



# WATCHDOG

*Guarding manufactured/mobile home owner rights*

UPDATE on March 31, 2021

**BACKGROUND:**

The House Appropriations Chair, Representative Jay Trumbull, does not support the Mobile Home Tie-Down Program because he does not believe it is effective to protect our homes to withstand Florida storms. Representing the Panhandle area of Florida, the Chair witnessed incredible destruction of homes following Hurricane Michael.

The Appropriations Chair has told Representative Kaylee Tuck that he will agenda CS/HB 423 if she will agree to remove the Mobile Home Tie-Down Program from current law.

And, on a parallel track...every year the Legislature must authorize the funds in the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program can be spent for the Mobile Home Tie-Down Program. This spending authority is found in the Appropriations Bills.

The House and Senate released their respective budgets this week for state funds 7/1/21-7/1/22:

- The House Appropriations bill has no spending authority for the Mobile Home Tie-Down Program. The entire \$ 10 million would go to retrofit the public hurricane shelters throughout the state.
- The Senate Appropriations bill does provide spending authority to include the MH Tie-Down Program and in the Senate Implementing Bill the Program would remain until June 30, 2022.

The Mobile Home Tie-Down Program will be part of the negotiations to reach a final state budget.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

- 1 **House Speaker Chris Sprowls**, (Clearwater), needs to know you support funding for the Mobile Home Tie-Down Program (\$ 2.8M) and continuation of the Program.  
[Chris.Sprows@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Chris.Sprows@myfloridahouse.gov) or his District Office: 727-793-2810
- 2 **Senate Chair of Appropriations, Senator Kelli Stargel**, (Lakeland) needs to know you **support the Senate position to fund the Mobile Home Tie-Down Program** and to continue the Program over the next year.  
[Stargel.Kelli.Web@flsenate.gov](mailto:Stargel.Kelli.Web@flsenate.gov) or her District Office: 863-668-3028
- 3 **It is IMPORTANT to contact your own Senator and Representative. Please explain the value of replacing the aging anchoring system to make your home stronger to withstand our storms. There are 157 parks on the wait list. We support the Senate budget to maintain funding for the MH Tie-Down Program through June 30, 2022.**

Please find your Senator and Representative by using your address. Go to: [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov) and scroll down to the red key: Find your Representative. The site will provide both your Senator and Representative.

**PLEASE TAKE ACTION TODAY!!**

Jesse James  
Chair, FMO Political Advocacy Committee