



SINE DIE BRIEF

2019 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 2019 Legislative Session.

	PASS	FAIL
<p>IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION</p> <p>SB 7030 by Education Committee - OPPOSE This legislation enables classroom teachers to participate in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian program placing guns directly in Florida classrooms.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>K-12 EDUCATION</p> <p>SB 7070 by Diaz - OPPOSE This bill reduces general revenue funds for public education by diverting money to private school vouchers. This scheme has been previously ruled unconstitutional under Bush v. Holmes, but the Legislature and Governor expect a newly appointed Supreme Court to rule differently.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>TAXATION</p> <p>HB 7123 by Avila - OPPOSE This bill is another attempt at preempting local rule, as many counties across the state have passed local referenda to increase public school funds. This will force revenue raised from future local initiatives to be shared with charter schools, a stipulation many of the existing referenda specifically outlawed.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Pub. Rec. and Meetings/Postsecondary Education Executive Search</p> <p>HB 7115 by Latvala - OPPOSE Florida State University System Presidents are some of the most influential unelected leaders in the state. Thousands of students, employees and community members depend on the success of these institutions and they deserve to know who is being considered for their top posts. This bill would have taken the search for University Presidents out of the sunshine and done behind closed doors.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



PASS

FAIL

ELIMINATION OF CERTIFICATE OF NEED



HB 21 - OPPOSE

This bill eliminates the Certificate of Need for new healthcare facility construction, which overturns a decades long rule that requires demonstrating need before opening a new hospital or other facility. Eliminating this critical step will waste taxpayer money and puts social safety net hospitals at risk through unfair predatory practices of private healthcare chains.

FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT



SB 168 by Gruters - OPPOSE

This bill will obstruct the power and authority of local governments to protect the civil rights of their communities by forcing local governments and officials to cooperate with federal immigration authorities at a level that is not mandated or funded by the federal government.

STATEWIDE FRACKING BAN



SB 7064 by Agriculture / HB 7029 by Raschein - OPPOSE

This bill would have outlawed the hydraulic fracturing method of extracting trapped oil from deep-rock formations underground but would not have banned matrix acidification, the fracking method that would have to be used in Florida based on our geography. This was a trick designed to fool voters that the Legislature actually "banned" fracking.

LIMITATIONS OF TERMS OF OFFICE FOR MEMBERS OF A DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



SJR 274 by Baxley / HJR 229 by Sabatini - OPPOSE

This bill was another attack on local control by attempting to place a one-size-fits-all term limit requirement for all of Florida's 67 School Boards.

SPECIAL RISK CLASS



SB 574 by Diaz / SB 1190 by Montford / HB 803 by Aloupis - SUPPORT

Thousands of Floridians who work at the state's mental health facilities face workplace violence and dangerous working conditions every day. Unlike many of their coworkers, some of the front-line workers do not qualify for Special Risk Class. These employees are spit on, physically attacked and face other abuses on a daily basis but do not receive all of the protections and benefits available to state employees who work under these conditions. This bill would reclassify the workers who spend most of their day with these patients, increasing their workplace protections and allowing them early pension qualification. The bill failed in committee in both chambers.



WORKERS COMPENSATION

SB 1636 by Perry / HB 1399 by Byrd - OPPOSE
Although Workers Compensation in Florida provides some of the lowest benefits in the nation, it is still the last lifeline for workers injured on the job. These bills would have gutted the program further, making it more difficult to make ends meet after having to miss work due to injury.



PREEMPTION: CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

SB 432 by Gruters / HB 847 by Rommel - OPPOSE
These bills will ban any local ordinance or regulation that has anything to do with "conditions of employment." This legislation was in response to a myriad of successful campaigns across the state to raise wages, protect employees from wage theft and increase civil rights protections. It would also have voided any existing ordinances and penalized local governments who didn't come into compliance. This bill failed in committee in both houses.



CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

SB 7096 by Judiciary / HB 7111 by Grant (J) (See HB 5) - OPPOSE
Florida already has the most difficult citizen initiative process out of any state which allows for it. HB 7111 and SB 7096 would have made this process even more onerous by making the already difficult petition process nearly impossible. Late in the 60th day, the Florida Legislature amended unrelated legislation (HB 5) with the language restricting the citizen's initiative process contained in HB 7111 and SB 7096. HB 5 passed late on the final day with a party-line vote.



APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS

SB 770 by Hutson / HB 7071 by Mariano - SUPPORT
This legislation establishes new funding through grants administered by the Department of Education, bringing workforce innovation back into our school systems with a mandate to include other career pathways beyond college.



APPRENTICESHIP LICENSING

SB 924 by Albritton / HB 981 by Toledo - OPPOSED
These bills are identical and appear to be an attempt to enhance and dignify the attractiveness of entering a registered apprenticeship program with a voluntary license upon completion and leaves open the opportunity to issue a license without an examination.

