

# FPF Legislative Session Report

April 1-5, 2019



With the fifth week of session complete, we have four weeks remaining to move bills. The legislature will devote most of their attention to wrapping up committee schedules and completing the budget process.

We started the week with several events - honoring award recipients, the memorial unveiling, and the Ringing of the Bell service.

We had honor guards from around the State with pipes and drums that assembled at the FPF HQ to participate in a march up the hill to the Capitol Courtyard to participate in the unveiling of the completed Fallen Firefighter Memorial. The service began Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, at 3:43 p.m. (in honor of the 343 firefighters that passed in the line of duty on September 11, 2001).

Monday evening, State Fire Marshal Patronis and Agriculture Commissioner Fried honored firefighters and departments at the annual firefighter awards reception. Rick Spence from Reedy Creek was honored as the Professional Firefighter of the year.

Tuesday morning, the Ringing of the Bell ceremony was held to perform the "Last Call" ritual to recognize those firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty and placed their names on the memorial.

Chaplain Rick Spence was invited to give the opening prayer at the Cabinet meeting Tuesday morning. Rick was also sponsored by Senator Flores to give the prayer of the day on Thursday before the Senate.

The Executive Council meeting was well attended; we had over 150 members, guests and emeriti that traveled to Tallahassee.

We also held our Fire Service Caucus Reception at the Hotel Duval again this year. We honored Senator Book and Representative Willhite with the Robert K. "Bob" Carver 2018 Legislator of the Year award.

We also honored Senator Flores' Assistant, Demi Busatta, as our Legislative Assistant of the year for 2018. The reception provides our members an opportunity to share a little time with legislators in a relaxed, social setting.

This year the weather cooperated, which allowed the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual King of the Hill Softball Game to be played. We have two rules; no one gets hurt and everyone has fun and enjoys some good old southern cooking.

On Thursday, Executive Council members recapped their visits and reported on additional co-sponsors to cancer coverage/treatment bills. Most of the members walking the halls reported favorable comments concerning the cancer bills, with 80 cosponsors.

It's not over till it's over, anything is possible while the legislature is in session. We will continue to keep our issues front and center, and continue traditional lobbying, traditional media, increased social media pressure, and calls to action.

We are engaging in a petition drive and letters to legislators to advance the cancer bill. Our firefighters and their families should be protected if they are diagnosed with job related cancer.

#### **FF Memorial Groundbreaking to Dedication**

<https://youtu.be/ZuOi138Knns>

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## **Retirement**

### **SB 784 Retirement (Gruters)**

**Companion Bill: HB 779 (Clemons)**

**FPF Position: Support**

4/5/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 04/10/19, 1:30 pm, 301 S.

### **SB 7016 State-administered Retirement Systems (Governmental Oversight and Accountability)**

**FPF Position: Support**

4/4/2019 HOUSE Substituted for HB 5007; Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 112 Yeas / 0 Nays); Immediately certified. 4/4/2019 SENATE Ordered enrolled. 4/5/2019 SENATE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed.

## **Safety and Health**

### **SB 426 Firefighters (Flores)**

**Companion Bill: HB 857 (Willhite)**

**FPF Position: Support**

4/8/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Appropriations, 04/11/19, 9:00 am, 412 K.

[HB 723 Fire Protection Systems \(Donalds\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 908 \(Hooper\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/5/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, 04/09/19, 8:30 am, 17 H.

[SB 908 Firesafety Systems \(Hooper\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 723 \(Donalds\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/2/2019 SENATE Favorable with CS by Community Affairs; 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/3/2019 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed. 4/3/2019 SENATE Now in Rules.

[HB 1393 Department of Financial Services \(Clemons\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 1704 \(Wright\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/1/2019 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee; 12 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/1/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed. 4/3/2019 HOUSE Now in Commerce Committee.

[SB 1704 Department of Financial Services \(Wright\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 1393 \(Clemons\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/5/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Innovation, Industry, and Technology, 04/10/19, 1:30 pm, 110 S.

[SB 7098 Death Benefits \(Governmental Oversight and Accountability\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/2/2019 SENATE Submitted as Committee Bill and Reported Favorably by Governmental Oversight and Accountability; 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/2/2019 SENATE Committee Bill Text Filed. 4/3/2019 SENATE Referred to Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Appropriations.

[HB 7105 Death Benefits for Survivors of First Responders and Military Members \(Oversight, Transparency & Public Management Subcommittee\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 1548 \(J. Rodriguez\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/5/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Appropriations Committee, 04/09/19, 10:30 am, 212 K.

**Governmental Operations**

[HB 67 Police, Fire, and Search and Rescue Dogs \(Tomkow\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 96 \(Bean\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/4/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/10/19

[SB 96 Police, Fire, and Search and Rescue Dogs and Police Horses \(Bean\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 67 \(Tomkow\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/3/2019 SENATE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 39 Yeas / 0 Nays). 4/4/2019 HOUSE In Messages; Received; Referred to Calendar. 4/4/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/10/19.

[HB 203 Pub.Rec./Civilian Personnel Employed by Law Enforcement Agency \(Zika\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 248 \(Hooper\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/4/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/10/19.

[SB 248 Public Records/Civilian Personnel Employed by a Law Enforcement Agency \(Hooper\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 203 \(Zika\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/3/2019 HOUSE In Messages. 4/4/2019 HOUSE Received; Referred to Calendar. 4/4/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/10/19.

## **Workers Compensation**

[HB 983 Ratification of Rules of the Department of Financial Services \(Casello\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 1210 \(Book\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/4/2019 HOUSE Favorable by Commerce Committee; 19 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/4/2019 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading.

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## **Watch Bills**

[HB 411 Nonemergency Medical Transportation Services \(Perez\)](#)

4/4/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/10/19.

[HB 441 E911 Systems \(DuBose\)](#)

4/5/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, 04/09/19, 8:30 am, 17 H.