

FPF Legislative Session Report

April 15-19, 2019



As we finish the seventh week, we are quickly approaching the end of the regular session and most are having their last meeting. With two weeks left, bills that are still alive will be heading to the floor of each chamber. If passed, they will be sent to the other chamber for consideration and if passed with identical language by both chambers, the bill(s) will be sent to the Governor.

During session, the Governor has seven days to sign the bill into law or veto the bill. If the legislature adjourns sine die or takes a recess of more than thirty days, the Governor shall have fifteen consecutive days from the date of presentation to act on the bill. The Governor has line item veto, but only with general appropriations bills; in all other bills the veto shall extend to the entire bill.

To complete the Legislative Session on time, including the budget, approximately 90 billion dollars, the full appropriations will need to be on the Legislators' desks on Tuesday, April 30th. It appears that the two chambers are not that far apart, and we have seen remarkable things done when Travis Cummings, Appropriations Chair in the House, and Rob Bradley, Appropriations Chair in the Senate, get to work.

With our cancer bill, SB 426 by Senator Flores, on the Senate calendar, we continued to apply pressure for the House to hear the companion bill by engaging our members through our "Fully Involved" Call to Action. We had a great turnout of rank and file members that had never been to Tallahassee to see the legislative process in action. In addition, we had an excellent response to our social media petition and overwhelming involvement by the traditional media.

On Tuesday afternoon, we learned that the House was going to hear a proposed committee bill (PCB) SAC 4 on Thursday, April 18th, in the State Affairs Committee. We quickly pivoted from a petition and educational drive to a thank you for the support of firefighters. We had commitments by many firefighters, and their travel to Tallahassee was scheduled so we had them spend time in the Capitol courtyard showing their appreciation for the support of the cancer coverage.

The bill was heard in the House State Affairs Committee with passionate and emotional testimony, which resulted in a unanimous vote of support. After several legislators expressed their support and commitment, Chair Blaise Ingoglia gave a passionate close on the bill, as

Chair of the Committee; he would be the sponsor of the new bill. Chair Ingoglia thanked us for our tireless efforts, and Speaker Jose Oliva for allowing the bill to move forward.

The House cancer bill is now HB 7129, which is on the House Special Order Calendar for Tuesday, April 23rd. SB 426 is also on the Senate Special Order Calendar for Tuesday, April 23rd. We are extremely excited and thankful for this late movement and will be reaching out to the Governor to request his signature of this long overdue law protecting our firefighters and their families.

The increased death benefit bill, SB 7098 by Senator Hooper and HB 7105 by Representative Plakon, passed out of committee and are off to the floor of both chambers. The Fire Marshal's agency bill continued to move with the Senate bill on the calendar and the House bill passing its final committee with a unanimous vote.

In addition to Vice President Rocco Salvatori and Secretary/Treasurer Gilbert Marsh we had 7th DVP Kennell, 8th DVP Bellamy, 9th DVP Anderson, Suncoast L-2546 members Nathan Millard, Kevin Battle, Gabe Scott, Mary Kate Rea, William Howe, Chris Delgado, Todd Mercer, Johnny Rigney, Claiborne Moulton, Paul Dyer, Chris Kendrick, Mike Soper, Bobby Wadsworth, Eddie Anderson, Ben Anderson, Joshua Moss, Scott Viehman, Wendy Norman, David Robinson, Phil Vets, Troy Bercot, Rich Roome, Brandon Beals, Brad Bischoff, Robert Hinton, Brian Canaday, and Doug Huffman, Ormond Beach L-3499 members David Randall and Scott Johnson, South Walton L-3516 members Bob Wells, Dan Corcoran, and Anthony Evans, North Collier L-2297 member Heather Mazurkiewicz, Bonita Springs L-3444 member Jesse Cottrell, Volusia County L-3574 members David Dalzell, and Justin Hughes in Tallahassee; their assistance is greatly appreciated.

Governmental Operations

SB 96 Police, Fire, and Search and Rescue Dogs and Police Horses (Bean)

Companion Bill: HB 67 (Tomkow)

FPF Position: Support

4/18/2019 SENATE Ordered enrolled. 4/18/2019 SENATE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed.

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

Companion Bill: HB 203 (Zika)

FPF Position: Support

4/18/2019 SENATE Ordered enrolled. 4/18/2019 SENATE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed.

Safety and Health

SB 426 Firefighters (Flores)

Companion Bill: HB 857 (Willhite)

FPF Position: Support

4/18/2019 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/23/19.

SB 908 Firesafety Systems (Hooper)

Companion Bill: HB 723 (Donalds)

FPF Position: Support

4/18/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 04/23/19, 2:00 pm, 110 S.

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

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

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/16/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Commerce Committee, 04/18/19, 8:15 am, 212 K. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Commerce Committee; 22 Yeas, 0 Nays.

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

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

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/17/2019 SENATE Favorable by Rules; 15 Yeas, 1 Nay. 4/18/2019 SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading.

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

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/18/2019 SENATE Favorable with CS by Appropriations; 16 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/19/2019 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed.

[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](#)

4/16/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - State Affairs Committee, 04/18/19, 8:00 am, 17 H. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Favorable with CS by State Affairs Committee; 22 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed.

[SAC4 Firefighters \(State Affairs Committee\)](#)

[PCB SAC 19-04 – Firefighters](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/16/2019 HOUSE Filed. 4/16/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - State Affairs Committee, 04/18/19, 8:00 am, 17 H. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Submitted as Committee Bill and Reported Favorably by State Affairs Committee; 24 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Committee Bill filed as HB 7129.

[HB 7129 Firefighters \(State Affairs Committee\)](#)

[Companion Bill: SB 426 \(Flores\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

Firefighters: Grants certain benefits to firefighter upon receiving diagnosis of cancer if certain conditions are met; requires employer to make certain disability payments to firefighter in event of total & permanent disability; provides for death benefits to firefighter's beneficiary if firefighter dies as result of cancer or cancer treatments; specifies that any costs associated with benefits granted by act must be borne by employer; requires Division of State Fire Marshal to adopt certain rules; adjusts allocation of funds to provide line-of-duty death benefits for members in investment plan of FRS; directs Division of Law Revision to adjust employer contribution rates for Special Risk Class & DROP in FRS. Effective Date: July 1, 2019. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Filed (Formerly PCB SAC4). 4/18/2019 HOUSE Referred to Calendar. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/23/19.

[Workers Compensation](#)

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

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

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/17/2019 HOUSE Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 117 Yeas / 0 Nays).

[SB 1210 Ratification of Rules of the Department of Financial Services \(Book\)](#)

[Companion Bill: HB 983 \(Casello\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

4/18/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 04/23/19, 2:00 pm, 110 S.

Watch Bills

[SB 302 Nonemergency Medical Transportation Services \(Brandes\)](#)

4/18/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 04/23/19, 2:00 pm, 110 S.

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

4/18/2019 SENATE In Messages. 4/18/2019 SENATE Received; Referred to Health Policy; Banking and Insurance; Rules.

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

4/16/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Commerce Committee, 04/18/19, 8:15 am, 212 K. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Commerce Committee; 21 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading. 4/18/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/24/19.

[HB 487 Carrying of Firearms by Tactical Medical Professionals \(D. Smith\)](#)

4/17/2019 HOUSE Read Second Time; Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 111 Yeas / 2 Nays).

[SB 536 911 Services \(Brandes\)](#)

4/18/2019 SENATE Favorable with CS by Appropriations; 17 Yeas, 0 Nays. 4/19/2019 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed.

[SB 722 Carrying of Firearms by Tactical Medical Professionals \(Hooper\)](#)

4/18/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 04/23/19, 2:00 pm, 110 S.

[HB 901 City of West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County \(Willhite\)](#)

4/18/2019 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 04/23/19.