



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement by: Florida Mosquito Control Association President Peter Jiang, Ph. D.

Regarding: Governor Ron DeSantis' call for the Florida Legislature to convene in Special Session F on June 1, 2026, to consider a proposal to eliminate property taxes.

Tallahassee, FL - "The Florida Mosquito Control Association (FMCA) appreciates Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Legislature's commitment to exploring meaningful property tax relief for Floridians while maintaining support for essential governmental services. As these discussions move forward, FMCA respectfully urges state leaders to recognize that of Florida's 132 independent special districts that levy an ad valorem tax, only 15 are mosquito control districts created specifically to protect essential public health and infrastructure services.

"This issue is especially critical for independent mosquito control districts, which receive nearly all operational funding through ad valorem taxes. Current estimates indicate that 37-45% of mosquito control district revenues are derived from homesteaded properties and have no alternative funding authority under their enabling legislation.

"Unlike many other local entities, independent mosquito control districts were established solely for this purpose and rely heavily on ad valorem funding to carry out critical services including mosquito surveillance, disease prevention, larviciding, aerial treatments, storm response, and protection against mosquito-borne illnesses such as malaria, Zika, West Nile, Chikungunya, dengue, and Eastern equine encephalitis viruses. These districts are essential to protecting the health and well-being of Florida's residents and visitors, as well as the state's economy, tourism, agriculture, and overall quality of life.

“FMCA respectfully believes Mosquito control is not merely a nuisance reduction program, it is a **core public health service** and a critical component of Florida’s public health, emergency management, tourism economy, and community infrastructure. In a subtropical state where mosquito control has long been integral to public health, economic growth, and everyday life, stable funding for these districts remains critically important to the continued well-being of Florida’s communities.

“While some local governments may have the ability to ‘backfill’ revenue reductions through alternative funding sources, independent mosquito control districts simply do not have that flexibility. We do not possess alternative statutory revenue mechanisms that would allow us to replace substantial losses to our *ad valorem* tax base.

“For more than 100 years, mosquito control professionals have helped make modern Florida possible. It has often been said that without air conditioning and mosquito control, Florida would not have experienced the extraordinary growth and quality of life residents and visitors enjoy today.

“As policymakers continue evaluating proposals during the special session, FMCA looks forward to working collaboratively with the Governor and Legislature to ensure Florida’s mosquito control districts can continue fulfilling their important mission for generations to come.”

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[The Florida Mosquito Control Association \(FMCA\)](#) is a not-for-profit association consisting of members from various fields including, but not limited to public health, entomology, medicine, military, engineering and more. The mission of the FMCA is to promote effective and environmentally sound control of disease-transmitting and pestiferous mosquitoes and other arthropods of public health importance, develop and enhance public interest, awareness, and support for the control of mosquitoes, and provide for the scientific advancement of members through our meetings, training and education.