



SINE DIE BRIEF

2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NOTE: The following is just a brief look at the final dispensation of some of the major working family bills we were following during the 2016 Legislative Session. A more detailed report will be made available following the publication of the House and Senate Session Summaries.

	PASS	FAIL
<p>Corporate Tax Breaks</p> <hr/> <p>Various Bills - OPPOSE The Governor wanted \$1 billion in tax cuts, most for big corporations. The House passed a similar tax cut package valued at over \$900 million. The Florida AFL-CIO was one of the few groups to oppose these cuts openly. Thanks to the efforts of working families across Florida, the final tax cut package was valued at about \$213 million with another \$200 million in cuts to local property taxes.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>High Pressure Well-Stimulation (Fracking)</p> <hr/> <p>SB 318 Richter / HB 191 Rodrigues - OPPOSE Legislation that sets up new regulatory guidelines for fracking, bans local governments from regulating these drilling methods and eliminates current DEP requirements to get local approval before drilling leases are issued.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Legal Representation in Public Records Requests</p> <hr/> <p>SB 1220 Garcia / HB 1021 Steube - OPPOSE Legislation that amends statute to make the award of attorney's fees discretionary even when a Judge has made a finding that a public agency has wrongfully withheld public records from inspection.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Vote by Mail</p> <hr/> <p>SB 112 Thompson / HB 361 Lee - SUPPORT Replaces the often confusing term of "absentee ballot" to "vote-by-mail ballot" in statute making voting from home a more convenient and accessible option for voters.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Preemption of Local Pro-Worker Ordinances</p> <hr/> <p>SB 598 Brandes / HB 181 Van Zant - OPPOSE Legislation that would make local living wage, prevailing wage, and other pro-working family ordinances illegal on public works projects.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>


PASS
FAIL
FRS - Death Benefits for First Responders

SB 7012 Ring - SUPPORT

First responders killed in the line of duty who are in the Defined Contribution (investment) plan are not afforded the same level of survivor benefits as those in the Defined Benefit (pension) plan. This critical benefit should be afforded to all first responders in FRS. There was an attempt to hijack this good bill to use it as a vehicle to create a soft closing on the pension system. Thanks to a concerted effort by the labor community, including targeted activities in the field, we were able to force the passage of this bill without the negative provisions.

Federal Immigration Enforcement

SB 872 Bean / HB 675 Metz - OPPOSE

Legislation attempting to obstruct the power and authority of local governments to protect the civil rights of their communities by forcing local governments and officials to enforce federal immigration policies without the proper funding or training.

Increasing the Minimum Wage

SB 6 Bullard / HB 109 Torres - SUPPORT

Legislation that would raise Florida's minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour and increases the scope of individuals entitled to this wage protection.

Privatizing the Central FL Regional Transportation Authority

HB 155 Cortes / SB 738 Brandes - OPPOSE

Legislation that would change the composition of the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority Board to give the Governor more power and force the privatization of the management of the Lynx system.

Florida Competitive Workforce Act

SB 120 Abruzzo / HB 45 Raschein - SUPPORT

Legislation that would add vital language to Florida's civil rights law to ensure that workers and customers from the LGBT community are not discriminated against.

Revision of Florida's Building Codes

HB 535 Eagle / SB 704 Hutson - OPPOSE/SUPPORT

A massive re-write of Florida's building codes, this legislation would eliminate licensing requirements for workers conducting maintenance on certain types of apartment buildings and complexes. Compromise amendments added language that made some aspects of this legislation more palatable.