



High-Stakes Decisions Ahead for Florida Voters

Florida lawmakers will return to Tallahassee for a special legislative session from April 20–24, 2026—one that could have lasting consequences for voters across the state, including here in Lee County.

The primary focus of the session is congressional redistricting. State leaders are considering whether to redraw Florida’s congressional maps mid-decade, a move that is both unusual and controversial. These maps determine which communities are grouped together and who represents you in Washington. Even small changes to district lines can shift political balance, alter which candidates run, and impact how competitive elections are.

For Southwest Florida, this could mean that parts of Lee County—such as Fort Myers, Cape Coral, and Lehigh Acres—are reassigned to different districts or combined with new areas. Communities that currently vote together could be split apart, changing the voice of local voters.

Timing adds another layer of concern. The session comes just as the 2026 election cycle is ramping up, leaving little time for candidates and voters to adjust. Voters may find themselves in new districts with unfamiliar candidates, while campaigns scramble to respond to shifting boundaries.

At the same time, lawmakers are expected to finalize the state budget, which directly affects funding for schools, healthcare, infrastructure, and disaster preparedness—issues that shape daily life in our community.

This special session is about more than process. It will influence who represents you, how competitive your elections are, and how state resources are allocated. Staying informed—and engaged—will be essential in the weeks ahead.

Make Your Voice Heard

Decisions made during this short session will shape representation and resources for years to come. Call or email your state legislators and let them know where you stand on fair districting and community priorities. The email and phone script below are provided for your use as desired:

Email:

Dear [Senator/Representative Last Name],

I am a resident of [City/ZIP] in Lee County, and I'm writing regarding the April 20–24 special legislative session.

I urge you to prioritize fair and transparent congressional redistricting that keeps communities like ours intact and respects the intent of Florida's Fair Districts standards. Our communities should not be divided in ways that weaken our collective voice or reduce meaningful representation.

Please ensure that any decisions made during this session reflect the needs of local communities and are carried out with transparency and public input.

Thank you for your service and for considering the voices of your constituents.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[City, ZIP]

Phone Script

Opening:

Hi, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [City/ZIP] in Lee County. I'm calling about the upcoming special legislative session.

Main message:

I'd like to ask [Senator/Representative Last Name] to support fair and transparent redistricting that keeps our local communities together and ensures voters have a strong voice.

Close:

Please let [him/her/them] know that this is important to me as a constituent. Thank you for your time.