

How to Identify your District and Florida State Representatives or State Senators

What is my district? Who is my Florida State House Representative or State Senator?

If you don't know who your representative is, you can go to VoteSmart.org and enter your zip code.

<https://votesmart.org/>

This non-partisan website highlights KEY votes. It does not have all votes for representatives but does track of they voted on fracking and other highly publicized issues. Many environmental bills and votes are not included because they ultimately did not pass. However, those missing bills can give insight into a representative's priorities.

How has my representative voted on the issues?

For more in depth analysis, follow the link below to a map of Florida House Districts and the environmental grades for the sitting incumbents (grades based on how they voted on five different environmental laws in 2015-2016). This analysis is provided by the Democratic Environmental Caucus of Florida, which is partisan. Look at how they identified a bill with environmental impacts and WHY they rated a bill the way they did. How each politician voted on the bill is then translated into a "point" for or against the environment. See if you agree with their ratings.

This site can:

1. Show you the boundaries of your district;
2. Show you who your current representative is;
3. If your representative was in office in 2015-2016, then it will show you how they voted during that cycle. You can look at how the grades were determined to see if you agree with the evaluation process and grade.

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=17SRMA4ZacWUYmENrf_xpsus2660&ll=26.11686742180204%2C-81.5223206678125&z=8

Campaign Finance

Once you have determined your representative and have a general idea about how they vote, you may be curious about how money has influenced their votes on the environment. Go to the Florida Campaign Database.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/campaign-finance/contributions/>

This website is not intuitive. Below, you will see how it is organized. Each campaign cycle must be researched separately. That means, if you are interested in votes cast in 2015-2016, you will need to look at previous election cycles.

If you want to see how a current candidate (who has not yet voted) is funding their campaign, you can see it here too.

1. Pick election cycle.
2. Enter last name of representative.

Campaign Finance Database

Contributions Records

This information is being provided as a convenience to the public. It has been processed by the Division of Elections and should be cross referenced with the original report on file with the Division of Elections in case of questions.

Search the Contributions Database by Entering Criteria in the Form Below

* = required field

* **Election Year:**

[Search Contributors](#)

[Search a Candidate's Contributions](#)

[Search a Committee's Contributions](#)

Contributor Search (list only)

Search the contributors to candidates and committees

Enter information in [Contributor Criteria](#) below, then click Submit.



* = required field

Candidate Search

Enter the following information for the candidate you want to search.

First Name:

* **Last Name:**

With Candidate Last Name Containin

3. Scroll down and click "Search for a list of Contributions".

Candidate Search

Enter the following information for the candidate you want to search.

First Name:

* Last Name:

- With Candidate Last Name Containing
 With Candidate Last Name Starts With
 With Candidate Last Name Sounds Like

Office:

District/Circuit: Group:

Party:

* What would you like to know?

- Contribution totals

Enter a [date range](#) or click Submit at the [Bottom](#) of the page.

- Search for a list of contributions

Enter [Contributor Criteria](#) or Click Submit at the [Bottom](#) of the page for all contributions.



* = required field

Committee Search

Enter the information below for the Committee you wish to search.

* Committee Name:

- With Committee Name Containing
 With Committee Name Starts With
 With Committee Name Sounds Like

- *Scroll down to **“Contributor Criteria”** (See Image Below)
- Change the **“number of records”** to a higher number to ensure you get all contribution results (change the 500 to 3000).
- If you want to be able to view the contribution criteria and then copy and paste it into an excel file, you will need to go to the **“retrieval format”** and click the **“Return Results in Tab Delimited File”**.
- Click Enter. A file will be downloaded to the bottom of your screen. Click on it to open. You should see a list of all campaign contributions made during that campaign cycle.
- You will notice, many contributions are from political campaign committees (PACs). You can research who contributes to PACS here too.

*Scroll down and you should see this.

Contributor Criteria

Enter the information below for the contributor criteria

First Name:

Last Name:

- With Contributor Last Name Containing
- With Contributor Last Name Starts With
- With Contributor Last Name Sounds Like

With Contributor Address:

City:

State: Zip:

With Occupation of Contributor Starting With:

With Contribution Amount:

From \$: To \$:

Limit Number of Records Returned To:

Sorting Sort Contributions By:

▼

And Then By:

▼

Date Range

Enter a date range for the contributions With Date of Contribution (mm/dd/yyyy)

From: To:

Retrieval Format

- Return Results to Your Screen
- Return Results in a Tab Delimited Text File ([more information](#))

[About the Campaign Finance Data Base](#)

PACs allow companies to hide their campaign contributions to candidates. To trace who gives money to PACs, you can use this same website. Before you get the bottom (see above) you will see this:



* = required field

Committee Search

Enter the information below for the Committee you wish to search.

* Committee Name:

- With Committee Name Containing
- With Committee Name Starts With
- With Committee Name Sounds Like

If you have identified the PACs giving to your representative, you can enter them, one by one here. Again, make sure you have increased the number of records returned from 500 to closer to 3000 to get a better idea of who is giving to those PACs.

PACs we have identified as being funded by antienvironmental lobbying groups include:

1. **ABC PAC**, funded by builders and land developers
2. **Associated Industries of Florida (AIF PAC)** Florida Crystals, Mosaic Fertilizers company, oil and gas companies, TECO energy, Florida Power and Light.
3. **COW PAC**: funded by ranchers
4. **Creating Possibilities PAC**: funded by Florida Leadership Committee PAC.
5. **Florida Leadership Committee**: funded by Florida Citrus and Sugar, American concrete, Florida Concrete PAC, and the AIF PAC
6. **Growing Florida's Future PAC**: funded by Mosaic Fertilizer, Associated Industries of Florida PAC (AIF PAC)

If your representative takes a lot of PAC money, it may be difficult to see how much he or she is getting from special interests. What matters though, is how they vote. The money may be part of the answer.