

VOTING RECORDS

Key | 2015 Regular Session &
Business | Special Session A of the
Issues | Florida Legislature

2015
*Champions
for
Business*
Page 21



Tom C. Feeney
President &
Chief Executive
Officer

Dear Employer:

It is my pleasure to provide you with this tabulation of the voting conduct of each member of the Florida Legislature during the 2015 Regular Session and Special Session A.

Voting Records reports on the votes made by every legislator on bills that were advocated, promoted or opposed by Associated Industries of Florida. **By reporting on 3,800 votes cast by legislators on 48 bills**, this publication embodies the most exhaustive and complete record of the Legislature’s approach to the concerns of Florida’s employers.

We go to great lengths to ensure that legislators are aware of AIF’s positions on issues of great importance to the business community. Every year before the session begins, we produce AIF’s *Session Priorities*, which explains why we support or oppose key issues. In addition, during the session we provide each legislator with a *Daily Brief* on the activities of that day, highlighting bills of interest to business and our positions on those issues. Our greatest asset, however, is our experienced and accomplished legislative team, which has compiled a record of success second to none.

For 40 years, AIF has published *Voting Records*, an analysis of every vote cast by every legislator on major business issues. Yet voting records only tell part of the story. AIF also helps its member companies detect what bills and amendments are filed and by whom, and who is taking part in behind-the-scene efforts and debates on behalf of the business community.

These intangible forms of support through non-voting actions are also of vital importance and merit recognition. AIF instituted the “Champions for Business” award in 2003 to acknowledge lawmakers who provide leadership on key legislation. A “Champion for Business” is a legislator who takes risks for his or her belief in the free-enterprise system, who defies the status quo when it is harmful to our state’s competitive climate and who faces down the opponents to the growing prosperity of Florida’s citizens.

These eight legislators and Governor Scott (see page 21) honored this year are the epitome of a “Champion for Business.”

Tom C. Feeney
President & Chief Executive Officer



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AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT

By Tammy Perdue, Esq.

The greatest policy challenge facing Florida legislators this session was — and continues to be — health care.

The greatest policy challenge facing Florida legislators this session was — and continues to be — health care. The debate sharpened bitterly this spring as state leaders realized that the federal programs on which our state's hospitals have previously relied are not going to be maintained over the long term with the enactment and implementation of the federal health care reform. Federal officials repeatedly advised Florida leaders that funding to meet the needs of our uninsured population is available through newly created programs under the Affordable Care Act. Acceptance of those funds would provide health coverage to approximately 800,000 working Floridians and would remove the direct and indirect tax burdens that their uncompensated care now places on Florida employers. However the Florida Senate and House disagreed on most of the fundamental policy tenets necessary to construct a framework for productive health reform dialogue or debate.

As a result, budget negotiations and the entire regular session screeched to a halt before a state budget was crafted. A three week Special Session A was later convened which ultimately yielded a state budget but very little else.

The Florida Senate created and passed their Florida Health Insurance Exchange Act (FHIX) that would have leveraged available federal funds to provide premium assistance to low income Floridians through a private sector consumer choice program. While a few other health care issues were addressed in other bills before committee, no other comprehensive plan to increase coverage was ever advanced through the legislative process in either the regular or special sessions. During the special session, the

Senate passed the FHIX plan (SB 2A) by a vote of 33-3, but the House killed the measure with a vote of 72-41.

AIF supported the Senate's FHIX legislation (SB 2A) by Sen. Aaron Bean (R-Fernandina Beach) because it embodied the longstanding AIF position on health care which encourages our state leaders to leverage available federal funding for delivering health care to more Floridians in a manner that best safeguards Florida's citizens and protects the State's financial health.

Over the past few years, AIF members around the state have increasingly expressed their deep concern and sincere desire for resolution to this critical issue because a **healthy and productive workforce** is vital to Florida employers and the state's economy as a whole.

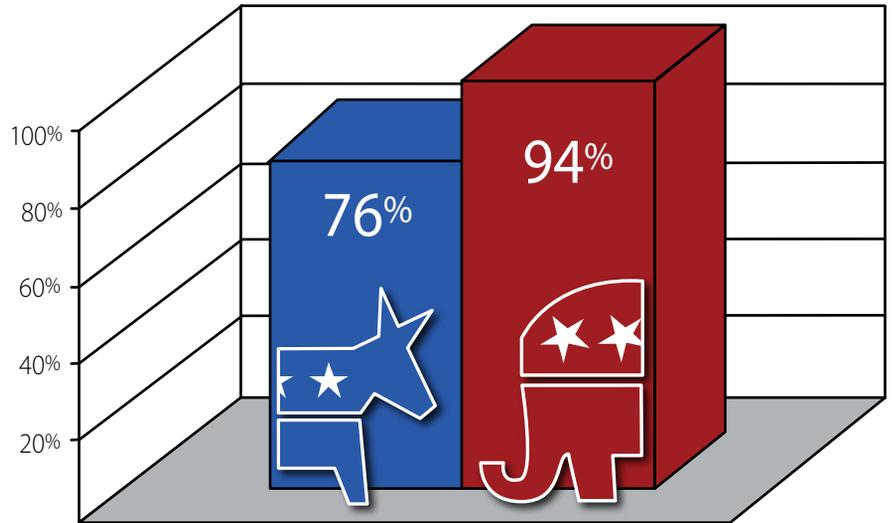
To ensure a thriving Florida workforce, AIF will continue its leadership on proposals that seek to increase the accessibility and affordability of quality health care for Florida residents and we urge Florida's elected officials to join us in crafting Florida-centric solutions through the resources and creativity our world-class business community offers.

2015 Florida Legislature *by the Numbers*

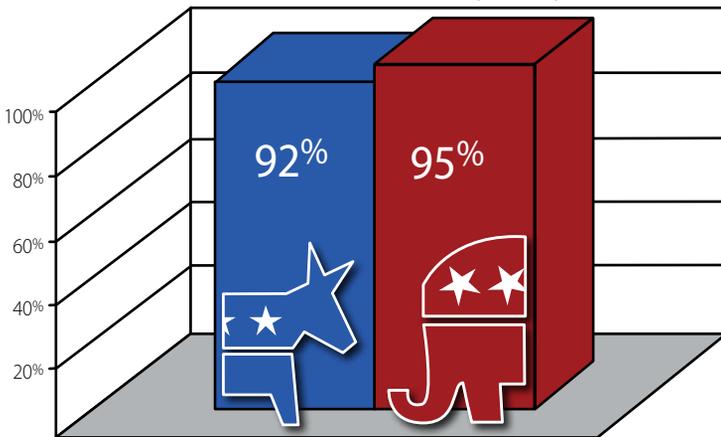


Knowing how individual legislators cast their votes is extremely important when evaluating their stand on the issues facing our members. However, it is also important to look at the other areas of the data to find clues on how different segments of the Florida Legislature are casting their votes. For instance, which party in which chamber tends to support business issues more than the other? How do the current voting records compare to those from past years? This section will break down different segments of the votes and provide some interesting snapshots of what the mood of the Florida Legislature is on business issues.

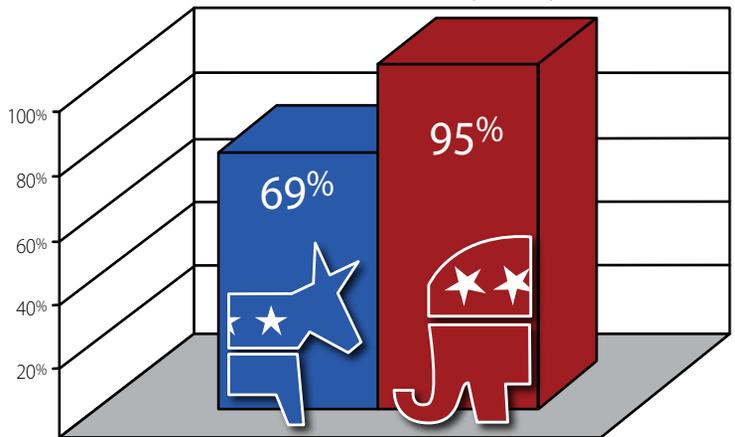
Legislature by Party



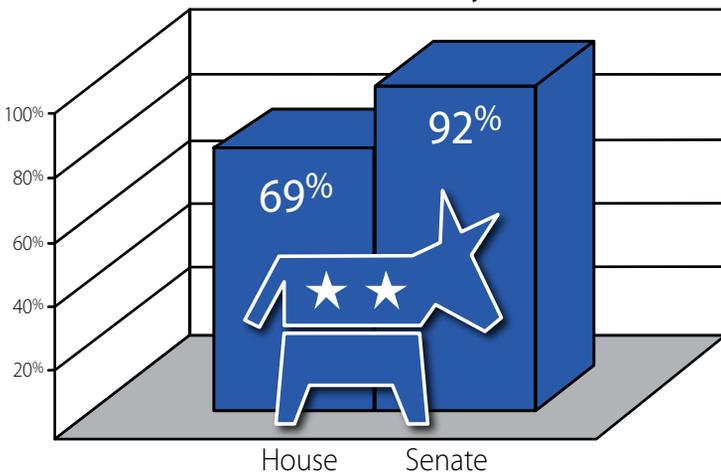
Senate by Party



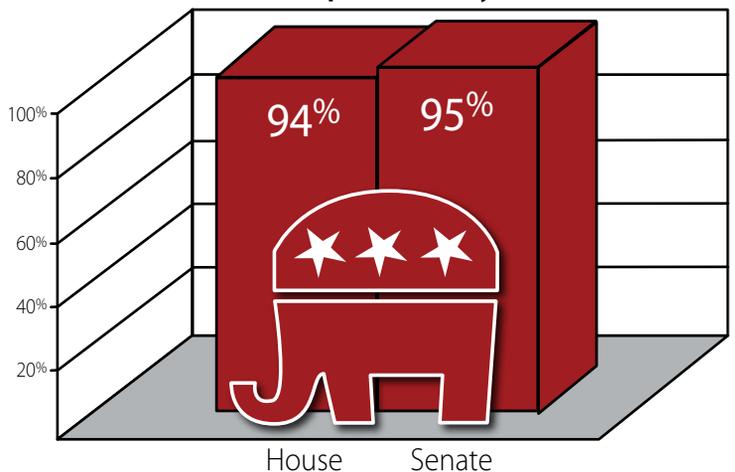
House by Party



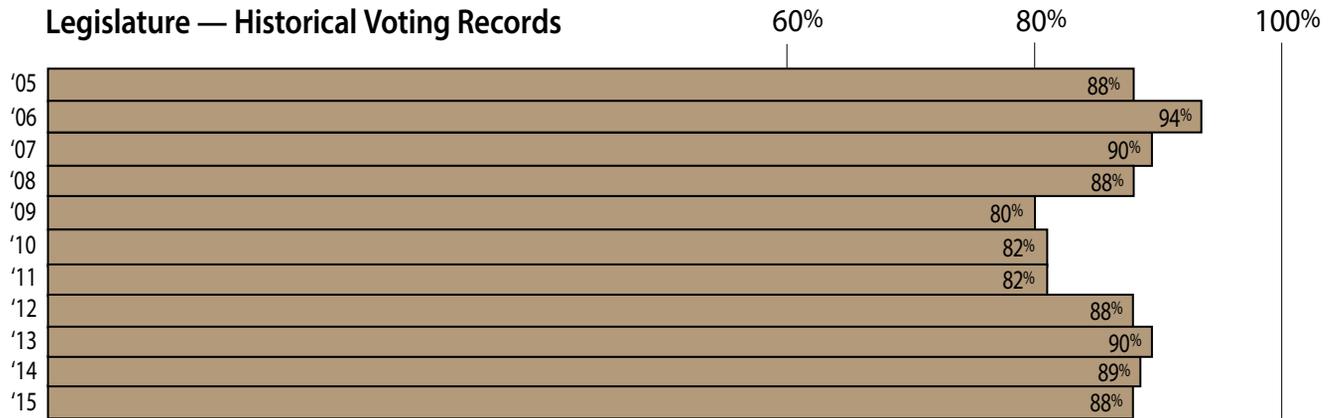
Democrats by Chamber



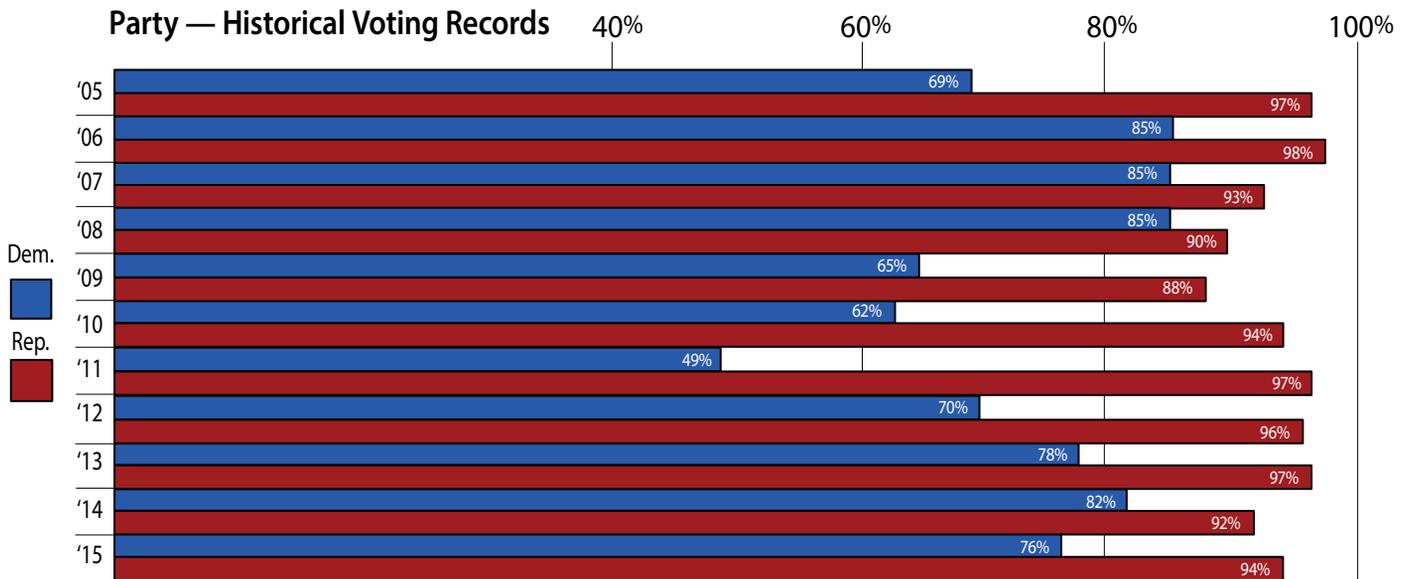
Republicans by Chamber



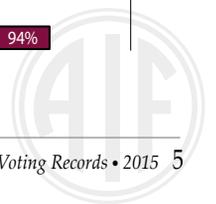
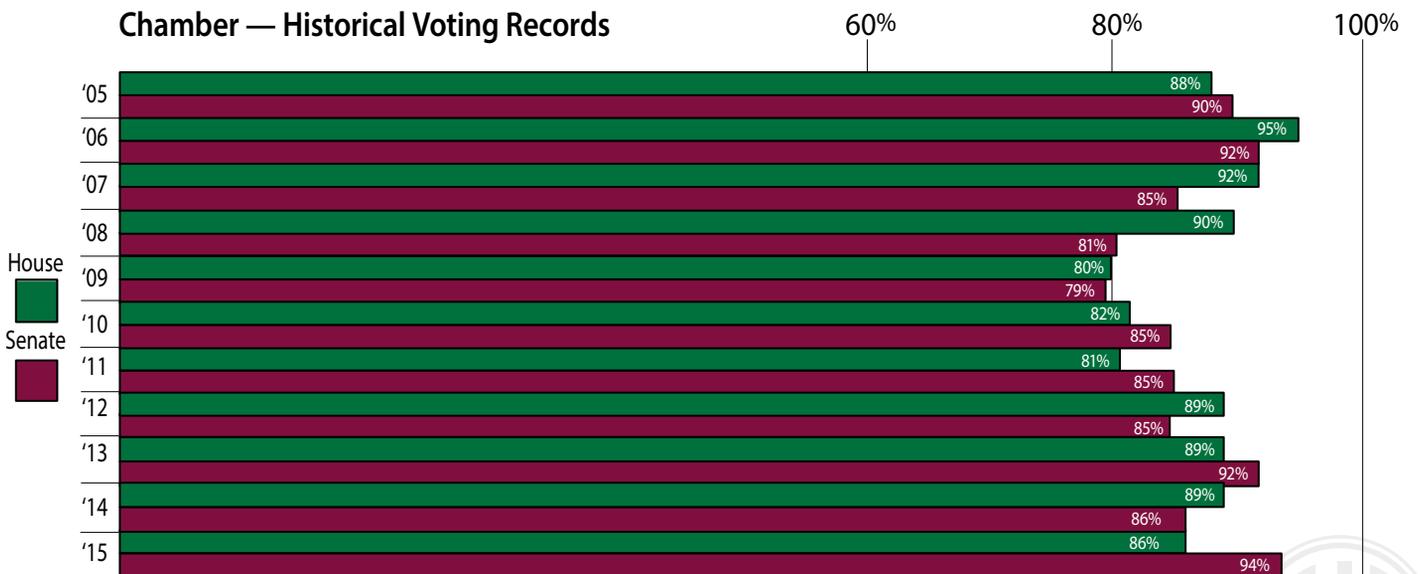
Legislature — Historical Voting Records



Party — Historical Voting Records



Chamber — Historical Voting Records





2015 Florida Legislature

Voting Records

*On Key Business Issues
– Percentage with AIF*

Voting Records is compiled using actual votes cast as reported in official state records. Each vote cast is measured equally, with no added points to certain bills.

About AIF Voting Records

AIF is the undisputed leader in providing the business community with comprehensive voting records that allow employers to gauge how legislators are casting votes on bills that affect their businesses. For 40 years, AIF has published *Voting Records* — the definitive legislative scorecard for the business community. With term limits, the historical aspect of a legislator’s votes is more important than ever. Former legislators are showing up on the ballot again, and the ability to quickly view their past voting records is critical. In some cases, it will allow employers to match campaign promises with actual votes cast.

* Travis Hutson served in House until April 7, sworn into Senate on April 8

** Ronald Renuart served in House until April 7

† James Grant sworn into House on April 22

‡ Paul Renner sworn into House on April 8;

Cindy Stevenson sworn into House on April 8

FLORIDA SENATE

% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against
100%	Abruzzo (D)	31	0
100%	Bradley (R)	23	0
100%	Dean (R)	23	0
100%	Gardiner (R)	12	0
100%	Legg (R)	18	0
100%	Ring (D)	22	0
97%	Benacquisto (R)	30	1
97%	Galvano (R)	29	1
97%	Hays (R)	28	1
97%	Richter (R)	30	1
97%	Simmons (R)	31	1
97%	Simpson (R)	31	1
96%	Altman (R)	23	1
96%	Brandes (R)	23	1
96%	Diaz de la Portilla (R)	27	1
96%	Garcia (R)	26	1
96%	Latvala (R)	27	1
96%	Lee (R)	24	1
96%	Soto (D)	26	1
96%	Stargel (R)	22	1
95%	Gibson (D)	18	1
95%	Margolis (D)	38	2
95%	Sachs (D)	18	1
94%	Bullard (D)	17	1
94%	Evers (R)	16	1
94%	Sobel (D)	17	1
93%	Bean (R)	26	2
93%	Gaetz (R)	27	2
93%	Montford (D)	28	2
92%	Flores (R)	33	3
92%	Hukill (R)	34	3
91%	Detert (R)	21	2
91%	Grimsley (R)	21	2
90%	Braynon (D)	19	2
90%	Joyner (D)	26	3
89%	Hutson (R) *	8	1
86%	Negron (R)	25	4
83%	Clemens (D)	20	4
80%	Thompson (D)	20	5
79%	Smith (D)	19	5

**Total Votes With
AIF/Business = 94%**

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against
100%	Diaz, J. (R)	26	0	95%	Santiago (R)	19	1	85%	Murphy (D)	23	4
100%	Harrison (R)	24	0	95%	Spano (R)	18	1	85%	Rodrigues (R)	22	4
100%	Hutson (R) *	2	0	95%	Sprowls (R)	19	1	84%	Van Zant (R)	16	3
100%	Pilon (R)	31	0	95%	Steube (R)	21	1	83%	Eagle (R)	20	4
100%	Raschein (R)	23	0	95%	Trumbull (R)	19	1	82%	Campbell (D)	18	4
100%	Renuart (R) **	3	0	95%	Workman (R)	21	1	81%	Richardson (D)	17	4
100%	Young (R)	18	0	94%	Adkins (R)	17	1	80%	Taylor (D)	20	5
97%	Boyd (R)	28	1	94%	Baxley (R)	17	1	79%	Bracy (D)	23	6
97%	Caldwell (R)	29	1	94%	Costello (R)	17	1	78%	Antone (D)	18	5
97%	Combee (R)	28	1	94%	Crisafulli (R)	17	1	78%	Jones, S. (D)	14	4
97%	Drake (R)	30	1	94%	Diaz, M. (R)	17	1	78%	Pritchett (D)	14	4
97%	Gaetz (R)	30	1	94%	Moraitis (R)	31	2	76%	Rouson (D)	19	6
96%	Albritton (R)	25	1	94%	Raburn (R)	29	2	76%	Slosberg (D)	16	5
96%	Bileca (R)	23	1	94%	Renner (R) †	15	1	75%	Kerner (D)	12	4
96%	Burton (R)	26	1	94%	Stevenson (R) ‡	15	1	75%	Rehwinkel Vasilinda (D)	15	5
96%	Cortes, B. (R)	22	1	93%	Mayfield (R)	25	2	74%	Williams (D)	17	6
96%	Cummings (R)	24	1	93%	Metz (R)	25	2	71%	Dudley (D)	22	9
96%	Fresen (R)	22	1	93%	Stone (R)	26	2	71%	Fullwood (D)	15	6
96%	Goodson (R)	26	1	92%	Fant (R)	24	2	71%	McGhee (D)	15	6
96%	Ingram (R)	22	1	92%	Fitzenhagen (R)	22	2	71%	Stark (D)	17	7
96%	La Rosa (R)	25	1	92%	Gonzalez (R)	23	2	70%	Clarke-Reed (D)	14	6
96%	Passidomo (R)	25	1	92%	Grant (R) †	11	1	70%	DuBose (D)	16	7
96%	Plasencia (R)	23	1	92%	Peters (R)	22	2	68%	Berman (D)	19	9
96%	Ray (R)	23	1	91%	Beshears (R)	21	2	68%	Rader (D)	15	7
96%	Rooney (R)	22	1	91%	Oliva (R)	21	2	67%	Cruz (D)	14	7
96%	Smith (R)	25	1	91%	Sullivan (R)	32	3	65%	Powell (D)	17	9
95%	Brodeur (R)	18	1	91%	Tobia (R)	20	2	64%	Cortes, J. (D)	16	9
95%	Broxson (R)	19	1	90%	Latvala (R)	18	2	63%	Jenne (D)	15	9
95%	Corcoran (R)	19	1	90%	Magar (R)	19	2	63%	Narain (D)	15	9
95%	Eisnaugle (R)	19	1	90%	Trujillo (R)	19	2	62%	Jacobs (D)	13	8
95%	Harrell (R)	18	1	90%	Wood (R)	27	3	62%	Lee (D)	13	8
95%	Hudson (R)	20	1	89%	Burgess (R)	16	2	62%	Rodriguez (D)	16	10
95%	Ingoglia (R)	21	1	89%	Hager (R)	17	2	62%	Stafford (D)	16	10
95%	McBurney (R)	21	1	89%	Hill (R)	25	3	61%	Rogers (D)	14	9
95%	Miller (R)	20	1	89%	Moskowitz (D)	25	3	61%	Torres (D)	14	9
95%	Nuñez (R)	20	1	89%	Pigman (R)	24	3	60%	Jones, M. (D)	12	8
95%	O'Toole (R)	19	1	88%	Avila (R)	22	3	59%	Watson, C. (D)	17	12
95%	Perry (R)	18	1	88%	Edwards (D)	21	3	57%	Geller (D)	13	10
95%	Porter (R)	18	1	88%	Plakon (R)	22	3	47%	Watson, B. (D)	9	10
95%	Raulerson (R)	18	1	85%	Ahern (R)	17	3	35%	Pafford (D)	7	13
95%	Roberson (R)	20	1	85%	Artiles (R)	22	4				

Total Votes With AIF/Business = 86%



2015 Florida Legislature Voting Records

On Key Business Issues – Alphabetic Order

Voting Records is compiled using actual votes cast as reported in official state records. Each vote cast is measured equally, with no added points to certain bills.

* Travis Hutson served in House until April 7, sworn into Senate on April 8

** Ronald Renuart served in House until April 7

† James Grant sworn into House on April 22

‡ Paul Renner sworn into House on April 8;

Cindy Stevenson sworn into House on April 8

FLORIDA SENATE

Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF
Abruzzo (D)	31	0	100%
Altman (R)	23	1	96%
Bean (R)	26	2	93%
Benacquisto (R)	30	1	97%
Bradley (R)	23	0	100%
Brandes (R)	23	1	96%
Braynon (D)	19	2	90%
Bullard (D)	17	1	94%
Clemens (D)	20	4	83%
Dean (R)	23	0	100%
Detert (R)	21	2	91%
Diaz de la Portilla (R)	27	1	96%
Evers (R)	16	1	94%
Flores (R)	33	3	92%
Gaetz (R)	27	2	93%
Galvano (R)	29	1	97%
Garcia (R)	26	1	96%
Gardiner (R)	12	0	100%
Gibson (D)	18	1	95%
Grimmsley (R)	21	2	91%
Hays (R)	28	1	97%
Hukill (R)	34	3	92%
Hutson (R) *	8	1	89%
Joyner (D)	26	3	90%
Latvala (R)	27	1	96%
Lee (R)	24	1	96%
Legg (R)	18	0	100%
Margolis (D)	38	2	95%
Montford (D)	28	2	93%
Negron (R)	25	4	86%
Richter (R)	30	1	97%
Ring (D)	22	0	100%
Sachs (D)	18	1	95%
Simmons (R)	31	1	97%
Simpson (R)	31	1	97%
Smith (D)	19	5	79%
Sobel (D)	17	1	94%
Soto (D)	26	1	96%
Stargel (R)	22	1	96%
Thompson (D)	20	5	80%

**Total Votes With
AIF/Business = 94%**

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF
Adkins (R)	17	1	94%	Gonzalez (R)	23	2	92%	Powell (D)	17	9	65%
Ahern (R)	17	3	85%	Goodson (R)	26	1	96%	Pritchett (D)	14	4	78%
Albritton (R)	25	1	96%	Grant (R) †	11	1	92%	Raburn (R)	29	2	94%
Antone (D)	18	5	78%	Hager (R)	17	2	89%	Rader (D)	15	7	68%
Artiles (R)	22	4	85%	Harrell (R)	18	1	95%	Raschein (R)	23	0	100%
Avila (R)	22	3	88%	Harrison (R)	24	0	100%	Raulerson (R)	18	1	95%
Baxley (R)	17	1	94%	Hill (R)	25	3	89%	Ray (R)	23	1	96%
Berman (D)	19	9	68%	Hudson (R)	20	1	95%	Rehwinkel Vasilinda (D)	15	5	75%
Beshears (R)	21	2	91%	Hutson (R) *	2	0	100%	Renner (R) ‡	15	1	94%
Bileca (R)	23	1	96%	Ingoglia (R)	21	1	95%	Renuart (R) ***	3	0	100%
Boyd (R)	28	1	97%	Ingram (R)	22	1	96%	Richardson (D)	17	4	81%
Bracy (D)	23	6	79%	Jacobs (D)	13	8	62%	Roberson (R)	20	1	95%
Brodeur (R)	18	1	95%	Jenne (D)	15	9	63%	Rodrigues (R)	22	4	85%
Broxson (R)	19	1	95%	Jones, M. (D)	12	8	60%	Rodriguez (D)	16	10	62%
Burgess (R)	16	2	89%	Jones, S. (D)	14	4	78%	Rogers (D)	14	9	61%
Burton (R)	26	1	96%	Kerner (D)	12	4	75%	Rooney (R)	22	1	96%
Caldwell (R)	29	1	97%	La Rosa (R)	25	1	96%	Rouson (D)	19	6	76%
Campbell (D)	18	4	82%	Latvala (R)	18	2	90%	Santiago (R)	19	1	95%
Clarke-Reed (D)	14	6	70%	Lee (D)	13	8	62%	Slosberg (D)	16	5	76%
Combee (R)	28	1	97%	Magar (R)	19	2	90%	Smith (R)	25	1	96%
Corcoran (R)	19	1	95%	Mayfield (R)	25	2	93%	Spano (R)	18	1	95%
Cortes, B. (R)	22	1	96%	McBurney (R)	21	1	95%	Sprolws (R)	19	1	95%
Cortes, J. (D)	16	9	64%	McGhee (D)	15	6	71%	Stafford (D)	16	10	62%
Costello (R)	17	1	94%	Metz (R)	25	2	93%	Stark (D)	17	7	71%
Crisafulli (R)	17	1	94%	Miller (R)	20	1	95%	Steube (R)	21	1	95%
Cruz (D)	14	7	67%	Moraitis (R)	31	2	94%	Stevenson (R) †	15	1	94%
Cummings (R)	24	1	96%	Moskowitz (D)	25	3	89%	Stone (R)	26	2	93%
Diaz, J. (R)	26	0	100%	Murphy (D)	23	4	85%	Sullivan (R)	32	3	91%
Diaz, M. (R)	17	1	94%	Narain (D)	15	9	63%	Taylor (D)	20	5	80%
Drake (R)	30	1	97%	Nuñez (R)	20	1	95%	Tobia (R)	20	2	91%
DuBose (D)	16	7	70%	Oliva (R)	21	2	91%	Torres (D)	14	9	61%
Dudley (D)	22	9	71%	O'Toole (R)	19	1	95%	Trujillo (R)	19	2	90%
Eagle (R)	20	4	83%	Pafford (D)	7	13	35%	Trumbull (R)	19	1	95%
Edwards(D)	21	3	88%	Passidomo (R)	25	1	96%	Van Zant (R)	16	3	84%
Eisnauqle (R)	19	1	95%	Perry (R)	18	1	95%	Watson, B. (D)	9	10	47%
Fant (R)	24	2	92%	Peters (R)	22	2	92%	Watson, C. (D)	17	12	59%
Fitzenhagen (R)	22	2	92%	Pigman (R)	24	3	89%	Williams (D)	17	6	74%
Fresen (R)	22	1	96%	Pilon (R)	31	0	100%	Wood (R)	27	3	90%
Fullwood (D)	15	6	71%	Plakon (R)	22	3	88%	Workman (R)	21	1	95%
Gaetz (R)	30	1	97%	Plasencia (R)	23	1	96%	Young (R)	18	0	100%
Geller (D)	13	10	57%	Porter (R)	18	1	95%				

Total Votes With AIF/Business = 86%



Historical Florida Legislature Voting Records

On Key Business Issues

The AIF Historical Voting Records provides a cumulative tally of all the votes cast by legislators on AIF issues over their careers in the Florida Legislature.

FLORIDA SENATE		
Name/Party	2015	History
Abruzzo (D)	100%	73%
Altman (R)	96%	92%
Bean (R)	93%	93%
Benacquisto (R)	97%	94%
Bradley (R)	100%	93%
Brandes (R)	96%	96%
Braynon (D)	90%	69%
Bullard (D)	94%	59%
Clemens (D)	83%	62%
Dean (R)	100%	91%
Detert (R)	91%	91%
Diaz de la Portilla (R)	96%	92%
Evers (R)	94%	94%
Flores (R)	92%	93%
Gaetz (R)	93%	90%
Galvano (R)	97%	94%
Garcia (R)	96%	90%
Gardiner (R)	100%	94%
Gibson (D)	95%	76%
Grimsley (R)	91%	96%
Hays (R)	97%	94%
Hukill (R)	92%	95%
Hutson (R)	89%	95%
Joyner (D)	90%	64%
Latvala (R)	96%	88%
Lee (R)	96%	87%
Legg (R)	100%	95%
Margolis (D)	95%	80%
Montford (D)	93%	85%
Negron (R)	86%	89%
Richter (R)	97%	94%
Ring (D)	100%	83%
Sachs (D)	95%	75%
Simmons (R)	97%	95%
Simpson (R)	97%	94%
Smith (D)	79%	73%
Sobel (D)	94%	70%
Soto (D)	96%	72%
Stargel (R)	96%	97%
Thompson (D)	80%	69%

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Name/Party	2015	History	Name/Party	2015	History	Name/Party	2015	History
Adkins (R)	94%	97%	Geller (D)	57%	57%	Porter (R)	95%	99%
Ahern (R)	85%	97%	Gonzalez (R)	92%	92%	Powell (D)	65%	75%
Albritton (R)	96%	98%	Goodson (R)	96%	94%	Pritchett (D)	78%	75%
Antone (D)	78%	79%	Grant (R)	92%	97%	Raburn (R)	94%	98%
Artiles (R)	85%	94%	Hager (R)	89%	97%	Rader (D)	68%	70%
Avila (R)	88%	88%	Harrell (R)	95%	96%	Raschein (R)	100%	99%
Baxley (R)	94%	97%	Harrison (R)	100%	97%	Raulerson (R)	95%	99%
Berman (D)	68%	62%	Hill (R)	89%	93%	Ray (R)	96%	97%
Beshears (R)	91%	96%	Hudson (R)	95%	97%	Rehwinkel Vasilinda (D)	75%	60%
Bileca (R)	96%	97%	Ingoglia (R)	95%	95%	Renner (R)	94%	94%
Boyd (R)	97%	99%	Ingram (R)	96%	98%	Richardson (D)	81%	80%
Bracy (D)	79%	77%	Jacobs (D)	62%	62%	Roberson (R)	95%	96%
Brodeur (R)	95%	98%	Jenne (D)	63%	58%	Rodrigues (R)	85%	91%
Broxson (R)	95%	98%	Jones, M. (D)	60%	62%	Rodriguez (D)	62%	62%
Burgess (R)	89%	89%	Jones, S. (D)	78%	81%	Rogers (D)	61%	62%
Burton (R)	96%	96%	Kerner (D)	75%	76%	Rooney (R)	96%	99%
Caldwell (R)	97%	96%	LaRosa (R)	96%	99%	Rouson (D)	76%	66%
Campbell (D)	82%	66%	Latvala (R)	90%	90%	Santiago (R)	95%	98%
Clarke-Reed (D)	70%	60%	Lee (D)	62%	83%	Slosberg (D)	76%	62%
Combee (R)	97%	98%	Magar (R)	90%	97%	Smith (R)	96%	97%
Corcoran (R)	95%	96%	Mayfield (R)	93%	97%	Spano (R)	95%	96%
Cortes, B. (R)	96%	96%	McBurney (R)	95%	96%	Spowls (R)	95%	95%
Cortes, J. (D)	64%	64%	McGhee (D)	71%	68%	Stafford (D)	62%	52%
Costello (R)	94%	99%	Metz (R)	93%	97%	Stark (D)	71%	79%
Crisafulli (R)	94%	98%	Miller (R)	95%	95%	Steube (R)	95%	96%
Cruz (D)	67%	59%	Moraitis (R)	94%	97%	Stevenson (R)	94%	94%
Cummings (R)	96%	96%	Moskowitz (D)	89%	83%	Stone (R)	93%	97%
Diaz, J. (R)	100%	97%	Murphy (D)	85%	83%	Sullivan (R)	91%	91%
Diaz, M. (R)	94%	95%	Narain (D)	63%	63%	Taylor (D)	80%	65%
Drake (R)	97%	96%	Nunez (R)	95%	97%	Tobia (R)	91%	95%
DuBose (D)	70%	70%	Oliva (R)	91%	94%	Torres (D)	61%	74%
Dudley (D)	71%	79%	O'Toole (R)	95%	97%	Trujillo (R)	90%	95%
Eagle (R)	83%	93%	Pafford (D)	35%	47%	Trumbull (R)	95%	95%
Edwards (D)	88%	92%	Passidomo (R)	96%	98%	Van Zant (R)	84%	94%
Eisnaugle (R)	95%	97%	Perry (R)	95%	96%	Watson, B. (D)	47%	53%
Fant (R)	92%	92%	Peters (R)	92%	97%	Watson, C. (D)	59%	77%
Fitzenhagen (R)	92%	98%	Pigman (R)	89%	96%	Williams (D)	74%	65%
Fresen (R)	96%	97%	Pilon (R)	100%	96%	Wood (R)	90%	97%
Fullwood (D)	71%	69%	Plakon (R)	88%	96%	Workman (R)	95%	98%
Gaetz (R)	97%	95%	Plasencia (R)	96%	96%	Young (R)	100%	99%

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Bill = included in AIF's 2015 Session Priorities.



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The Bills

Voting Records was compiled using committee, amendment, and floor votes cast. Unless otherwise noted, AIF took the same position on the bills listed at the end of each write-up.

AGRICULTURE

 **HB 137/SB 158 Relating to Civil Liability of Farmers** by Rep. Kevin Rader (D-Boca Raton) and Sen. Greg Evers (R-Pensacola)

This bill provides a civil liability exemption for farmers who allow citizens on their land to harvest excess crops. Under the existing law, if a farmer allows a person, without charge, onto a farm to harvest crops or produce leftover after the farm is harvested, the farmer is not liable for damages caused by the condition of the crops, produce or the condition of the land. Under the new bill, a farmer may allow a person to harvest crops or produce at any time without being liable for the condition of the crops, produce or the condition of the land.

AIF supported this bill and will continue to support legislation that will reduce the number of frivolous lawsuits brought against Florida's business owners.

HB 137 was laid on the table and substituted for SB 158; SB 158 was approved by Governor Scott on 5/21/15 and assigned Chapter No. 2015-38.

 **HB 569/SB 594 Relating to Agritourism** by Rep. Neil Combee (R-Auburndale) and Sen. Kelli Stargel (R-Lakeland)

This bill removes the ability of local governments to regulate, rule, prohibit, restrict or limit "agritourism" activities on land classified as agricultural under the Florida's greenbelt law. An "agritourism activity" is any agricultural related activity that allows members of the general public to view or enjoy activities held on a farm, ranch or in a working forest. These activities include farming, ranching, historical visits, cultural visits, or harvest-your-own activities and attractions.

AIF supports any legislation that allows Florida farmers to safely expand their businesses through the use of Agritourism.

HB 569 died in the Senate Committee on Agriculture; SB 594 died on the Senate Calendar.

 **SB 398- Relating to Agriculture Tax Exemptions** by Sen. Kelli Stargel (R-Lakeland)

This bill expands the sales tax exemption on farm equipment to include: equipment used for the storage of raw products on a farm, irrigation equipment, trailers used in agricultural production and transportation, stakes used by farmers to support plants during agricultural production, and the repairing of power farm equipment and irrigation equipment.

AIF supports the Agriculture Tax Exemption so Florida's farmers can better compete with farmers in neighboring states who do not pay sales tax on equipment used for the harvesting and production of crops.

SB 398 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations; however, the legislation was included in the tax package, HB 33A, during Special Session-A.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

 **HB 451/SB 1046 Relating to Entertainment Industry Tax Credit Program** by Rep. Mike Miller (R-Orlando) and Sen. Nancy Detert (R-Venice) **PRIORITY**

This bill proposes significant modifications to the current incentives and benefits the state offers companies within the film and entertainment industry. **HB 451** and **SB 1064** modify the processes by which companies may receive such tax credits and exemptions and creates an additional incentive, the "Production Action Fund".

AIF supports this legislation regarding the Entertainment Tax Credit Program due to the jobs a more robust film industry would produce here in the state of Florida.

HB 451 died on the House calendar; SB 1046 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

PRIORITY = included in AIF's 2015 Session Priorities.

 Supported by AIF.

 Opposed by AIF.

SB 7014/HB 7009 Relating to Corporate Income Tax by the Senate Finance and Tax Committee and by the House Finance and Tax Committee

This bill updates Florida's Corporate Income Tax Code by adopting the Internal Revenue Code as in effect on January 1, 2015. In December 2014, the federal government passed the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014 that allows a corporate taxpayer to take advantage of deductions for the expensing and depreciation of capital assets for federal tax purposes. This measure reflects the federal provisions in the Florida tax code, resulting in an estimated \$180 million tax reduction for Fiscal Year 2015-16.

AIF supported this measure that removes conflicts between state and federal tax law and lowers the tax burden on Florida businesses.

SB 7014 was laid on the table; HB 7009 was approved by Governor Scott on 5/14/15 and given Chapter No. 2015-35.

HB 933/SB 1216 Relating to Sector Plans by Rep. Mike La Rosa (R-St. Cloud) and Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey)

This bill combines a number of growth management proposals which include; removing the state mandate that new developments surpassing certain thresholds and standards be subjected to the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) review process for new projects, restructuring the Regional Planning Councils (RPC's) from 11 to 10 and the designated boarders, requiring local governments to include a private property rights protection element as part of their comprehensive plan and limit proportionate share payments when concurrency and impact fees are being charged. The bill also authorizes local governments to enter into financing agreements with property owners to finance qualified improvements to property damaged by sinkhole activity. Additionally, the bill expands the definition of "blighted area," enabling community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) to enter into voluntary contracts to redevelop properties damaged by sinkhole activity.

AIF supported this legislation, which will foster development and growth in Florida.

HB 933 was laid on the table; SB 1216 was approved by Governor Scott on 5/14/15 and given Chapter No. 2015-30.

SB 1032 Relating to Point-of-sale Terminals by Sen. Garrett Richter (R-Naples)

This bill allows a limited use of "Point-of-sale Terminals" for the sale of lottery tickets or games. A "Point-of-



AIF President & CEO Tom Feeney welcomes Secretary of DMS Chad Poppell to a meeting of the AIF IT Council.

sale Terminal" is a charge card reader, like those used at a retail counter, self-service fuel pump or self-service check-out line. The bill authorizes the Department of the Lottery, approved vendors, and approved retailers to use point-of-sale terminals to facilitate sales of lottery tickets or games, provided that the purchaser is verified to be 18 years of age or older and the terminal does not dispense lottery winnings. Lottery ticket sales revenue generated from point-of-sale terminals must be used to enhance instructional technology resources for students and teachers in Florida.

AIF supports legislation that introduces innovative means of funding Florida's education system and creates more manufacturing jobs in the state.

SB 1032 died in the Senate Committee on Fiscal Policy.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

SB 118 Relating to Voluntary Contributions for Public Education Facilities by Sen. Alan Hays (R-Umatilla)

This bill sets up a process for businesses to solicit and collect voluntary contributions for the construction and maintenance of public education facilities. Educational facilities include buildings, fixtures, and equipment necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the program of public education. Examples include but are not limited to; classrooms, libraries, rooms and space for physical education, space for fine arts, restrooms, specialized laboratories, cafeterias and media centers. Under the bill, participating businesses are required to remit the contributions to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service (PECO) Trust Fund. The bill authorizes participating businesses to retain 2.5 percent of the first \$1,200 in voluntary contributions remitted on each return to the DOR, up to a maximum of \$30, as compensation for maintaining records, filing returns, and properly accounting for and remitting contributions.

AIF supports legislature helping to ensure that Public Education Facilities receive adequate facilities funding to better equip the workforce of tomorrow.

SB 118 died in House messages.

SB 622 Relating to Higher Education Facilities Financing by Sen. Bill Montford (D-Tallahassee)

ENERGY

SB 1468/ HB 1205 Relating to the Regulation of Oil and Gas Resources by Sen. Garrett Richter (R-Naples) and Rep. Ray Rodrigues (R-Fort Myers) **PRIORITY**

This bill sought to revise the Oil and Gas Program under the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Mining and Minerals Regulation Program to establish safer and more effective practices for oil and gas drilling, production, and exploration activities within Florida. The Program's primary responsibilities would include conservation of oil and gas resources, correlative rights protection, maintenance of health and human safety, and environmental protection.

AIF supports the need to maintain appropriate permitting laws to protect the environment, to enhance efficiency between industry and the state, and to ensure clear communications of appropriate standards are clearly communicated.

SB 1468 was laid on the table; HB1205 died on the House calendar.

ENVIRONMENT

HB 7003 & SB 918 Relating to Water Resources

HB 7003/SB 918 Relating to Water Resources by Rep. Matt Caldwell (R-Lehigh Acres) and Sen. Charlie Dean (R-Inverness) **PRIORITY**

The bill creates an interagency agreement to develop and implement a uniform water management system regarding, water supply planning, consumptive water use permitting, and resource protection programs. Some key components of the bill included the Springs Protection Program, the Central Florida Water Initiative, the Central and Southern Florida Project, and the Northern Everglades project. The Department of Environmental Protection projects a water shortage of 1.3 billion gallons of water per day by 2030, which makes these issues critical to Florida's future.

AIF supports efforts to address Florida's critical water challenges.

HB 7003 died in returning messages from the House; SB 918 was laid on the table.

HB 653 Relating to Environmental Control by Rep. Cary Pigman (R-Sebring)

GAMING

HB 1233 Relating to Gaming by Rep. Dana Young (R-Tampa)

This bill creates a statewide gaming commission to better regulate Florida's gaming industry. There were two good amendments to **HB 1233** that AIF supported. One would have allowed two existing, long-standing pari-mutuel facilities to offer slot machine wagering, which would then allow these facilities to operate in a more competitive manner with other nearby gaming facilities. The second amendment would have called for referendum votes to take place in Miami/Dade and Broward counties on the creation of destination resorts, which would have then put the decision into the hands of the communities where these resorts would be located.

AIF supported this legislation that would have created a statewide gaming commission to better regulate Florida's gaming industry. In addition we supported allowing

Florida's existing pari-mutual industry to operate in a competitive manner. AIF has long supported the creation of high-end destination resorts to bring jobs and outside capital to the state.

HB 1233 died before going to its last stop in the House Appropriations Committee.

HEALTH CARE

 **SB 478/HB 545 Relating to Telehealth** by Sen. Aaron Bean (R-Jacksonville) and Sen. Arthenia Joyner (D-Tampa) and Rep. Travis Cummings (R-Orange Park)

This bill establishes that the standard of care for a telehealth service is the same as the standard of care for a health professional providing inperson services. A telehealth provider is not required to research the patient's medical history or conduct a physical examination if the telehealth provider conducts an evaluation sufficient to diagnose and treat the patient. Additionally, a telehealth provider must document health care services in the patient's medical record under the same standard as for in-person care.

AIF supports legislation that permits an unfettered role for telemedicine services that will allow our citizens access to better quality care at lower costs.

SB 478 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations; HB 545 died in the House Health and Human Services Committee.

 **SB 784 Relating to Health Care** by Sen. Don Gaetz (R-Destin)

This bill attacks the cost savings measures used by health plans as it relates to prescription drugs. The bill would establish a Clinical Practices Review Commission within the Department of Health to review authorization procedures utilized by health plans in reviewing requests for additional treatment protocols, including more expensive prescription medications. The commission would determine if the limitation is supported by sufficient clinical evidence. The fear is that it will raise health care costs for employers who provide their employees with health care.

AIF opposes legislation that hampers access to health care and increases costs to Florida families and businesses.

SB 784 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

 **SB 7044 Relating to Health Care Insurance Affordability Exchange** by the Senate Health Policy Committee **PRIORITY**

This bill makes health care coverage available to almost

800,000 more working Floridians through the creation of the Florida Health Insurance Exchange (FHIX).

AIF supports the efforts made on proposals that sought to increase the accessibility and affordability of quality health care for Florida residents.

SB 7044 died on the Senate calendar.

 **SB 2A Relating to Health Insurance Affordability Exchange** by Sen. Aaron Bean (R-Jacksonville) **PRIORITY**

This bill establishes the Florida Health Insurance Exchange (FHIX) program. **SB 2A** is identical to **SB 7044** which was approved by the Senate during the regular session. The FHIX program would have used federal dollars to provide premium assistance to approximately 800,000 of the low income and uninsured Floridians. Participants would have been required to pay premiums ranging from \$3 to \$25 a month and show proof that they were employed or were receiving employment assistance services.

AIF supports **SB 2A** because it is consistent with our longstanding health care policy objectives that seek to ensure a thriving Florida workforce, by increasing the accessibility and affordability of quality health care for Florida residents.

SB 2A died on the House floor.

INSURANCE

 **HB 669 Relating to Insurance Claims** by Rep. John Tobia (R-Melbourne Beach)

This bill explains that the Assignments of Benefits (AOB's) are the latest cost driver to break through the insurance market and is a scheme perpetrated by a cottage industry. Essentially, instead of just having a mechanism to get paid, contractors—with coaching from plaintiffs' attorneys—are encouraged to take full legal standing away from policyholders. This is because the one-way attorney fee statute is transferable to these business assignees who then threaten or initiate litigation to put pressure on the insurer to pay them a higher reimbursement—or face attorney fee exposure.

AIF supports all efforts to stamp out cost drivers and control attorneys' fees for the benefit of premium payers statewide.

HB 669 died in the House Regulatory Affairs Committee.

 **SB 916 Relating to Commercial Insurer Rate Filing Procedures** by Sen. Bill Montford (D-Tallahassee)

PRIORITY = included in AIF's 2015 Session Priorities.

 Supported by AIF.  Opposed by AIF.

Brewster Bevis, Senior Vice President – State and Federal Affairs, speaks to members at the 2015 Pre-Session Briefing in Tallahassee.



AIF has worked hard to preserve and protect an efficient, self-executing, and cost effective workers' compensation system and applauds efforts to ensure such a system continues.

SB 1060 died in House messages.

HB 1197 Relating to Civil Remedies Against Insurers by Rep. Mike Hill (R-Pensacola)

This bill also known as "bad faith", provides that before a third party may file an action alleging bad faith that the insurer must receive a notice of loss and must be afforded a 45 day period to cure. An insurer acts in bad faith when the insurer does not attempt in good faith to settle claims and, under the circumstances, the insurer could have had it acted fairly and honestly toward its insured with due regard to his or her interest.

AIF supports legislation establishing a reasonable time frame during which an insurer may investigate, and if warranted, tender policy limits to settle a liability claim. This will provide fairness within the insurance settlement process.

HB 1197 died before going to the House Insurance and Banking Committee.

HB 1199 Relating to Damages in Personal Injury Actions by Rep. Larry Metz (R-Groveland)

This bill provides that there be transparency in all medical expenses when they are considered evidence in a trial to determine damages. The purpose of personal injury law is to fairly compensate a person injured due to the wrongful acts of another. The bill changes how damages for past medical expenses are calculated. When the medical bill has already been paid, the jury is informed of the actual amount paid and the jury may not award a higher amount. When the balance for such services is outstanding, the bill provides that the following evidence may be admitted at trial and considered by the jury in determining damages:

- The amounts the provider routinely accepts as payment from governmental or private insurers for the same or similar services
- Amounts billed by the provider for services provided to the plaintiff
- Amounts the provider received in compensation for the sale of an agreement between the provider and the plaintiff.

AIF supports full and fair disclosure of all relevant facts including the amount of medical reimbursement-at trial.

HB 1199 died in the House Judiciary Committee.

This bill removes inconsistencies in the statute with respect to commercial rate filings. In 2011, a bill passed that exempted commercial insurers from filing rates for most types of commercial lines with the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR). This flexibility was needed since commercial risks are varied, often complex, and need to be uniquely tailored to meet the needs of a particular industry and business. **SB 916** removes a certification requirement to rate filings, and aligns the annual rate filing statute with the exemption for commercial multiple peril insurance and commercial motor vehicle insurance.

AIF supports removing redundant or burdensome regulations that add no value to the end user, the consumers. AIF also supports a robust and competitive commercial marketplace, as this vibrancy results in better prices and better products for business owners.

SB 916 died in House messages.

SB 1060 Relating to Legislative Ratification by Sen. David Simmons (R-Altamonte Springs)

This bill relates to the maximum reimbursement allowances for worker's compensation situations, such as, medical treatment and care. Proposed by the Division of Workers' Compensation, this legislation addresses a glitch from the implementation of legislative rule authorization. By excluding the adoption of workers' compensation reimbursement manuals from the authorization process, the Division is able to keep reimbursement protocols and rates up to date, which fosters the self-executing nature of the workers' compensation system for the benefit of employees, employers, and employer-carriers.

LEGAL & JUDICIAL

 **HB 163/SB 224 Relating to Public Records/Contractors** by Rep. Halsey Beshears (R-Monticello) and Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey)

This bill addresses the procedure for obtaining records relating to a public agency's contract for services with a private contractor. It creates protocols that safeguard against abuse of loopholes in current law that have recently been utilized to pursue frivolous and costly litigation against the state and its private sector contractors.

AIF supports legislation that reduces frivolous law suits against Florida businesses.

HB 163 was laid on the table; SB 224 died in Senate returning messages.

 **HB 921/SB 1048 Relating to Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, Factory Branches, Importers and Dealers** by Rep. Carlos Trujillo (R-Doral) and Sen. Rene Garcia (R-Hialeah)

This bill eases the restrictions on exporting new cars, allowing dealers to capture incentives twice for one time facility improvements. This would increase new car prices, limit the ability of manufacturers to audit warranty work, and encourage fraud that could result in a lack of credible safety information. The bill provides unnecessary hurdles for dealers, no added benefits for consumers, and drives up the costs.

AIF opposes any legislation that creates an unfair playing field for Florida's businesses and consumers.

HB 921 died on the House calendar; SB 1048 died on the House calendar.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

 **HB 391/SB 896 Relating to Location of Utilities** by Rep. Clay Ingram (R-Pensacola) and Sen. Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg)

This bill creates new standards for financial responsibility when a municipality requires relocation of utility equipment situated in a right of way or easement. There is a patchwork of varying standards for financial responsibility across the state, and this bill would clarify that the costs of relocating equipment for municipal development should be borne by the entity requiring the relocation.

AIF supports this legislation protecting the private property rights of Florida businesses.

HB 391 died in the Senate Committee on Community Affairs; SB 896 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

 **SB 284/HB 383 Relating to Private Property Rights** by Sen. Miguel Diaz de la Portilla (R-Miami) and Rep. Katie Edwards (D-Sunrise)

This bill gives landowners a course of action where local and state governmental entities impose conditions that rise to the level of unconstitutional exactions. The US Supreme Court has ruled that a government entity cannot demand that a property owner surrender property in order to receive land use permits unless there is a nexus between the government's demand on the landowner and the effect of the proposed land use.

The bill also amends the Bert J. Harris, Jr., Private Property Rights Protection Act to provide that the safe harbor provisions for settlement agreements between a property owner and governmental entity apply regardless of when the settlement agreement was entered so long as it fully resolves all claims.

AIF supported this measure to protect the interests of Florida property owners.

SB 284 was laid on the table; HB 383 was approved by Governor Scott on 6/11/15 and given Chapter No. 2015-142.

PERMITTING

 **SB 466/HB 413- Relating to Low-Voltage Alarm Systems** by Sen. Anitere Flores (R-Miami) and Rep. Bob Cortes (R-Maitland)

This bill amends the current law related to permits required for low-voltage alarm system installation. The bill clarifies that the current law applies to "all" low-voltage alarm system projects for which a permit is required by local government or "local enforcement agencies," including both residential and commercial low-voltage alarm systems. The bill also clarifies that a permit is not required to install or service a "wireless alarm system," and defines "wireless alarm system" as a burglar alarm system or smoke detector that is not hardwired. The bill lowers the maximum permitting fee from \$55 to \$40 per permit label.

AIF supported legislation that reduces burdensome permitting requirements and expenses on Florida businesses.

SB 466 was approved by Governor Scott on 5/21/15 and given Chapter No. 2015-50; HB 413 was laid on the table.



TAXATION

SB 142- Relating to Nonresidential Farm Buildings by Sen. Charles Dean (R-Inverness)

This bill exempts nonresidential farm buildings, fences, and farm signs from property tax assessments by local governments. A nonresidential farm building is a temporary or permanent structure on a farm, or on land used primarily for agricultural purposes. Examples include barns, greenhouses, shade houses, farm offices, storage buildings, and poultry houses.

AIF supports lessening the tax burden on Florida's agriculture community.

SB 142 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

SB 544 Relating to Exemption from the Sales and Use Tax for Certain Machinery and Equipment by Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange)

This bill removes the expiration date for the exemption from sales and use tax on certain industrial machinery and equipment. The current exemption for industrial machinery and equipment continues through April 2017.

AIF supports the permanent elimination of sales tax imposed on the purchase of manufacturing equipment and machinery. This action will make Florida's manufacturers more competitive with those in neighboring states who do not pay sales tax on manufacturing equipment.

SB 544 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

SB 980 Relating to Defense Contracting by Sen. Darren Soto (D-Kissimmee)

This bill authorizes a defense industry prime contractor to reduce its net income that is subject to tax in Florida by an amount equal to four percent of payments made under certain subcontracts awarded to Florida small business subcontractors. Each prime contractor is limited to \$125 million in subcontract awards per calendar year and the entire program is limited to \$1.25 billion in subcontract awards per calendar year.

AIF supports the reduction of taxes for defense contractors in the State of Florida and growing this important industry in our state.

SB 980 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

HB 7141 Relating to Taxation by the House Finance & Tax Committee and Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Shalimar)

This bill encompasses a wide array of taxation issues such as; agricultural items, the reduction of taxes on state communications services tax (CST), tax exemptions on school supplies, and extending dates for tax credit in certain community contribution donations.

AIF supports legislation that provides tax cuts for Florida's consumers and businesses.

HB 7141 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations; however, was brought back as HB 33A during Special Session-A, which was passed. See below.



Sen. Tom Lee (R-Brandon) addresses AIF members at the 2015 Mid-Session Briefing.

HB 33A Relating to Taxation by House Finance & Tax Committee and Rep. Matthew Gaetz (R-Shalimar) **PRIORITY**

This bill is a broad-based tax package designed to bring relief to Florida families and businesses.

HB 33A, includes:

- Reduces the communications services tax (CST) rate by 1.73 percentage points permanently.
- Exempts aquacultural products and feed for aquacultural products from sales tax.
- Expands the farm equipment sales tax exemption to include storage equipment, irrigation equipment, parts and repairs, trailers, and plant stakes.
- Increases the annual limit on the Research and Development Corporate Tax Credit from \$9 million to \$23 million for calendar year 2016.
- Increases the amount of tax credits available for brownfield rehabilitation from \$5 million annually to \$21.6 million in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and returns to \$5 million annually thereafter.
- Provides a 10-day “back-to-school” tax holiday.
- Allows businesses in enterprise zones as of May 1, 2015 to apply for enterprise zone incentives for an additional three years.

AIF supports tax cuts for Florida’s consumers and businesses to foster economic growth.

HB 33A was approved by Governor Scott on 6/16/15 and given Chapter No. 2015-221.

SB 110 Relating to Taxes by Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange)

SB 138 Relating to Tax-exempt Income by Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange)

TRANSPORTATION

HB 817 Relating to Transportation Network Companies by Rep. Matthew Gaetz (R-Shalimar)

This bill prompts the state to create a regulatory framework for the operation of Transportation Network Companies (TNC’s), instead of regulations being created at the local level. Currently, TNC’s are not referenced in the state of Florida’s statute, however, some jurisdictions at the local level have enacted regulations regarding the TNC.

AIF supports statewide digital transportation service policies to create price competition, promote consumer choice, enhance customer experience, create jobs and remove anti-competitive local regulations.

HB 817 died on the House calendar.



PRIORITY = included in AIF’s 2015 Session Priorities. Supported by AIF. Opposed by AIF.



2015

Champions for Business



Votes provide tangible evidence of whether or not a legislator upholds the ability of Florida companies to operate free of overly burdensome state regulation and taxation.

It is a valuable tool used by AIF and the business community to determine which legislators running for re-election deserve our support. Yet, voting records only tell part of the story.

A *Champion for Business* is a legislator who takes risks for his or her belief in the free-enterprise system, who defies the status quo when it is harmful to our state's competitive climate, and who faces down opponents to the growing prosperity of Florida's citizens.

The *Champion for Business* is evidence that, in our efforts to let our members and their legislators know who has been good for business and who has been bad, we leave no stone unturned.

This year, AIF selected those legislators who we deem are strong and forceful advocates for the business community. In our collective wisdom, the Governor and these nine legislators are the epitome of what a *Champion for Business* should be. Whether they proposed an important bill, authored a key amendment, or toiled behind the scenes, these legislators are the ones who made a difference this session.

The *Champion for Business* award symbolizes our gratitude for extraordinary efforts by legislators on behalf of the business community.



Governor Rick Scott is receiving his third AIF Champion for Business Award and is only the second Governor to receive the

award in its thirteen year history. Associated Industries of Florida salutes Governor Scott for his steadfast leadership and staunch pro-business agenda which has bolstered economic growth in the state of Florida. This legislative session Scott signed **HB 33A**, a broad-based tax package, into law. **HB 33A** will bring relief to many Floridians; from Florida's farmers, to Florida's students, and to any Floridian who owns a cell phone. Governor Scott's legislative priority of reducing taxes on Florida's families by over \$400 million will promote and solidify our state's standing as one of the best to live and conduct business. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."



Senate President Andy Gardiner (R-Orlando) is receiving his first AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries

of Florida salutes President Gardiner for his stalwart leadership in fostering a better business climate in Florida as well as his work to pass meaningful health care reform legislation. Because of President Gardiner's courage to face the debate, the Florida Senate developed market based solutions for employer's health care costs that passed through the Florida Senate with bipartisan support. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."



House Speaker Steve Crisafulli (R-Merritt Island) is receiving his fifth AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries

of Florida applauds Speaker Crisafulli for his critical leadership in fostering a better business climate in Florida as well for his effort in advocating for comprehensive water policy in the state of Florida. The Department of Environmental Protection projects there will be a water shortage of 1.3 billion gallons of water per day by 2030, which makes efforts like this critical to Florida's future. With Speaker Crisafulli's efforts, a science-based approach to addressing current, and future statewide water needs passed the Florida House. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."



Sen. Aaron Bean (R-Jacksonville) is receiving his first AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida

salutes Senator Bean for crafting the Florida Health Insurance Affordability Exchange Act and leading its bipartisan passage through the Florida Senate. This important legislation would provide a private-sector, free-market solution to address Florida's health care marketplace by insuring more Floridians and alleviating the costs of uncompensated care which burden businesses and families throughout the state. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."

Throughout the 60 days of lawmaking, these were the leaders we turned to when the business community needed someone we could depend upon.



Whether they proposed an important bill, authored a key amendment, or toiled behind the scenes, these legislators are the ones who made a difference this session.



Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) is receiving her Second AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of

Florida salutes Senator Hukill for her leadership in reducing taxes on Florida's families and businesses by over \$400 million. **HB 33A**, a broad-based tax package designed to bring relief to Florida's families and businesses, will promote and solidify our state's standing as one of the best states to live and conduct business. Senator Hukill worked very closely with the bill sponsor, Rep. Matt Gaetz, during this year's Special Session to pass a tax package that would not only fit within the state's budget but also give back to Florida's families and businesses. **HB 33A** was signed into law by Governor Rick Scott on 6/16/2015 and took effect on 7/1/2015. We proudly recognize her as a 2015 "Champion for Business."



Sen. Garrett Richter (R-Naples) is receiving his fifth AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida

salutes Senator Richter for championing the Regulation of Oil and Gas Resources legislation aimed at growing Florida's on-shore energy industry while providing safeguards for the environment. This legislation sought to revise the Oil and Gas Program under the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Mining and Minerals Regulation Program in the Division of Water

Resource Management (Division) to establish safer and more effective practices for oil and gas drilling, production, and exploration activities within Florida. AIF supported the need to maintain appropriate permitting laws to protect the environment, to enhance efficiency between industry and the state, and to ensure clear communications of appropriate standards are clearly communicated. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."



Rep. Matt Caldwell (R-Lehigh Acres) is receiving his second AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of

Florida salutes Rep. Caldwell for his leadership in sponsoring the Water Resources legislation. Caldwell successfully sponsored **HB 7003**, which aims to create an interagency agreement to develop and implement a uniform water management system regarding, water supply planning, consumptive water use permitting, and resource protection programs. Rep. Caldwell's legislation puts forth broad-based, comprehensive water policy for the state of Florida that takes into account current and future water needs. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."



Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Shalimar) is receiving his second AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of

Florida salutes Rep. Gaetz for his leadership in reducing taxes on Florida's families. His sponsorship and steadfast work on this legislation will promote and solidify our state's standing as one of the best states to live and conduct business. Rep. Gaetz's successful work on **HB 33A** will provide Floridian families with over \$400 million in tax reductions. **HB 33A** was signed into law by Governor Rick Scott on 6/16/2015 and took effect on 7/1/2015. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."



Rep. Ray Rodrigues (R-Fort Myers) is receiving his first AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida

salutes Rep. Rodrigues for successfully championing the Regulation of Oil and Gas Resources legislation aimed at growing Florida's on-shore energy industry while providing safeguards for the environment. This legislation sought to revise the Oil and Gas Program under the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Mining and Minerals Regulation Program in the Division of Water Resource Management (Division) to establish safer and more effective practices for oil and gas drilling, production, and exploration activities within Florida. We proudly recognize him as a 2015 "Champion for Business."

Past AIF Champions for Business Winners

2014 Champions for Business

Gov. Rick Scott – Motor Vehicle Rollback
Speaker Will Weatherford – In-State Tuition
Sen. Joe Negron – Motor Vehicle Rollback
Sen. Jack Latvala – In-State Tuition
Sen. Jeremy Ring – IT Governance
Sen. Bill Montford – GMO “Protecting Florida Agriculture”
Rep. Seth McKeel – IT Governance
Rep. Jeanette Nunez – In-State Tuition
Rep. Richard Corcoran – STEP
Rep. Steve Crisafulli – STEP

2013 Champions for Business

Gov. Rick Scott – Tax Reform
Sen. Garrett Richter – Expert Testimony
Sen. Joe Negron – Health Care
Sen. John Legg – Education
Sen. Alan Hays – Workers Compensation
Sen. Chris Smith – Environmental Regulation
Sen. Bill Galvano – Manufacturing Development
Rep. Jim Boyd – Manufacturing Development
Rep. Steve Crisafulli – Insurance Tax Credit
Rep. Matt Gaetz – Legal Reform
Rep. Matt Hudson – Workers Compensation
Rep. Larry Metz – Expert Testimony
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – Environmental Regulation
Rep. Steve Precourt – Employment Benefits
Rep. Jake Raburn – Environmental Regulation

2012 Champions for Business

Rep. Steve Crisafulli – Environmental Policy
Rep. Matt Caldwell – Environmental Policy
Rep. Seth McKeel – Environmental Policy
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – Environmental Permitting
Rep. Steve Precourt – Economic Development
Rep. James Grant – Communication Services Tax (CST) Reduction
Rep. Erik Fresen – Gaming Reform
Rep. Eric Eisnagle – Property Tax
Rep. Will Weatherford – Unemployment Tax Reform
Rep. Dan Davis – Workers Compensation
Rep. Mack Bernard – Workers Compensation
Sen. Ellyn Bogdanoff – Gaming Reform
Sen. Chris Smith – Metal Theft Legislation/Workers Compensation
Sen. Don Gaetz – Tax Reform
Sen. Jack Latvala – Health Care



2011 Champions for Business

Rep. Chris Dorworth – Property Tax Reduction
Rep. Doug Holder – Unemployment Compensation
Rep. Dorothy Hukill – Insurance Reform
Rep. Marlene O’Toole – Tort Reform
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – Environmental Permitting
Rep. Will Weatherford – Tort Reform
Rep. Trudi Williams – Water Policy
Rep. John Wood – Property Insurance Reform
Rep. Rich Workman – Pension Reform
Rep. Dana Young – Port Security
Sen. JD Alexander – Immigration Reform
Sen. Ellyn Bogdanoff – Judgment of Interest
Sen. Anitere Flores – Immigration Reform
Sen. Jack Latvala – Port Security
Sen. Joe Negron – Medicaid Reform
Sen. Garrett Richter – Tort Reform
Sen. Jeremy Ring – Single Sales Factor
Sen. David Simmons – Class Size

2010 Champions for Business

Speaker Larry Cretul – Unemployment Comp
Rep. Dean Cannon – Medicaid Reform
Rep. Steve Crisafulli – Economic Development/Aerospace
Rep. Brad Drake – Commercial Insurance
Rep. Adam Hasner – Unemployment Comp
Rep. Alan Hays – Workers’ Compensation
Rep. Mike Horner – Parental Waivers
Rep. Ralph Poppell – Dynamic Scoring
Rep. Perry Thurston – International Commercial Arbitration
Rep. Will Weatherford – Economic Development/Job Creation
President Jeff Atwater – Tort Reform
Sen. Rudy Garcia – Unemployment Comp
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – Economic Development
Sen. Garrett Richter – Property Insurance
Sen. John Thrasher – Education Reform
Sen. Thad Altman – Aerospace Industry Relief

2009 Champions for Business

Rep. Dean Cannon – Energy Legislation
Rep. Anitere Flores – Workers’ Compensation
Rep. Adam Hasner – Elections
Rep. Carlos Lopez-Cantera – Property Taxes
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – Medicaid Reform
Sen. Garrett Richter – Workers’ Compensation
Sen. Mike Fasano – Economic Development
Sen. Chris Smith – Public Notices
Sen. Don Gaetz – Low Income Pool (LIP) Transparency

2008 Champions for Business

Rep. Thad Altman – Space Legislation
Rep. Anitere Flores – Education & Workforce Development
Rep. Peter Nehr – Property Tax Reform
Rep. Ray Sansom – Economic Development
Rep. Baxter Troutman – Metal Theft Legislation
Sen. Mike Bennett – Administrative Procedures Act
Sen. Mike Fasano – Transportation
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – Taxes
Sen. Bill Posey – Space Legislation
Sen. Jeremy Ring – Economic Development

2007 Champions for Business

Rep. Trey Traviesa – Telecommunications
Rep. Charlie Dean – Tort Reform
Rep. Alan Hays – Property Insurance
Rep. Rich Glorioso – Transportation

2006 Champions for Business

Governor Jeb Bush – Support of Business Agenda
Speaker Allan Bense – Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several
Senate President Tom Lee – Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several
Rep. Marty Bowen – Agriculture
Rep. Don Brown – Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several
Rep. Fred Brummer – Tax Reform
Rep. Mike Davis – Affordable Housing
Rep. Adam Hasner – Energy Legislation
Rep. Matt Meadows – Tax Incentives for Manufacturing
Rep. Dennis Ross – Property Insurance Reform
Rep. Marco Rubio – Private Property Rights
Rep. Trey Traviesa – Telecommunications
Sen. Jeff Atwater – Tax Relief for Businesses
Sen. Mike Bennett – Growth Management
Sen. Jim King – Economic Development
Sen. Dan Webster – Tort Reform

2005 Champions for Business

Gov. Jeb Bush – Tort Reform
Speaker Allan Bense – Tort Reform
Rep. Frank Attkisson – Private Sector Protection
Rep. Holly Benson – Medicaid Reform Legislation
Rep. Don Brown – Tort Reform
Rep. Fred Brummer – Repeal of Intangible Tax
Rep. Rene Garcia – Medicaid Reform Legislation
Rep. Joe Pickens – Asbestos and Silica Reform Act
Rep. Dennis Ross – Property Insurance Reform
Rep. Dwight Stansel – Tort Reform
Rep. John Stargel – Tax Reform
Sen. Jeff Atwater – Tax Reform
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – Tax Reform

2004 Champions for Business

Rep. Allan Bense – Support of Business Agenda
Rep. Kim Berfield – Workers’ Compensation Reform
Rep. Mike Davis – Growth Management
Rep. Jeff Kottkamp – Premises Liability Legislation
Rep. Bruce Kyle – Court Funding
Rep. Joe Negron – Court Funding
Rep. John Stargel – Tax Reform
Sen. JD Alexander – Workers’ Compensation Reform
Sen. Mike Bennett – Growth Management
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – Tax Reform
Sen. Rod Smith – Court Funding

2003 Champions for Business

Rep. Allan Bense – Support of Business Agenda
Rep. Dudley Goodlette – Workers’ Comp
Rep. Connie Mack – Tort Reform



Vote for Business

Associated Industries of Florida (AIF) and our members are proud to recognize the members of the Florida legislature who have achieved a 100% AIF voting record for the 2015 Session. This represents a commitment to sound policy that supports Florida's employers and job creators. Not only does this score encompass votes to pass legislation beneficial to businesses, it includes votes to defeat policies that would have a detrimental impact on businesses and their employees.

**Senate President
Andy Gardiner**
(R-Orlando)

Joseph Abruzzo
(D-Wellington)

Rob Bradley
(R-Orange Park)

Charles Dean
(R-Inverness)

John Legg
(R-Lutz)

Jeremy Ring
(D-Margate)

Jose Diaz
(R-Miami)

Shawn Harrison
(R-Tampa)

Ray Pilon
(R-Sarasota)

Holly Raschein
(R-Key Largo)

Dana Young
(R-Tampa)



We applaud these 11 legislators who have helped make Florida the best place to do business.



FLORIDA

Water Forum 2015

Renaissance Orlando *at SeaWorld*
September 24th & 25th

**Be the first
to hear from
Florida's
key policy-
makers on
critical water
legislation.**

This meeting will provide participants with the most current information from Florida's policy leaders in the legislature and state government on issues relating to water policy. Experts and policymakers in the industry will serve as guest speakers and panelists and will provide a solid agenda of the on-going, critical issues facing our state.

The Florida Water Forum has garnered overwhelming recognition by business community leaders, regional and local government officials and members of the general public. Registration is open to all. A detailed agenda will be announced at a later date.

Day 1 • 9/24
5–7pm Networking
Reception

Day 2 • 9/25
9am–1pm General Session
(lunch included)
1–3pm Breakout Sessions

Register On-Line at www.flawaterforum.com

AIF 2015 LOBBYING TEAM



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What's in a Name? Everything.



The AIF lobbying team, **well recognized** as the most powerful and **influential voice** advocating for the state's business community. Ethical, experienced and **well connected** — Florida's decision makers know they can trust our word, our actions, our people.

Lead by former Speaker of the Florida House and Congressman Tom Feeney, along with the most talented lobby team in Florida, AIF can help your company achieve the level of success in the State Capitol that you have been looking for.

Tools of AIF:

- State & Federal Legislative Advocacy
- Pre-Legislative Session Issue Briefing
- Issue Advocacy Campaigns; State wide & Local
- Industry Centric Council Advocacy
- Issue & Campaign Related Polling; Statewide & Local
- Political Candidate Interviews
- Issue Oriented Focus Groups
- Business Centric Publications
- Issue Based Statewide Conferences

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