 20th for 5 days. And he hinted to another Special session on property taxes might be called. This is all before the regular session even begins?!?!?
- **Session starts Tuesday** – It's hard to believe. But session is set to start on Tuesday. Members are no longer allowed to raise money during session, so there is a flurry or a cattle call of fundraisers set for Monday. Our very own Board member Missy Timmins is hosting a breakfast fundraiser at 8:30 for several House members.
- **Final Kidney Day Planning meeting** – The final Kidney Day planning committee has been moved to Monday afternoon. We will finalize the issue sheet and create a press release. Please participate if you are able and we look forward to seeing you in Tallahassee soon!

The FRA legislative agenda presently includes supporting the social workers licensure compact, the living organ donor time off bill, the expanded use of home modalities, improved/accountable transportation options, food is medicine, self-administration of Erythropoietin (ESAs) in Medicaid coverage, continuation of third party payor of insurance premiums, protecting Medi-Gap policies and getting a Medicaid fee increase.

Recent Healthcare Bills filed:

- **Diabetes Research** bills HB 901 and SB 816, creates a UF institute and study program
- **Dietetics and Nutritionists** bills HB 823 and SB 1154, make changes to the Council, definitions and licensure changes, and title protections.
- **Medicaid Buy-In** bill SB 1408, no HB.
- **Medical debt** bills HB 1271 and SB 1222

KIDNEY DAY 2026

February 8-10