



# DAILY BRIEF

**From March 8, 2010**

Monday was a relatively quiet day at the Capitol with no substantive committees meeting in either the House or Senate. A number of Joint Legislative committee did meet during the late afternoon including the Joint Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, which received a briefing from **Jerry Brooks of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)** on the EPA proposed numeric nutrient criteria. Members of this committee include both state and local elected officials.

Mr. Brooks did a great job summarizing the background on numeric nutrient criteria and the history of how the state arrived at where we are today – Florida being singled out by having to comply with unscientific, federal water quality standards that will be incredible costly to comply with.

Mr. Brooks explained the importance of the numeric standards, in terms of providing more precise protection for Florida waters. But he was also clear on the unprecedented economic impact this could have - in many instances without substantial environmental benefits. Members of the Committee spent a great deal of time asking questions about costs to Floridians and local governments, who are already dealing with significant budget shortfalls. It should be noted that Committee Chairman Rep. Juan Zapata (R-Miami) is sponsoring a House Joint Resolution urging the EPA to cooperate with the state of Florida in the establishment of numeric nutrient criteria (HB 1365).

Also, don't forget to check the latest edition of AIFTV. In this week's edition we bring you:

- Unemployment Compensation Tax legislation passes on the first day of session;
- Senate unveils major recycling legislation... learn about AIF's Environmental Sustainability Council's involvement with this initiative;
- Space Day at the Capitol;
- Recap of all the key business bills that saw action during week one;
- A look at priority bills for week two; and
- Much, much more.