

2017 FLORIDA CHAMBER BUSINESS AGENDA  
**Legislative Summary Report**



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Securing Florida's Future




**“The Florida Chamber will soon release the actual grades lawmakers earned this session on key legislative priorities. We look forward to sharing those with Floridians”**

**Syd Kitson**, CHAIR, FLORIDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; CHAIRMAN & CEO, KITSON & PARTNERS

**CLOSING FLORIDA'S TALENT GAP BY IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

At the Florida Chamber, we believe a quality education and workforce development system is Florida's best long-term economic development strategy. We need to work toward filling the gap created between Florida's current education system and the needs of Florida's employers by diversifying our economy and creating job opportunities for future generations.

Bill Name	Pro-Biz /No-Biz	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
<p><b>K12 ASSESSMENTS</b></p> <p><b>SB 926</b> Sen. Anitere Flores</p> <p><b>HB 549</b> Rep. Manny Diaz and Rep. Randy Fine</p> <p><b>HB 773</b> Rep. Manny Diaz</p>	 <p>Rep. Manny Diaz, Jr. R-Hialeah Gardens</p>	<p>Requires the Commissioner of Education to review nationally-recognized college entrance exams to determine alignment to Florida's standards. Additionally, it provides teachers more time to teach by moving the state assessment window to the last three weeks of school and requires easy-to-understand, parent-friendly score reports be utilized.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p><b>HB 7069 Signed by Governor Scott on June 15, 2017</b></p>

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Bill Name	Pro-Biz /No-Biz	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
<p><b>READING</b></p> <p>HB 79 Rep. Gayle Harrell</p> <p>SB 468 Sen. Kelli Stargel</p> <p>HB 757 Rep. Byron Donalds</p>	  <p>Sen. Kelli Stargel R-Lakeland</p>	<p>Requires professional development programs to include reading instruction and interventions for teachers in grades K-12</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 7069 Signed by Governor Scott on June 15, 2017</p>
<p><b>SCHOOL CHOICE</b></p> <p>SB 796 Sen. Aaron Bean</p> <p>HB 7101 Rep. Bob Cortes</p>	  <p>Rep. Bob Cortes R-Altamonte Springs</p>	<p>Removes barriers that inhibit high-performing charter management organizations from replicating their success and expanding.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 7069 Signed by Governor Scott on June 15, 2017</p>
<p><b>EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS</b></p> <p>HB 15 Rep. Jennifer Sullivan</p> <p>SB 902 Sen. David Simmons</p> <p>SB 1314 Sen. Denise Grimsley</p>	  <p>Rep. Jennifer Sullivan R-Eustis</p>	<p>Expands eligibility for the Gardiner Scholarship Program and revises provisions relating to the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>PASSED</b></p> <p>HB 15 Awaiting Action by Governor Scott</p>
<p><b>DIGITAL LEARNING &amp; VIRTUAL EDUCATION</b></p> <p>SB 692 Sen. Baxley</p> <p>SB 868 Sen. Baxley</p> <p>HB 833 Rep. Jennifer Sullivan</p>	  <p>Sen. Dennis Baxley R-Lady Lake</p>	<p>Removes a requirement of previous enrollment in public school for eligibility to participate in virtual instruction.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 7069 Signed by Governor Scott on June 15, 2017</p>
<p><b>COMPUTER CODING</b></p> <p>H4 Sen. Jeff Brandes</p> <p>No Identical House Bill Exists</p>	  <p>Sen. Jeff Brandes R-St. Petersburg</p>	<p>Allows students to take computer coding courses in order to satisfy the high school foreign language course requirements.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>

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<p><b>STEM</b></p> <p>SB 274 Sen. Perry Thurston</p> <p>HB 403 Rep. Wengay Newton</p>	 <p>Rep. Wengay Newton D-St. Petersburg</p>	<p>Creates the STEM Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>
<p><b>EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION</b></p> <p>SB 2 Sen. Bill Galvano</p> <p>SB 374 Sen. Dorothy Hukill</p> <p>HB 3 Rep. Bryan Avila</p>	 <p>Sen. Bill Galvano R-Bradenton</p>	<p>Promotes on-time student graduation while responsibly increasing student financial aid and tuition assistance- including allowing students to use their Bright Futures Scholarship award for summer courses. Additionally, a world-class faculty and scholar program is established, which promotes the prominence of Florida's graduate schools and links education to job opportunities by providing internship opportunities to students.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>VETOED</b></p> <p>SB 374 Vetoed by Governor Scott on June 14, 2017</p>
<p><b>EMPOWERING FLORIDA'S BEST TEACHERS</b></p> <p>HB 7069 Rep. Michael Bileca</p> <p>SB 1410 Sen. Keith Perry</p> <p>SB 1552 Sen. David Simmons</p>	 <p>Rep. Michael Bileca R-Miami</p>	<p>Expands eligibility criteria for the Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program, which will increase access, and establishes the Best and Brightest Principal Program in order to recognize principals who are able to recruit and retain excellent teachers.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 7069 Signed by Governor Scott on June 15, 2017</p>

**DIVERSIFYING FLORIDA'S ECONOMY AND CREATING HIGH-WAGE JOBS**

With two out of three new jobs in Florida created by small businesses specializing in areas from international trade to rural economic development, Florida needs to stay the course of diversifying our economy.

Bill Name	Pro-Biz /No-Biz	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
<p><b>RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>HB 1415 Rep. Mel Ponder</p> <p>SB 936 Sen. Bill Montford</p>	 <p>Rep. Mel Ponder R-Fort. Walton Beach</p>	<p>Improves economic development initiatives for rural areas of opportunity.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>

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Bill Name	Pro-Biz /No-Biz	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
<p><b>ECONOMIC PROGRAMS</b></p> <p><b>HB 7005</b>                      Careers and Competition Subcommittee</p> <p>No Senate Bill Exists</p>	  <p>Rep. Paul Renner                      R-Palm Coast</p>	<p>Eliminates the state's role in economic development by eliminating Enterprise Florida and two dozen economic development initiatives.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>
<p><b>DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS</b></p> <p><b>HB 5501</b>                      Rep. Clay Ingram</p>	  <p>Rep. Clay Ingram                      R-Pensacola</p>	<p>Significantly reforms Enterprise Florida and VISIT FLORIDA and provides for reduced funding for the upcoming fiscal year.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>VETOED</b>                      HB 5501 Vetoed by Governor Scott on June 20, 2017</p>
<p><b>VISIT FLORIDA</b></p> <p><b>HB 9</b>                      Rep. Paul Renner</p> <p><b>HB 5501</b></p> <p>No Senate Bill Exists</p>	  <p>Rep. Paul Renner                      R-Palm Coast</p>	<p>Significant reforms to VISIT FLORIDA that hinder the organization's ability to do business.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>VETOED</b>                      HB 5501 Vetoed by Governor Scott on June 20, 2017</p>
<p><b>ECONOMIC PROGRAMS</b></p> <p><b>HB 0001A</b>                      Rep. Paul Renner</p> <p><b>SB 0002A</b>                      Sen. Jack Latvala</p>	  <p>Sen. Jack Latvala                      R-Clearwater</p>	<p>Creates and funds the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, which can be used for targeted infrastructure and workforce training investments. Funds VISIT FLORIDA, adds accountability measures and allows tourism development tax dollars to count toward match requirements.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>Special Session A</b></p> <p><b>PASSED</b>                      HB 0001A Awaiting Action by Governor Scott</p>

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**PREPARING FLORIDA'S INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SMARTER GROWTH**

In 2016, more than 112 million visitors came to Florida and it's estimated that by 2030, more than six million new residents will call Florida home. We must prepare for this growth in smart and sustainable ways. Securing Florida's future will require changing the way we view issues such as water and energy supply, agriculture, land development, roads, bridges, ports and telecommunications.

Bill Name	Pro-Biz /No-Biz	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
<p><b>TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES</b></p> <p>SB 340 Sen. Jeff Brandes/ Sen. Bill Galvano</p> <p>HB 221 Rep. Chris Sprowls/ Rep. Michael Grant</p>	 <p>Rep. Chris Sprowls R-Clearwater</p>	<p>Creates a statewide regulatory framework for the use of ridesharing companies that protects consumers and allows for innovation.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 221 Signed by Governor Scott on May 9, 2017</p>
<p><b>AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES</b></p> <p>HB 865 Rep. Jayer Williamson</p> <p>HB 725 Rep. Jason Brodeur</p> <p>SB 1066 Sen. Jeff Brandes</p> <p>SB 1118 Sen. George Gainer</p>	 <p>Rep. Jason Brodeur R-Sanford</p>	<p>Improves the current regulatory framework by improving safety and fostering innovation.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 865 Signed by Governor Scott on May 31, 2017</p>
<p><b>ADVANCED WELL STIMULATION</b></p> <p>SB 442 Sen. Dana Young</p> <p>HB 451 Rep. Alexandra Miller/ Rep. Janet Cruz</p>	 <p>Sen. Dana Young R-Tampa</p>	<p>Will decrease Florida's energy independence by banning safe and reliable exploration technologies.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>
<p><b>HIGH -SPEED PASSENGER RAIL</b></p> <p>SB 386 Sen. Debbie Mayfield</p> <p>HB 269 Rep. MaryLynn Magar/ Rep. Erin Grall</p>	 <p>Sen. Debbie Mayfield R-Melbourne</p>	<p>Discourages private investment by creating an unnecessary set of state and local regulations in a system that is adequately regulated and preempted by federal law.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>

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## KEEPING FLORIDA'S BUSINESS CLIMATE COMPETITIVE

Florida is on the right track toward a more competitive and global economy and businesses are taking notice. Last year several large employers moved their headquarters or expanded to Florida because of Florida's attractive business climate. Instead of short-term solutions from well-funded trial lawyers with special interest agendas, the Florida Chamber is focused on creating long-term sustainable solutions so Florida can continue to attract, add and grow the top businesses in the nation.

Bill Name	Pro-Biz /No-Biz	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
<b>WORKERS' COMP</b>  <b>SB 1582</b> <b>Sen. Rob Bradley</b>	  Sen. Rob Bradley R-Orange Park	Reforms portions of the workers' compensation system.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b>	<b>DEFEATED</b>
<b>WORKERS' COMP</b>  <b>HB 7085</b> (formerly PCB IBS1) <b>Insurance &amp; Banking Subcommittee and Rep. Danny Burgess</b>	  Rep. Danny Burgess, Jr. R-Zephyrhills	Reforms portions of the workers' compensation system.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b>
<b>WORKERS' COMP PUBLIC RECORDS</b>  <b>HB 1107</b> <b>Rep. Ben Albritton</b>  <b>SB 1008</b> <b>Sen. Keith Perry</b>	  Sen. Keith Perry R-Gainesville	Protects private information on workers' comp claims from public record.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>PASSED</b>  HB 1107 Awaiting Action by Governor Scott
<b>LAWSUIT ABUSE REFORM/ADA DRIVE-BY LAWSUITS</b>  <b>HB 727</b> <b>Rep. Tom Leek</b>  <b>SB 1398</b> <b>Sen. Linda Stewart</b>	  Rep. Tom Leek R-Daytona Beach	Protects against ADA drive-by lawsuits by putting an inspection process and remediation plan in place.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>PASSED</b>  HB 727 Awaiting Action by Governor Scott
<b>ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS</b>  <b>SB 1038</b> <b>Sen. Dorothy Hukill</b>  <b>HB 1421</b> <b>Rep. Jamie Grant</b>	  Sen. Dorothy L. Hukill R-Port Orange	Improves access to homeownership by keeping the cost of property insurance low through the reduction of AOB abuse.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b>

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<p><b>ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS</b></p> <p>SB 1218 Sen. Gary Farmer</p>	 <p>Sen. Gary Farmer D-Fort Lauderdale</p>	<p>Uses licensure to address AOB abuses and fails to address the underlying problem of one-way attorney fees.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>
<p><b>RELATING TO LIMITATIONS ON PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS</b></p> <p>SJR 76 Sen. Tom Lee</p> <p>HJR 21 Rep. Colleen Burton</p>	 <p>Sen. Tom Lee R-Brandon</p>	<p>Proposes an amendment to the Florida Constitution that continues a cap of 10 percent on assessments for non-homestead properties.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>PASSED</b></p> <p>Joint Resolution 21 will be submitted to the Secretary of State for inclusion on the 2018 ballot.</p>
<p><b>RELATING TO DAMAGES RECOVERABLE FOR THE COST OF MEDICAL OR HEALTH CARE SERVICES/ ACCURACY IN DAMAGES</b></p> <p>SB 146 Sen. Kathleen Passidomo</p> <p>HB 583 Rep. Jay Fant</p>	 <p>Sen. Kathleen Passidomo R-Naples</p>	<p>Improves Florida's bottom-ten legal climate by requiring juries see the amount paid for medical services, not just the amount billed.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>
<p><b>UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION</b></p> <p>SB 372 Sen. Kelli Stargel</p> <p>HB 671 Rep. Mike La Rosa</p>	 <p>Rep. Mike LaRosa R-St. Cloud</p>	<p>Reduces reemployment assistance fraud by allowing the department to access drivers' license photos.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 671 Signed by Governor Scott on May 9, 2017</p>
<p><b>CORPORATE INCOME TAX</b></p> <p>SB 486 Sen. Dorothy Hukill</p> <p>No House Bill Exists</p>	 <p>Sen. Dorothy L. Hukill R-Port Orange</p>	<p>Increases the exemption from \$50,000 to \$75,000 against the state's Corporate Income Tax.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>

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<p><b>BUSINESS RENT TAX - TAX ON TAX</b></p> <p>SB 704 Sen. Rene Garcia</p> <p>HB 463 Rep. Holly Raschein</p>	 <p>Sen. Rene Garcia R-Hialeah</p>	<p>Exempts property taxes from the business rent tax.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>
<p><b>BUSINESS RENT TAX</b></p> <p>SB 484 Sen. Dorothy Hukill</p> <p>No House Bill Exists</p>	 <p>Sen. Dorothy L. Hukill R-Port Orange</p>	<p>Reduces the business rent tax by 1 percent.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p> <p>Elements of SB 484 are contained in HB 7109.</p>
<p><b>TAX PACKAGE</b></p> <p>HB 7109 Rep. Jim Boyd</p> <p>No Senate Bill Exists</p>	 <p>Rep. Jim Boyd R-Bradenton</p>	<p>The bill reduces the business rent tax, increases the R&amp;D Tax Credit and provides for sales tax holidays.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 7109 Signed by Governor Scott on May 25, 2017</p>
<p><b>RELATING TO CRAFT DISTILLERIES</b></p> <p>SB 166 Sen. Greg Steube</p> <p>HB 141 Rep. Cyndi Stevenson</p>	 <p>Rep. Cyndi Stevenson R-St. Augustine</p>	<p>Levels the playing field for craft distilleries.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>SIGNED</b></p> <p>HB 141 Signed by Governor Scott on June 2, 2017</p>
<p><b>BACKGROUND SCREENING</b></p> <p>HB 31 Rep. Shevrin Jones</p> <p>No Senate Bill Exists</p>	 <p>Rep. Shevrin Jones D-West Park</p>	<p>Creates restrictions on hiring practices.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>
<p><b>MINIMUM WAGE</b></p> <p>SB 160 Sen. Jose Javier Rodriguez</p> <p>HB 945 Rep. Al Jacuet</p>	 <p>Rep. Al Jacuet D-West Palm Beach</p>	<p>Creates an additional mandate on job creators.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>

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<b>RELATING TO PREJUDGEMENT INTEREST</b>  <b>SB 334</b> Sen. Greg Steube  <b>HB 469</b> Rep. Shawn Harrison	  Sen. Greg Steube R-Sarasota	Increases the cost of personal injury lawsuits by requiring interest from the date of loss.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b>	<b>DEFEATED</b>
<b>RELATING TO FLORIDA HURRICANE CATASTROPHE FUND</b>  <b>HB 597</b> Rep. David Santiago  <b>SB 1772</b> Sen. Tom Lee	  Sen. Tom Lee R-Brandon	Increases the risk of "hurricane taxes" by putting additional risk on the state's Hurricane Catastrophe Fund.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b>	<b>DEFEATED</b>
<b>INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX CREDIT</b>  <b>SB 378</b> Sen. Anitere Flores	  Sen. Anitere Flores R-Miami	Eliminates a tax exemption that supports jobs in the insurance industry.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b>	<b>DEFEATED</b>

## MAKING FLORIDA GOVERNMENT MORE EFFICIENT

At the Florida Chamber, we believe efficient and transparent government systems allow businesses to grow in a globally competitive economy. As our state grows, taxpayers deserve an efficient government that provides the highest return to taxpayers with the lowest burden on job creators.

Bill Name	Pro-Biz /No-Biz	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
<b>PARTICIPATION IN THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM</b>  <b>SB 428</b> Sen. Jeff Brandes  <b>HB 353</b> Rep. Jason Fischer/ Rep. Michael Grant	  Rep. Michael Grant R-Port Charlotte	Moves any new local government retirement plan to the more sustainable market based plans instead of the state's underfunded pension system.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b>
<b>RELATING TO LABOR ORGANIZATIONS</b>  <b>HB 11</b> Rep. Scott Plakon  <b>SB 1292</b> Sen. Dennis Baxley	  Rep. Scott Plakon R-Longwood	Will add transparency into all levels of collective bargaining and lobbying by giving the public a clearer understanding of how many people the union represents.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b>

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<p><b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT PREEMPTION</b></p> <p>HB 17 Rep. Randy Fine</p> <p>No Senate Bill Exists</p>	 <p>Rep. Randy Fine R-Palm Bay</p>	<p>Prohibits local government from placing any new regulations on local businesses.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>
<p><b>JUDICIAL TERM LIMITS</b></p> <p>HB 1 Rep. Jennifer Sullivan</p> <p>No Senate Bill Exists</p>	 <p>Rep. Jennifer Sullivan R-Eustis</p>	<p>Decreases the efficacy of the judicial branch by discouraging good applicants from applying and increased turnover.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>
<p><b>RELATING TO UTILITIES</b></p> <p>HB 687 Rep. Mike La Rosa</p> <p>SB 596 Sen. Travis Hutson</p>	 <p>Rep. Mike LaRosa R-St. Cloud</p>	<p>Allows the placement of small devices on certain public utility poles, leading to greater data connectivity and better service.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>PASSED</b> HB 687 Awaiting Action by Governor Scott</p>
<p><b>RELATING TO VACATION RENTALS</b></p> <p>SB 188 Sen. Greg Steube</p> <p>HB 425 Rep. Mike La Rosa</p>	 <p>Sen. Greg Steube R-Sarasota</p>	<p>Protects the private property rights of owners by establishing a statewide framework for the use of short term vacation rentals.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b></p>	<p><b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DID NOT PASS</b></p>
<p><b>FIREARMS</b></p> <p>SB 610 Sen. Greg Steube</p> <p>HB 819 Rep. Cord Byrd</p>	 <p>Sen. Greg Steube R-Sarasota</p>	<p>Creates significant liability for businesses who exercise their property right to exclude firearms on their premises.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>
<p><b>DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BAGS</b></p> <p>SB 162 Sen. Jose Javier Rodriguez</p> <p>HB 93 Rep. David Richardson</p>	 <p>Rep. David Richardson D-Miami Beach</p>	<p>Prohibit businesses from using plastic bags, even in the storage of perishable foods.</p> <p><b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b></p>	<p><b>DEFEATED</b></p>

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**CHAMPIONING FLORIDA'S QUALITY OF LIFE**

Florida's unique quality of life is one reason Florida is consistently ranked as an attractive place to visit, live, learn, play and work. Retaining and attracting the right employers who fuel jobs and great communities are key to Florida's long-term success. Families, students and businesses alike cause us to examine the policies that can either strengthen or harm Florida's future job growth.

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<b>GAMBLING</b> SB 8 Sen. Bill Galvano	  Sen. Bill Galvano R-Bradenton	Calls for a vast expansion of slot machines and gambling.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b>	<b>DEFEATED</b>
<b>GAMBLING</b> HB 7037 Rep. Mike LaRosa	  Rep. Mike LaRosa R-St. Cloud	Ratifies and approves a 2017 Compact between the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the State of Florida, and authorizes the Governor to execute the 2017 Compact.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS:                      DID NOT PASS</b>
<b>HEALTH CARE ACCESS</b> HB 7011 Rep. Cary Pigman  No Senate Bill Exists	  Rep. Cary Pigman R-Sebring	Authorizes Florida-licensed health care professionals to use telehealth and articulates a standard of care.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER SUPPORTED</b>	<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS:                      DID NOT PASS</b>
<b>PATIENT SAFETY CULTURE SURVEY</b> HB 375 Rep. Michael Grant  SB 1434 Sen. Keith Perry	  Rep. Michael Grant R-Port Charlotte	Requires health care facilities to assess patient safety culture and publish the resulting survey data as a condition of licensure. This legislation has the potential for abuse and could create unintended consequences, such as this process being used as a bargaining chip or leverage point in employer-employee contractual relationships.  <b>FLORIDA CHAMBER OPPOSED</b>	<b>DEFEATED</b>

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