













Legislative Summary

IMPROVING FLORIDA'S TALENT PIPELINE FOR A BETTER WORKFORCE

Florida wins when we put students ahead of special interests. A qualified workforce remains a top concern for job creators across Florida. Therefore, the Florida Chamber continues to work closely with education, local business and workforce leaders to champion the best possible education and close Florida's talent gap.

Pro-Biz / No-Biz	Bill Name	Bill Sponsor(s)	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
	Mastery Based Education	 HB 523: Rep. Nick DiCeglie	Allows a diversified pathway for students by providing an educational environment that allows students to progress to higher levels of learning based upon the mastery of concepts and skills.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Designation of School Grades	 SB 434: Sen. Montford HB 957: Rep. Shoaf	Modifies the high school acceleration component of the school grading model to add to the calculation students who complete career certificate dual enrollment courses resulting in 300 or more clock hours that are identified by the State Board of Education.	 PASSED SB 434 Passed March 11, 2020
	Early Learning and Early Grade Success	 SB 1688: Sen. Harrell HB 1013: Rep. Grall	Updates how Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten students are assessed to better identify their needs in the classroom. Additionally this bill seeks to help ensure that all educational instructors meet high academic standards.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	K-12 Scholarship Programs	 HB 7067: Rep. Sullivan SB 1220: Sen. Diaz, Jr.	Provides additional educational opportunities for students, while expanding eligibility for the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program, the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program and the Gardiner Scholarship Program.	 PASSED HB 7067 Passed March 13, 2020
















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CREATING QUALITY JOBS BY DIVERSIFYING FLORIDA'S ECONOMY

Growing and diversifying Florida's economy is essential to creating jobs and opportunities for all Floridians. At the Florida Chamber, we continue to believe that building on Florida's foundational industries - tourism, agriculture and construction - and investing in innovative next generation sectors, Florida can continue to attract a world class workforce and lead the way in job creation.

Pro-Biz / No-Biz	Bill Name	Bill Sponsor(s)	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
	VISIT FLORIDA	 SB 362: Sen. Hooper HB 213: Rep. Ponder	Reauthorizes VISIT FLORIDA, Florida's tourism marketing organization, which is scheduled to be eliminated on July 1, 2020 without legislative action.	 PASSED SB 362 Passed March 12, 2020
	Entertainment Industry	 SB 530: Sen. Gruters HB 497: Rep. Buchanan	Creates a new tax rebate program for family-friendly TV productions, movies and digital media that are produced in Florida using Florida talent.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Regional Rural Development Grants	 SB 426: Sen. Montford HB 1139: Rep. Clemons	Provides additional resources and assistance to underserved rural communities to improve economic vitality and encourage economic development efforts.	 PASSED SB 426 Passed March 11, 2020
	Research & Development Tax Credit	 SB 576: Sen. Gruters	Encourages high wage jobs and capital investments by increasing the amount of tax credits available for qualified research and development activities in Florida.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Economic Development	 SB 779: Rep. Roach SB 922: Sen. Gruters	Reauthorizes the Qualified Targeted Industry Tax Refund Program, a key economic development initiative that encourages high wage jobs and is set to expire on July 1, 2020 without legislative action; improves access to the program for counties impacted by Hurricane Michael.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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PREPARING FLORIDA'S INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SMART GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Florida Chamber Foundation research shows that about 900 people move to Florida each day, and by 2030, Florida's population will reach 26 million. The Florida Chamber is focused on creating long-term investments in Florida's energy, water, transportation, telecommunications, agriculture, and other infrastructure. Recognizing the need for new and disruptive technologies, the Florida Chamber supports making Florida the global epicenter of all things autonomous, and will continue to support targeted funding for smart infrastructure projects - positioning Florida for even smarter growth.

Pro-Biz / No-Biz	Bill Name	Bill Sponsor(s)	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
	High Speed Passenger Rail	 SB 676: Sen. Mayfield HB 465: Rep. Sirois	Discourages private transportation investment by creating an unnecessary set of state and local regulations in a system that is adequately regulated and preempted by federal law.	 DEFEATED
	Allowing Local Regulations on 5G	 SB 1848: Sen. Rodriguez HB 6075: Rep. Eskaman	Removes Florida Chamber-backed legislation that provided a uniform set of rules for the next generation of cellular technology.	 DEFEATED
	Environmental Protection Act	 SB 1382: Sen. Albritton HB 1199: Rep. Ingolia	Protects Florida's environmental regulatory structure from a fringe legal philosophy that would grant nearly unlimited standing for frivolous lawsuits	 PASSED Added to SB 712 and Passed March 11, 2020
	Water Quality	 SB 712: Sen. Mayfield HB 1343: Rep. Payne	This bill better protects the health of our water systems by collecting better data, increasing inspections, and funding septic to sewer conversions.	 PASSED SB 712 Passed March 11, 2020














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BUILDING THE PERFECT CLIMATE FOR BUSINESS



















As one of the nation's top business climates, Florida needs to remain focused on being globally competitive. While Florida boasts a growing economy and job creation numbers that outpace the national average, Florida's legal climate remains in the bottom five. To ensure Florida is on the right path toward becoming the number one business climate by 2030, we will continue to work to create world-class opportunities for companies, entrepreneurs, employees and students.

Pro-Biz / No-Biz	Bill Name	Bill Sponsor(s)	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
NEUTRAL	Motor Vehicle Insurance	 SB 378: Sen. Lee HB 771: Rep. Grall	Repeals Florida's motor vehicle no-fault law (personal injury protection insurance) and creates mandatory bodily injury coverage.	DID NOT PASS
	Fair Settlement	 SB 924: Sen. Brandes HB 895: Rep. Santiago	Improves Florida's bottom-five legal climate by addressing Florida's broken bad faith standard.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Contingency Fee Multiplier	 SB 914: Sen. Brandes HB 7071: Rep. Beltran	Improves Florida's bottom-five legal climate by addressing unnecessary lawsuit costs in property insurance claims due to contingency fee multipliers for attorney fees.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Asbestos Trust Claims	 SB 1582: Sen. Simmons HB 741: Rep. Leek	Decreases the gamesmanship in asbestos trust claims by improving transparency and adding notice requirements by the plaintiff within 30 days of a claim being filed.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Damages	 SB 1668: Sen. Simmons HB 9: Rep. Leek	Defines damages in personal injury cases for past, present or future medicals as usual and customary rates in the community for medical expenses.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
















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	Innocent Sellers	 SB 896: Sen. Brandes	Improves Florida's bottom-five legal climate by eliminating vicarious liability for product sellers in a product liability action.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Vicarious Liability Reform	 SB 1738: Sen. Brandes HB 977: Rep. Rommel	Clarifies that the dangerous instrumentality doctrine, which does not apply to rental vehicles, also does not apply to loaner vehicles when a car is being serviced and certain insurance requirements are met.	 PASSED HB 977 Passed March 13, 2020
	Solicitation of Legal Services	 SB 1288: Sen. Wright HB 7083: Rep. Leek	Increases health safety by adding certain requirements and disclosures for advertisements that intend to solicit legal services from patients of medical devices and pharmaceuticals.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Florida Commission on Human Relations	 SB 726: Sen. Rouson HB 255: Rep. Antone	Clarifies that for discrimination complaints before the Florida Commission on Human Relations, the statute of limitations is one year for an aggrieved party regardless of whether the Commission made a reasonable cause determination within 180 days. This fixes a 2000 Florida Supreme Court decision, <i>Joshua v. City of Gainesville</i> .	 PASSED HB 255 Passed March 12, 2020
	Minimum Wage	 SB 456: Sen. Rodriguez HB 691: Rep. Jacquet	Incrementally increases the state minimum wage to over \$15 an hour to the detriment of small businesses and certain employees.	 DEFEATED
	Discrimination in Labor and Employment	 SB 90: Sen. Stewart HB 739: Rep. Thompson	Interferes in employment practices by prohibiting a job creator from requesting or relying on previous wage or salary information to interview, hire, promote or employ an employee.	 DEFEATED
















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	Prohibited Discrimination - Hair	 SB 566: Sen. Bracy HB 761: Rep. Brown	Creates a new cause of action by adding hairstyle to the list of protected classes, such as gender, race or creed, under which it's unlawful to discriminate for housing or employment opportunities.	 DEFEATED
	Unlawful Discrimination – Height/Weight	 SB 644: Sen. Braynon HB 635: Rep. B. Watson	Creates a new cause of action by adding height and weight to the list of protected classes, such as gender, race or creed, under which it's unlawful to discriminate for housing or employment opportunities.	 DEFEATED
	Pregnant Employees	 HB 795: Rep. Joseph	Interferes in the employer-employee relationship by creating new mandates for employers of pregnant employees.	 DEFEATED
	Employment Practices	 SB 1194: Sen. Cruz HB 889: Rep. Davis	Creates a new cause of action and interferes with the employer-employee relationship by mandating job creators provide up to three months of paid family leave for the birth, adoption or foster care placement of a new child.	 DEFEATED
	Heat Related Illness	 SB 882: Sen. Torres, Jr. HB 513: Rep. C. Smith	Adds redundant mandates for job creators with employees that regularly perform work outside.	 DEFEATED
	Background Screening (Ban the Box)	 SB 616: Sen. Powell HB 473: Rep. Omphroy	Prohibits job creators from requesting information about an applicant's criminal history prior to an initial job interview, regardless of the nature of employment.	 DEFEATED















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	Medical Marijuana Employee Protection	 SB 962: Sen. Berman HB 595: Rep. Polsky	Eliminates the ability of job creators to maintain a Drug-Free Workplace by creating a new cause of action against employers that take an adverse action against a person who tests positive for medical marijuana while on the job.	 DEFEATED
	Overtime Pay	 SB 1436: Sen. Torres, Jr.	Interferes in the employer-employee relationship by mandating overtime pay for all salaried employees earning less than \$51,064 a year, regardless of employee class or existing benefit and wage structure.	 DEFEATED
	Wage and Employment Benefits Requirements	 SB 1520: Sen. Rodriguez HB 6065: Rep. C. Smith	Encourages a patchwork of burdensome regulations by allowing local governments to set minimum wage requirements and mandated benefit requirements.	 DEFEATED
	Preemption of Conditions of Employment	 SB 1126: Sen. Gruters HB 305: Rep. Rommel	Prohibits local governments from passing regulations on businesses that interfere with conditions of employment, including wages, scheduling, benefits and background screening.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Home Delivery Services	 SB 1796: Sen. Perry HB 1129: Rep. Caruso	Creates a new cause of action and mandates level II background screenings for the delivery of household goods.	 DEFEATED

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	Sales Tax Modernization	 SB 126: Sen. Gruters HB 159: Rep. Clemons	Modernizes Florida's tax code and levels the playing field for main street businesses by allowing for the collection of sales tax already due from internet retailers.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Corporate Income Tax	 SB 1576: Sen. Rodriguez HB 6021: Rep. Eskamani	Increases the corporate income tax burden on Florida businesses by eliminating the rate reduction that was provided by the legislature in response to the increased tax base as a result of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.	 DEFEATED
	Communications Services Tax	 SB 1174: Sen. Hutson HB 701: Rep. Fischer	Streamlines and reduces the local communications services tax, reducing the tax burden for Florida families and job creators.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Small Business Exemption – Business Rent Tax	 SB 1778: Sen. Gruters HB 1141: Rep. Caruso	Exempts small businesses under a certain number of employees from the business rent tax, the Florida-only sales tax charged on commercial leases.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Corporate Income Tax Combined Reporting	 SB 1596: Sen. Rodriguez	Mandates an affiliated group of corporations with common ownership file a combined water's edge corporate income tax return, which may include income that may not be attributable to Florida.	 DEFEATED

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	Small Business Saturday	 SB 1052: Sen. Taddeo	Supports shopping at local small businesses by eliminating the sales tax on purchases on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Property Tax Exemptions Used by Hospitals	 HB 919: Rep. Caruso	Treats non-profit hospitals differently for property tax purposes than other non-profits.	Mitigated Language Included in HB 7097
	Litigation Financing Consumer Protection	 SB 1828: Sen. Broxson HB 7041: Rep. Leek	Protects injured parties from unscrupulous lenders offering high interest rates that hope to take advantage of the lawsuit and draw out litigation in favor of a greater reward that doesn't always make the injured party whole.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Municipal Litigation	 SB 1574: Sen. Baxley HB 7043: Rep. Gregory	Extends similar attorney fee caps in state litigation to municipal litigation with contingency fee arrangements.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Taxation	 HB 7097: Rep. Avila	Provides for sales tax holidays and changes how the property tax exemption for nonprofit hospitals is calculated on a statewide basis.	 PASSED HB 7097 Passed March 13, 2020

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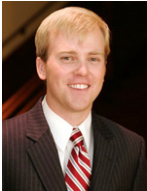






MAKING FLORIDA GOVERNMENT AND CIVICS MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE

As Florida prepares for 26 million residents by 2030, it is crucial that our government systems remain transparent, efficient, aligned and functional for taxpayers. The Florida Chamber continues to fight against burdensome regulations and out-of-state special interests working to buy their way into Florida's Constitution. The Florida Chamber will continue to fight for an efficient government that provides the highest return to taxpayers with the lowest burden on job creators and residents.

Pro-Biz / No-Biz	Bill Name	Bill Sponsor(s)	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
	Drug and Cosmetic Act	 SB 172: Sen. Bradley HB 113: Rep. Roach	Creates statewide uniformity in the sale of drugs, cosmetics, and sunscreen.	 PASSED SB 172 Passed March 10, 2020
	Sale of Sunscreen	 SB 318: Sen. Stewart	Bans the sale of FDA-approved sunscreen outside of very narrow provisions.	 DEFEATED
	Plastic Bag and Plastic Straw Ban	 SB 40: Sen. Rader	Bans the use of plastic straws and bags statewide.	 DEFEATED
	State Funds	 SB 306: Sen. Mayfield HB 381: Rep. Killebrew	Protects the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund and makes housing more attainable for Florida families and workers.	Did not pass, but the Florida Chamber thanks the Legislature for fully funding the Sadowski Housing Fund in 2020.
	Collective Bargaining	 SB 624: Sen. Stewart	Removes Florida Chamber-backed reforms.	 DEFEATED

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	Vacation Rentals	 SB 1128: Sen. Diaz, Jr. HB 1011: Rep. Fischer	Protects the private property rights of owners by establishing a statewide framework for the use of short term vacation rentals.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Preemption Removal	 SB 182: Sen. Stewart HB 6043: Rep. Grieco	Removes a Florida Chamber-backed reform that brought a statewide system for food packaging regulations.	 DEFEATED
NEUTRAL	E-Verify Mandate	 SB 664: Sen. Lee SB 1822: Sen. Gruters HB 1265: Rep. Byrd	New requirements around employment verification for all businesses and mandatory E-Verify for government contractors.	SB 664 Passed March 12, 2020
	Paycheck Protection	 SB 804: Sen. Brandes HB 1: Rep. Jamie Grant	Protects public sector workers from being automatically enrolled in a union against their wishes.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
	Constitutional Protections	 SB 1794: Sen. Hutson HB 7037: Rep. Grant	Protects Florida's Constitution from out-of-state interests buying their way onto the ballot.	 PASSED SB 1794 Passed March 11, 2020

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**Constitutional
Protections**

SB 7062: Judiciary
HB 7093: Rep. Rommel

Protects Florida's Constitution by requiring that voters in all 27 Congressional Districts have a say in what gets put on the ballot.


**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**
CHAMPIONING FLORIDA'S QUALITY OF LIFE

Protecting Florida's unique quality of life is essential to maintaining Florida's family-friendly brand. With an increasing population, and visitors for all over the world, it is important that we focus on creating a healthy and sustainable place for Florida's residents and visitors to work, live, play and learn. This means focusing on stopping the expansion of Law Vegas-style casino gambling, breaking the cycle of generational poverty, and embracing cost-saving, value driven adaptations to Florida's healthcare system.

Pro-Biz / No-Biz	Bill Name	Bill Sponsor(s)	What it Means to Your Business	Outcome
	Patient Safety Culture Surveys	 SB 1370: Sen. Harrell HB 763: Rep. Grant	Requires hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to biennially conduct the "Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture". The survey will be conducted anonymously as this will not only ensure a staff member's rights to privacy are protected, but it will lead to more reliable data by increasing the sample size.	 PASSED HB 763 Passed March 11, 2020
	Health Care Practitioners	 HB 607: Rep. Pigman	Allows Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) to practice medicine to the full extent of their education and training.	 PASSED HB 607 Signed by Governor DeSantis March 11, 2020
	Economic Self Sufficiency	 HB 1323: Rep. Aloupis SB 1624: Sen. Perry	Requires a performance audit, at least every three years, of the Medicaid, Temporary Cash Assistance, School Readiness, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance and Housing Choice Voucher programs that will help address fiscal cliffs in Florida.	 UNFINISHED BUSINESS