

FPF Legislative Session Report

February 5-9, 2018



Now that the fifth week is complete, we have four weeks remaining in the regular session. During the next few weeks, most of the attention will be focused on wrapping up committee schedules and moving the budget through the conference process.

The Executive Council meeting was well-attended, which allowed us to pack a Senate Committee meeting Tuesday morning to show our opposition to a bad amendment. An amendment was offered to the fire safety bill that would have removed "Cancer" from the bill and replaced it with "occupational hazards."

We were able to take a short recess from the Council meeting to have everyone attend the Senate Health Policy Committee. Senator Bracy, the sponsor of SB 394, informed the Committee that the amendment was an unfriendly amendment. In a dramatic showing of opposition, numerous members waived their time to speak in opposition to the amendment, which was defeated. The bill then passed by a unanimous vote with our members waving their time in support of this good bill.

We also held our Fire Service Caucus Reception at the Hotel Duval again this year. The FPF, Florida Fire Chiefs, and Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association jointly sponsor this reception. We greatly appreciate their support and look forward to continuing this partnership.

The Reception provides our members an opportunity to share a little time with several legislators in a relaxed, social setting. During the reception we were able to present Senator Flores, Senator Grimsley, and Representative Willhite with the Robert K. "Bob" Carver 2017 Legislator of the Year award.

Chief Drozd, Orange County, thanked all the firefighters for standing together with the Chiefs in support of Firefighter health and safety. Both bills, HB 309 and SB 394, were passed this week clean with only one more committee reference prior to making it to the floor of both chambers.

Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate this year, which required us to call the 35th Annual King of the Hill Softball Game and move the old southern cookout to our office. The covered parking area and the 3rd floor reception area provided a back-up plan.

The Executive Council met Thursday morning to recap their visits and report on additional co-sponsors to cancer coverage/treatment bills. Most of the members walking the halls reported favorable comments concerning the cancer bills and PTSD bills. We truly appreciate all the hard work during their visit. SB 900 (Cancer) by Flores and HB 227 (PTSD) by Willhite have been placed on committee agendas for next Tuesday.

As a result of these meetings, a number of co-sponsors were added to these bills. We will continue to work diligently to keep these bills moving through the process. We appreciate everyone traveling to Tallahassee to visit their legislators to inform them of our concerns and ask for their support.

To put a fitting wrap-up on a busy week, we had the honor and privilege to once again, sponsor the Polar Plunge Saturday morning at Aquatica in support of Special Olympics. We had a good group of brothers and sisters and their family in attendance. They were “freezin’ for a reason”.

Retirement

HB 977 Retirement of Instructional Personnel & Administrative Personnel (Fine)

Companion Bill: SB 1240 (Mayfield)

FPF Position: Watch

2/6/2018 HOUSE Favorable by Appropriations Committee; 27 Yeas, 0 Nays. 2/7/2018 HOUSE Now in Government Accountability Committee.

HB 5007 State-Administered Retirement Systems (Appropriations Committee)

Companion Bills: SB 2500 (Appropriations), HB 5001 (Appropriations Committee), SB 7014 (Governmental Oversight and Accountability)

FPF Position: Support

2/7/2018 HOUSE Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/08/18. 2/8/2018 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 111 Yeas / 0 Nays); Immediately Certified; Requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the Budget Conference. 2/8/2018 SENATE In Messages. 2/8/2018 SENATE Received; Referred to Governmental Oversight and Accountability, Appropriations; Withdrawn from Governmental Oversight and Accountability, Appropriations; Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading; Substituted for SB 7014; Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 32 Yeas / 0 Nays); Immediately certified. 2/8/2018 HOUSE Ordered enrolled. 2/9/2018 HOUSE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed.

SB 7014 State-Administered Retirement Systems (Governmental Oversight and Accountability)

Companion Bills: SB 2500 (Appropriations), HB 5001 (Appropriations Committee), HB 5007 (Appropriations Committee)

FPF Position: Support

2/7/2018 SENATE Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/08/18. 2/8/2018 SENATE Read Third Time; Substituted for HB 5007; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 5007.

Safety and Health

HB 309 Fire Safety (Antone)

Companion Bill: SB 394 (Bracy)

FPF Position: Support

2/6/2018 HOUSE Favorable by Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays. 2/6/2018 HOUSE Now in Government Accountability Committee.

SB 394 Fire Safety (Bracy)

Companion Bill: HB 309 (Antone)

FPF Position: Support

2/6/2018 SENATE Favorable by Health Policy; 6 Yeas, 0 Nays. 2/6/2018 SENATE Now in Rules.

[SB 820 Fire Safety Inspectors \(Powell\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 637 \(Jacquet\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

2/6/2018 SENATE Favorable by Criminal Justice; 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. 2/6/2018 SENATE Now in Rules.

[SB 900 Firefighters \(Flores\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 695 \(C. Latvala\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

2/8/2018 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 02/13/18, 10:00 am, 301 S.

[HB 8029 Mental Health Awareness Week \(Slosberg\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

2/8/2018 HOUSE Adopted by Publication.

State Employees

[SB 2504 State Employees \(Appropriations\)](#)

[Companion Bills: SB 2500 \(Appropriations\), HB 5001 \(Appropriations Committee\), HB 5005 \(Appropriations Committee\)](#)

[FPF Position: Watch](#)

2/7/2018 SENATE Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/08/18. 2/8/2018 SENATE Read Third Time; Substituted for HB 5005; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 5005.

[HB 5005 Collective Bargaining \(Appropriations Committee\)](#)

[Companion Bills: SB 2500 \(Appropriations\), HB 5001 \(Appropriations Committee\), SB 2504 \(Appropriations\)](#)

[FPF Position: Watch](#)

2/7/2018 HOUSE Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 02/08/18. 2/8/2018 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 111 Yeas / 0 Nays); Immediately Certified; Requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the Budget Conference. 2/8/2018 SENATE In Messages. 2/8/2018 SENATE Received; Referred to Appropriations; Withdrawn from Appropriations; Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading; Substituted for SB 2504; Read Second Time; Amendment Adopted (926324); Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 33 Yeas / 0 Nays); The Senate having refused to pass the bill as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a conference; Immediately certified. 2/8/2018 HOUSE In returning messages.

Workers Compensation

[HB 227 Workers' Compensation Benefits for First Responders \(Willhite\)](#)

[Companion Bills: SB 126 \(Torres, Jr.\), HB 629 \(Asencio\), SB 376 \(Book\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

2/9/2018 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, 02/13/18, 9:30 am, 17 H. 2/9/2018 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, 02/13/18, 9:30 am, 17 H.

Watch Bills

[HB 317 Local Tax Referenda \(Ingoglia\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 272 \(Brandes\)](#)

2/7/2018 SENATE In Messages. 2/8/2018 SENATE Received; Referred to Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Appropriations; Rules.

[SB 474 Physician Orders for Life-sustaining Treatment \(Brandes\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 476 \(Brandes\)](#)

2/9/2018 SENATE On Committee agenda - Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, 02/14/18, 4:00 pm, 401 S.

[HB 529 Florida Fire Prevention Code \(Diaz\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 746 \(Bean\)](#)

2/7/2018 SENATE In Messages. 2/8/2018 SENATE Received; Referred to Banking and Insurance; Regulated Industries; Rules.

[SB 746 Florida Fire Prevention Code \(Bean\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 529 \(Diaz\)](#)

2/8/2018 SENATE Favorable by Regulated Industries; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays. 2/8/2018 SENATE Now in Rules.

[SB 1006 Disaster Response and Preparedness \(Montford\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 1443 \(Alexander\)](#)

2/7/2018 SENATE Favorable with CS by Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays. 2/9/2018 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed.