

VOTING RECORDS

Key Business Issues | 2014 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature

2014
*Champions
for Business*
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ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA



The Voice of Florida Business Since 1920

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ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA

The Voice of Florida Business Since 1920



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 2014 Regular Session.

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 8,942 votes cast by legislators on 97 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 39 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 nine legislators and Governor Scott (see page 27) honored this year are the epitome of a "Champion for Business."

Tom C. Feeney
President & Chief Executive Officer



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A Look at the 2014 Session: Legislators Improve Business & Legal Climate

By Brewster Bevis, Senior Vice President State & Federal Affairs



For the last 39 years, AIF has published our *Voting Records* — the definitive legislative scorecard for the business community, **calculating more than 197,120 votes on 1,779 bills with 778 legislators**. We are pleased to report that the Florida Legislature made notable progress in terms of improving our business and legal climate by way of tax cuts, job creation and the development of opportunities for more Floridians to be successful contributors to the state's economy. From a large state budget surplus to major tax credits and many business-friendly bills passing this session, the future for Florida businesses and families in Florida is looking bright.

Perhaps one of the most significant pieces of legislation passed during the session was the bill regarding In-State Tuition (House Bill 851), which has been signed into law by Governor Rick Scott. **HB 851** ensures that students, regardless of their immigration status, who attend a Florida high school for three consecutive years and enroll in an institution of higher education within 24 months after graduation are not required to pay out-of-state tuition, so long as they are able to present documentation of their attendance and graduation. This new law is important to employers, as it will improve Florida's workforce development and, in turn, boost Florida's economy.

Senate Bill 156, another important piece of legislation that saw success during this past session, reduces fees required to register motor vehicles, vessels and mobile homes, resulting in an overall \$395 million tax reduction for Floridians. This reduction to the original amount required before September 1, 2009, will encourage job creation and growth, while giving some money back to Florida residents. Additionally, businesses who own their own fleet of vehicles will benefit greatly from this reduction. Governor Scott signed this bill into law in April, with these tax cuts representing the majority of his \$500 million goal.

The remainder of the \$500 million in tax reductions came with the passage and then signing into law of **HB 5601**. This tax package came complete with multiple sales tax holidays, reductions and credits. This legislation will allow Florida businesses and families to prosper through the stimulation of our economy, job growth, and Florida becoming an even more attractive place to live and conduct business.

Further, Florida lawmakers advanced the state's information technology and its governance via

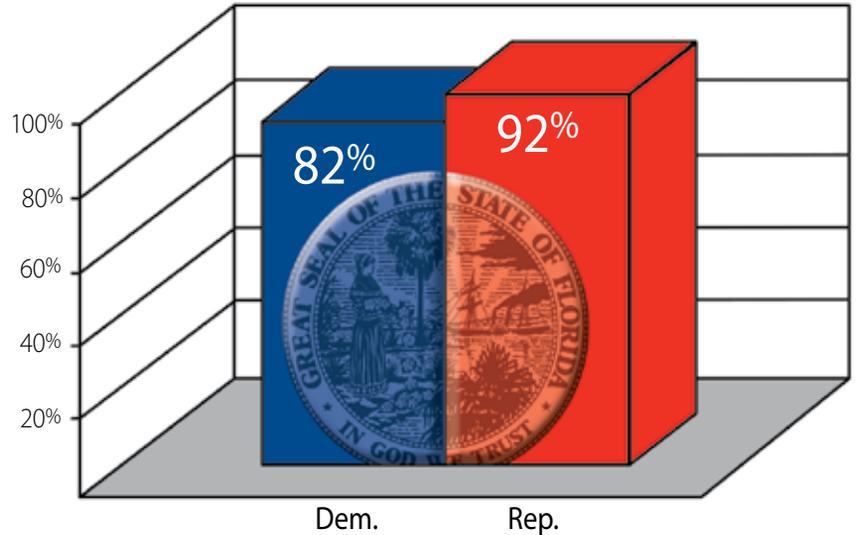
HB 7073. This bill abolishes the Agency for Enterprise Information Technology and creates the Agency of State Technology (AST), which will be responsible for developing and implementing information technology standards from which businesses could benefit. Additionally, **SB 1524** creates the "Florida Information Protection Act of 2014," better preparing Florida companies for clearly directed action in the event of a data breach, removing the burden from businesses.

With the majority of both the Senate and House backing pro-business legislation, along with Governor Scott signing these important bills into law, Florida businesses fared well this session. Regardless of these successes, there is always more to be done for Florida's business and legal climate. At AIF, our team goes to great lengths to ensure lawmakers are aware of AIF's position on a myriad of issues that are of great importance to the business community, and we are prepared to continue making our state the premier destination for doing business by implementing positive changes for the betterment of Florida's businesses and families.

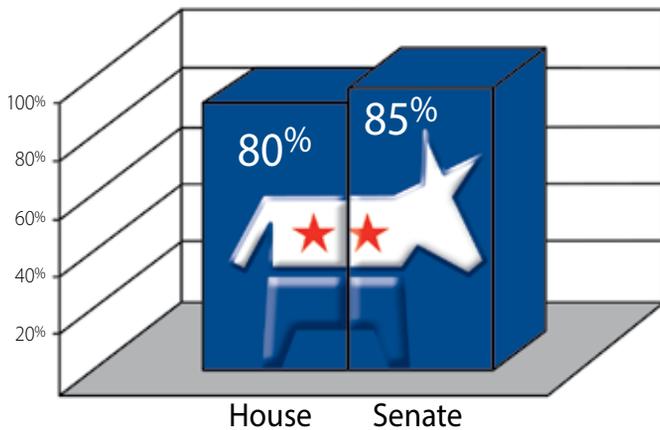
2014 Florida Legislature *by the Numbers*

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.

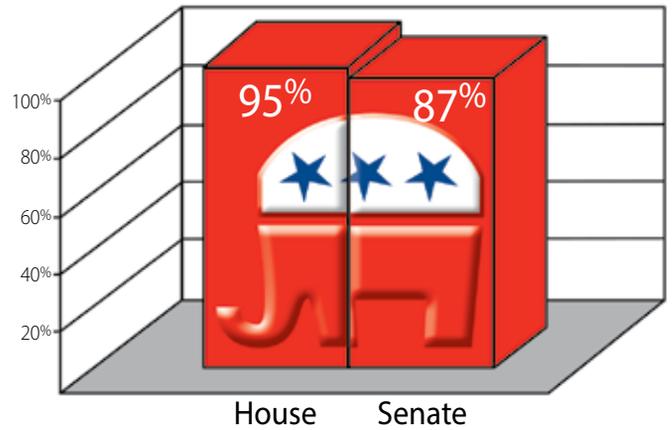
Legislature by Party



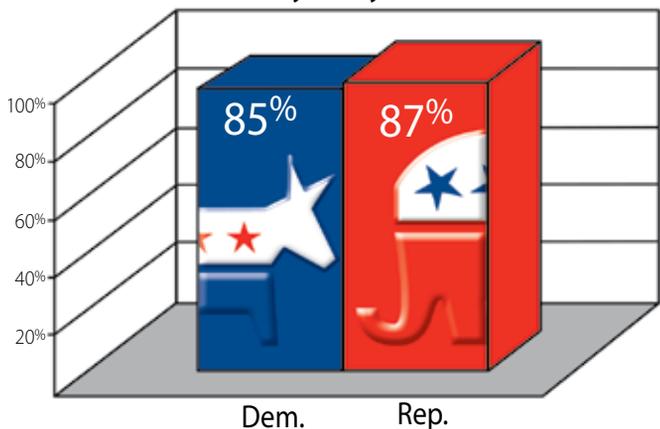
Democrats by Chamber



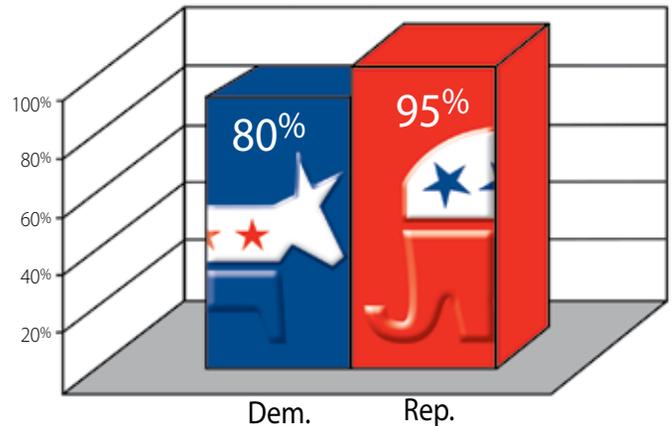
Republicans by Chamber



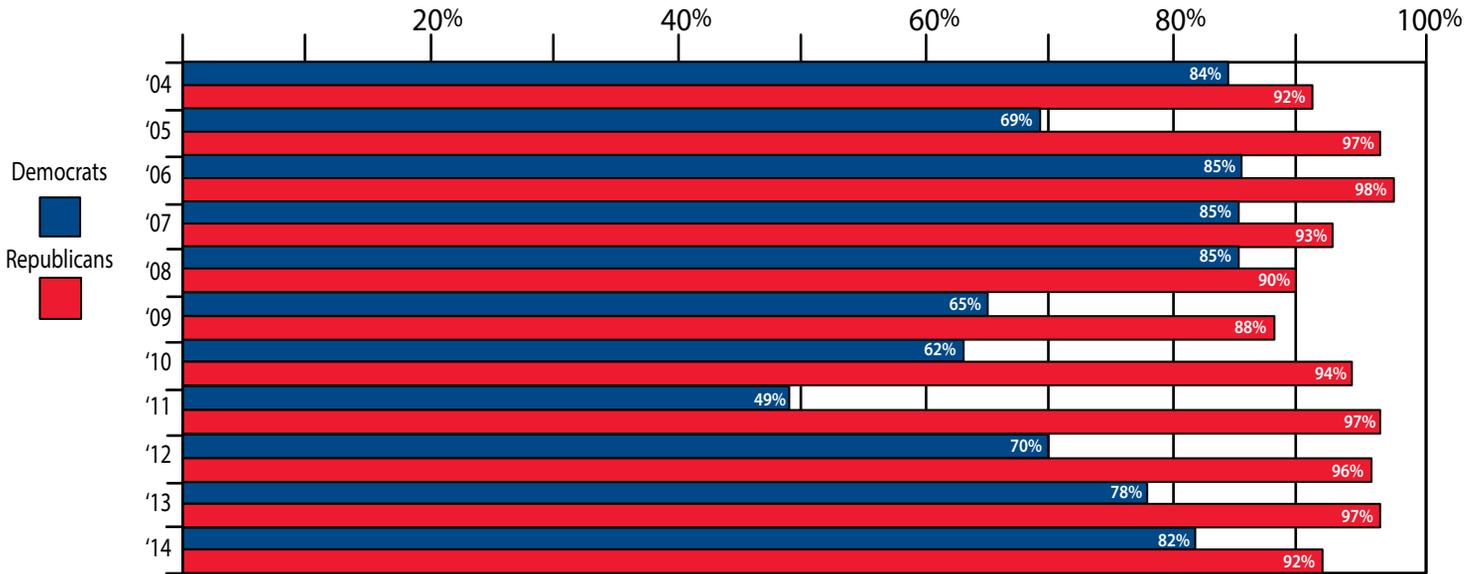
Senate by Party



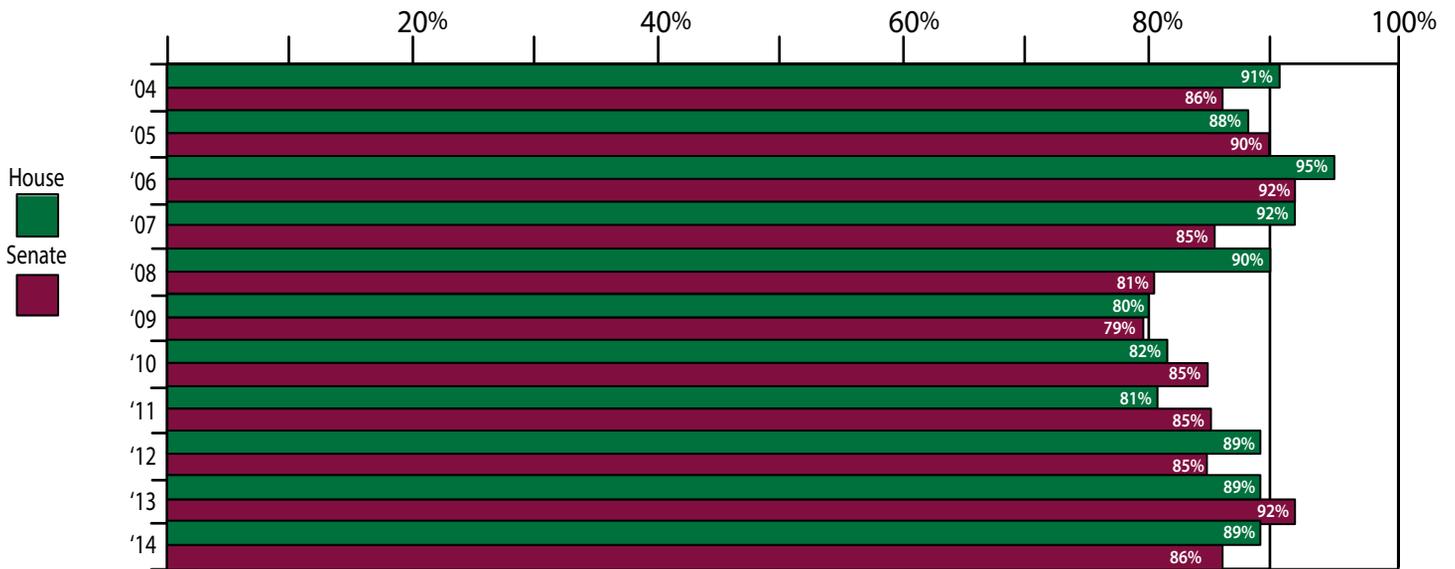
House by Party



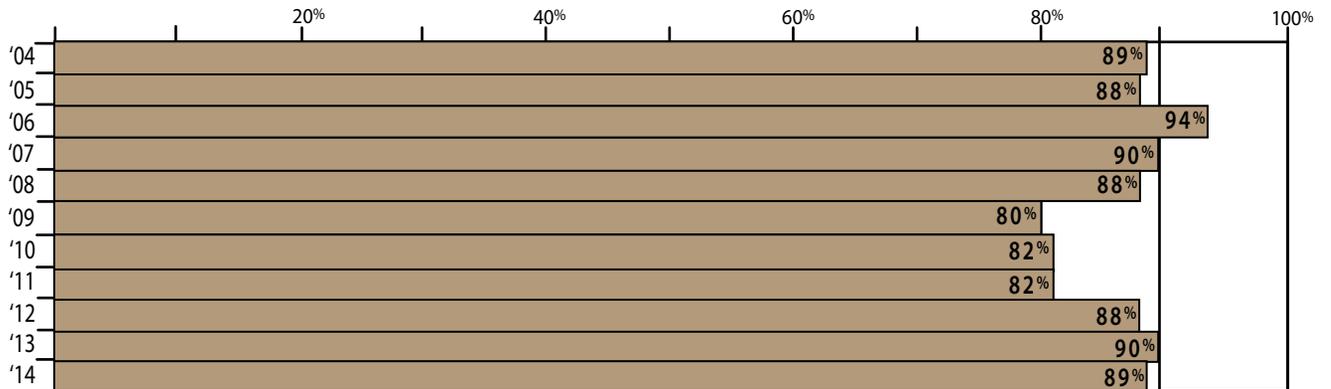
Party — Historical Voting Records



Chamber — Historical Voting Records



Legislature — Historical Voting Records





2014 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.

FLORIDA SENATE							
% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against
92%	Simmons (R)	71	6	87%	Evers (R)	52	8
91%	Legg (R)	53	5	87%	Galvano (R)	82	12
91%	Simpson (R)	63	6	87%	Gibson (D)	45	7
91%	Stargel (R)	62	6	86%	Bean (R)	80	13
91%	Thrasher (R)	85	8	86%	Montford (D)	89	14
90%	Brandes (R)	60	7	85%	Altman (R)	45	8
90%	Dean (R)	38	4	85%	Smith (D)	70	12
90%	Gardiner (R)	64	7	85%	Thompson (D)	53	9
90%	Latvala (R)	75	8	84%	Clemens (D)	51	10
90%	Sachs (D)	52	6	84%	Diaz de la Portilla (R)	57	11
89%	Abruzzo (D)	55	7	84%	Negron (R)	48	9
89%	Soto (D)	57	7	83%	Bullard (D)	52	11
88%	Bradley (R)	73	10	82%	Gaetz (R)	28	6
88%	Detert (R)	52	7	81%	Benacquisto (R)	62	15
88%	Grimsley (R)	61	8	81%	Garcia (R)	48	11
88%	Hays (R)	67	9	81%	Lee (R)	65	15
88%	Hukill (R)	83	11	80%	Braynon (D)	40	10
88%	Margolis (D)	85	12	78%	Flores (R)	43	12
88%	Richter (R)	91	12	76%	Sobel (D)	60	19
88%	Ring (D)	92	12	73%	Joyner (D)	61	22

Total Votes With AIF/Business = 86%

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 39 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.

H O U S E O F R E P R E S E N T A T I V E S

% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against
100%	Baxley (R)	49	0	94%	Brodeur (R)	47	3	86%	Fullwood (D)	43	7
100%	Coley (R)	50	0	94%	Diaz, Jose (R)	47	3	85%	Goodson (R)	56	10
100%	Crisafulli (R)	44	0	94%	Eisnagle (R)	32	2	85%	Rangel (D)	45	8
100%	Fitzenhagen (R)	49	0	94%	Gonzalez (R)	46	3	84%	Clarke-Reed (D)	36	7
100%	Fresen (R)	47	0	94%	Hooper (R)	51	3	84%	Rogers (D)	43	8
100%	Hood (R)	33	0	94%	Hudson (R)	51	3	83%	Castor Dentel (D)	40	8
100%	Holder (R)	50	0	94%	Metz (R)	50	3	83%	Kerner (D)	33	7
100%	La Rosa (R)	52	0	94%	Nuñez (R)	46	3	83%	Lee (D)	54	11
100%	Magar (R)	51	0	94%	Perry (R)	49	3	83%	Rouson (D)	40	8
100%	McKeel (R)	30	0	94%	Roberson (R)	48	3	83%	Stewart (D)	48	10
100%	Nelson (R)	60	0	93%	Broxson (R)	51	4	83%	Stark (D)	50	10
100%	Pigman (R)	49	0	93%	Grant (R)	39	3	83%	Waldman (D)	55	11
100%	Raburn (R)	28	0	93%	Van Zant (R)	40	3	82%	Bracy (D)	40	9
100%	Raulerson (R)	61	0	92%	Campbell (D)	44	4	82%	Cruz (D)	40	9
100%	Rooney (R)	58	0	92%	Eagle (R)	44	4	82%	Danish(D)	40	9
100%	Schenck (R)	40	0	92%	Hutson (R)	46	4	82%	Moskowitz (D)	42	9
100%	Weatherford (R)	41	0	92%	Harrell (R)	44	4	82%	Murphy (D)	36	8
100%	Wood (R)	48	0	92%	Ingram (R)	58	5	82%	Powell (D)	40	9
100%	Workman (R)	48	0	92%	O'Toole (R)	44	4	82%	Tobia (R)	47	10
98%	Combee (R)	58	1	92%	Rodrigues (R)	44	4	82%	Zimmermann (D)	36	8
98%	Davis (R)	49	1	92%	Smith (R)	54	5	81%	Berman (D)	39	9
98%	Hager (R)	57	1	91%	Caldwell (R)	58	6	81%	Gibbons (D)	43	10
98%	Moraitis (R)	58	1	91%	Diaz, Manny (R)	41	4	81%	Jones, Mia (D)	42	10
98%	Peters (R)	42	1	91%	Mayfield (R)	49	5	81%	Rader (D)	44	10
98%	Porter (R)	46	1	91%	Oliva (R)	48	5	80%	Reed (D)	40	10
98%	Raschein (R)	53	1	91%	Pilon (R)	53	5	79%	Jones, Shevrin (D)	37	10
98%	Santiago (R)	59	1	90%	Bileca (R)	47	5	79%	Pritchett (D)	41	11
98%	Stone (R)	55	1	90%	Ray (R)	43	5	79%	Richardson (D)	41	11
98%	Young (R)	47	1	89%	Artiles (R)	39	5	79%	Torres (D)	37	10
97%	Beshears (R)	66	2	89%	Dudley (D)	47	6	78%	Thurston (D)	32	9
96%	Adkins (R)	47	2	89%	Edwards (D)	42	5	78%	Watson, Barbara (D)	43	12
96%	Ahern (R)	45	2	89%	Steube (R)	49	6	77%	Clelland (D)	41	12
96%	Albritton (R)	49	2	89%	Trujillo (R)	54	7	75%	Slosberg (D)	30	10
96%	Boyd (R)	46	2	88%	Corcoran (R)	42	6	75%	Watson, Clovis (D)	43	14
96%	Cummings (R)	51	2	88%	Gaetz (R)	49	7	71%	Saunders (D)	30	12
96%	McBurney (R)	48	2	88%	Renuart (R)	42	6	67%	McGhee (D)	31	15
96%	Passidomo (R)	50	2	88%	Taylor (D)	45	6	65%	Rodriguez (D)	40	22
96%	Patronis (R)	51	2	87%	Rehwinkel Vasilinda (D)	41	6	65%	Stafford (D)	33	18
96%	Spano (R)	53	2	87%	Williams (D)	53	8	63%	Pafford (D)	29	17
95%	Hill (R)	57	3	86%	Antone (D)	42	7	57%	Schwartz (D)	24	18

Total Votes With AIF/Business = 89%



2014 FLORIDA LEGISLATURE VOTING RECORDS

On Key Business Issues – Alphabetically

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.

FLORIDA SENATE							
Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF
Abruzzo (D)	55	7	89%	Hays (R)	67	9	88%
Altman (R)	45	8	85%	Hukill (R)	83	11	88%
Bean (R)	80	13	86%	Joyner (D)	61	22	73%
Benacquisto (R)	62	15	81%	Latvala (R)	75	8	90%
Bradley (R)	73	10	88%	Lee (R)	65	15	81%
Brandes (R)	60	7	90%	Legg (R)	53	5	91%
Braynon (D)	40	10	80%	Margolis (D)	85	12	88%
Bullard (D)	52	11	83%	Montford (D)	89	14	86%
Clemens (D)	51	10	84%	Negron (R)	48	9	84%
Dean (R)	38	4	90%	Richter (R)	91	12	88%
Detert (R)	52	7	88%	Ring (D)	92	12	88%
Diaz de la Portilla (R)	57	11	84%	Sachs (D)	52	6	90%
Evers (R)	52	8	87%	Simmons (R)	71	6	92%
Flores (R)	43	12	78%	Simpson (R)	63	6	91%
Gaetz (R)	28	6	82%	Smith (D)	70	12	85%
Galvano (R)	82	12	87%	Sobel (D)	60	19	76%
Garcia (R)	48	11	81%	Soto (D)	57	7	89%
Gardiner (R)	64	7	90%	Stargel (R)	62	6	91%
Gibson (D)	45	7	87%	Thompson (D)	53	9	85%
Grimsley (R)	61	8	88%	Thrasher (R)	85	8	91%

Total Votes With AIF/Business = 86%

AIF Online Voting Records

The unique software created by AIF provides you with a multitude of options when viewing voting records online. You can choose to see votes by year, legislator’s name, subject and party affiliation. Have one particular legislator in mind? No problem. You can view their voting record by year or by subject matter, and then go even further and see the exact votes that led to the percentage they received. That’s right. **Full transparency ...** from a legislator’s vote percentage to the very bills and votes that were used that session.

So how robust is this program? It includes over **197,120 votes, 1,779 bills, and 778 legislators** over the span of **39 years**. Online Voting Records — a *one-of-a-kind* tool only available from Associated Industries of Florida.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF	Name/Party	For	Against	% w/AIF
Adkins (R)	47	2	96%	Hutson (R)	46	4	92%	Raschein (R)	53	1	98%
Ahern (R)	45	2	96%	Hager (R)	57	1	98%	Raulerson (R)	61	0	100%
Albritton (R)	49	2	96%	Harrell (R)	44	4	92%	Ray (R)	43	5	90%
Antone (D)	42	7	86%	Hill (R)	57	3	95%	Reed (D)	40	10	80%
Artiles (R)	39	5	89%	Holder (R)	50	0	100%	Rehwinkel Vasilinda (D)	41	6	87%
Baxley (R)	49	0	100%	Hood (R)	33	0	100%	Renuart (R)	42	6	88%
Berman (D)	39	9	81%	Hooper (R)	51	3	94%	Richardson (D)	41	11	79%
Beshears (R)	66	2	97%	Hudson (R)	51	3	94%	Roberson (R)	48	3	94%
Bileca (R)	47	5	90%	Ingram (R)	58	5	92%	Rodrigues (R)	44	4	92%
Boyd (R)	46	2	96%	Jones, Mia (D)	42	10	81%	Rodriguez (D)	40	22	65%
Bracy (D)	40	9	82%	Jones, Shevrin (D)	37	10	79%	Rogers (D)	43	8	84%
Brodeur (R)	47	3	94%	Kerner (D)	33	7	83%	Rooney (R)	58	0	100%
Broxson (R)	51	4	93%	La Rosa (R)	52	0	100%	Rouson (D)	40	8	83%
Caldwell (R)	58	6	91%	Lee (D)	54	11	83%	Santiago (R)	59	1	98%
Campbell (D)	44	4	92%	Magar (R)	51	0	100%	Saunders (D)	30	12	71%
Castor Dentel (D)	40	8	83%	Mayfield (R)	49	5	91%	Schenck (R)	40	0	100%
Clarke-Reed (D)	36	7	84%	McBurney (R)	48	2	96%	Schwartz (D)	24	18	57%
Clelland (D)	41	12	77%	McGhee (D)	31	15	67%	Slosberg (D)	30	10	75%
Coley (R)	50	0	100%	McKeel (R)	30	0	100%	Smith (R)	54	5	92%
Combee (R)	58	1	98%	Metz (R)	50	3	94%	Spano (R)	53	2	96%
Corcoran (R)	42	6	88%	Moraitis (R)	58	1	98%	Stafford (D)	33	18	65%
Crisafulli (R)	44	0	100%	Moskowitz (D)	42	9	82%	Stark (D)	50	10	83%
Cruz (D)	40	9	82%	Murphy (D)	36	8	82%	Steube (R)	49	6	89%
Cummings (R)	51	2	96%	Nelson (R)	60	0	100%	Stewart (D)	48	10	83%
Danish (D)	40	9	82%	Nuñez (R)	46	3	94%	Stone (R)	55	1	98%
Davis (R)	49	1	98%	Oliva (R)	48	5	91%	Taylor (D)	45	6	88%
Diaz, Jose (R)	47	3	94%	O'Toole (R)	44	4	92%	Thurston (D)	32	9	78%
Diaz, Manny (R)	41	4	91%	Pafford (D)	29	17	63%	Tobia (R)	47	10	82%
Dudley (D)	47	6	89%	Passidomo (R)	50	2	96%	Torres (D)	37	10	79%
Eagle (R)	44	4	92%	Patronis (R)	51	2	96%	Trujillo (R)	54	7	89%
Edwards (D)	42	5	89%	Perry (R)	49	3	94%	Van Zant (R)	40	3	93%
Eisnaugle (R)	32	2	94%	Peters (R)	42	1	98%	Waldman (D)	55	11	83%
Fitzenhagen (R)	49	0	100%	Pigman (R)	49	0	100%	Watson, Barbara (D)	43	12	78%
Fresen (R)	47	0	100%	Pilon (R)	53	5	91%	Watson, Clovis (D)	43	14	75%
Fullwood (D)	43	7	86%	Porter (R)	46	1	98%	Weatherford (R)	41	0	100%
Gaetz (R)	49	7	88%	Powell (D)	40	9	82%	Williams (D)	53	8	87%
Gibbons (D)	43	10	81%	Pritchett (D)	41	11	79%	Wood (R)	48	0	100%
Gonzalez (R)	46	3	94%	Raburn (R)	28	0	100%	Workman (R)	48	0	100%
Goodson (R)	56	10	85%	Rader (D)	44	10	81%	Young (R)	47	1	98%
Grant (R)	39	3	93%	Rangel (D)	45	8	85%	Zimmermann (D)	36	8	82%

Total Votes With AIF/Business = 89%



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.



F L O R I D A S E N A T E

Name/Party	2014	History	Name/Party	2014	History
Abruzzo (D)	89%	71%	Hays (R)	88%	94%
Altman (R)	85%	92%	Hukill (R)	88%	95%
Bean (R)	86%	93%	Joyner (D)	73%	63%
Benacquisto (R)	81%	93%	Latvala (R)	90%	87%
Bradley (R)	88%	92%	Lee (R)	81%	87%
Brandes (R)	90%	96%	Legg (R)	91%	95%
Braynon (D)	80%	68%	Margolis (D)	88%	79%
Bullard (D)	83%	57%	Montford (D)	86%	84%
Clemens (D)	84%	61%	Negron (R)	84%	90%
Dean (R)	90%	91%	Richter (R)	88%	94%
Detert (R)	88%	91%	Ring (D)	88%	82%
Diaz de la Portilla (R)	84%	91%	Sachs (D)	90%	75%
Evers (R)	87%	94%	Simmons (R)	92%	95%
Flores (R)	78%	93%	Simpson (R)	91%	94%
Gaetz (R)	82%	89%	Smith (D)	85%	73%
Galvano (R)	87%	93%	Sobel (D)	76%	69%
Garcia (R)	81%	90%	Soto (D)	89%	71%
Gardiner (R)	90%	94%	Stargel (R)	91%	97%
Gibson (D)	87%	76%	Thompson (D)	85%	69%
Grimsley (R)	88%	96%	Thrasher (R)	91%	93%

More on the Web at:

<http://aif.com/voterecords/mg-VotingRecordsByStart.html>





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Name/Party	2014	History	Name/Party	2014	History	Name/Party	2014	History
Adkins (R)	96%	97%	Hager (R)	98%	98%	Raschein (R)	98%	98%
Ahern (R)	96%	98%	Harrell (R)	92%	96%	Raulerson (R)	100%	99%
Albritton (R)	96%	99%	Hill (R)	95%	95%	Ray (R)	90%	97%
Antone (D)	86%	79%	Holder (R)	100%	97%	Reed (D)	80%	68%
Artiles (R)	89%	95%	Hood (R)	100%	99%	Rehwinkel Vasilinda (D)	87%	59%
Baxley (R)	100%	97%	Hooper (R)	94%	95%	Renuart (R)	88%	94%
Berman (D)	81%	62%	Hudson (R)	94%	97%	Richardson (D)	79%	80%
Beshears (R)	97%	97%	Hutson (R)	92%	96%	Roberson (R)	94%	96%
Bileca (R)	90%	97%	Ingram (R)	92%	98%	Rodrigues (R)	92%	92%
Boyd (R)	96%	99%	Jones, Mia (D)	81%	62%	Rodriguez (D)	65%	62%
Bracy (D)	82%	76%	Jones, Shevrin (D)	79%	81%	Rogers (D)	84%	63%
Brodeur (R)	94%	98%	Kerner (D)	83%	76%	Rooney (R)	100%	99%
Broxson (R)	93%	98%	La Rosa (R)	100%	99%	Rouson (D)	83%	65%
Caldwell (R)	91%	96%	Lee (D)	83%	86%	Santiago (R)	98%	98%
Campbell (D)	92%	65%	Magar (R)	100%	98%	Saunders (D)	71%	70%
Castor Dentel (D)	83%	78%	Mayfield (R)	91%	97%	Schenck (R)	100%	97%
Clarke-Reed (D)	84%	59%	McBurney (R)	96%	96%	Schwartz (D)	57%	54%
Clelland (D)	77%	81%	McGhee (D)	67%	67%	Slosberg (D)	75%	61%
Coley (R)	100%	97%	McKeel (R)	100%	97%	Smith (R)	92%	97%
Combee (R)	98%	99%	Metz (R)	94%	98%	Spano (R)	96%	96%
Corcoran (R)	88%	96%	Moraitis (R)	98%	98%	Stafford (D)	65%	51%
Crisafulli (R)	100%	98%	Moskowitz (D)	82%	81%	Stark (D)	83%	81%
Cruz (D)	82%	59%	Murphy (D)	82%	82%	Steube (R)	89%	96%
Cummings (R)	96%	97%	Nelson (R)	100%	97%	Stewart (D)	83%	82%
Danish (D)	82%	81%	Nuñez (R)	94%	98%	Stone (R)	98%	98%
Davis (R)	98%	99%	Oliva (R)	91%	94%	Taylor (D)	88%	65%
Diaz, Jose (R)	94%	97%	O'Toole (R)	92%	97%	Thurston (D)	78%	61%
Diaz, Manny (R)	91%	95%	Pafford (D)	63%	48%	Tobia (R)	82%	96%
Dudley (D)	89%	82%	Passidomo (R)	96%	98%	Torres (D)	79%	77%
Eagle (R)	92%	95%	Patronis (R)	96%	95%	Trujillo (R)	89%	96%
Edwards (D)	89%	92%	Perry (R)	94%	96%	Van Zant (R)	93%	95%
Eisnaugle (R)	94%	97%	Peters (R)	98%	98%	Waldman (D)	83%	69%
Fitzenhagen (R)	100%	99%	Pigman (R)	100%	98%	Watson, Barbara (D)	78%	53%
Fresen (R)	100%	97%	Pilon (R)	91%	95%	Watson, Clovis (D)	75%	80%
Fullwood (D)	86%	69%	Porter (R)	98%	99%	Weatherford (R)	100%	96%
Gaetz (R)	88%	95%	Powell (D)	82%	77%	Williams (D)	87%	65%
Gibbons (D)	81%	70%	Pritchett (D)	79%	75%	Wood (R)	100%	98%
Gonzalez (R)	94%	95%	Raburn (R)	100%	99%	Workman (R)	100%	98%
Goodson (R)	85%	94%	Rader (D)	81%	70%	Young (R)	98%	99%
Grant (R)	93%	97%	Rangel (D)	85%	81%	Zimmermann (D)	82%	77%

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Visit <http://aif.com/voterecords/mg-VotingRecordsByStart.html> to access the complete Voting Records report.

Bold = included in AIF's 2014 Session Priorities.

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.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

 **SB 1216/HB 7095 Relating to Professional Sports Facilities by Sen. Jack Latvala (R-Clearwater) and Rep. Jimmy Patronis (R-Panama City)**

 **SB 208 Relating to Motorsports Entertainment Complexes by Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange)**

This legislation creates a program for professional sports franchises and other entities managing sports facilities to receive state funding in order to construct or improve a professional sports facility. Applicants to this program would have to be recommended by the Department of Economic Opportunity and specific distributions of funds must be approved by the Legislature.

A portion of SB 208 by Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) that relates to motorsports complexes was incorporated into HB 7095. It allows for a monthly distribution of a specified amount of sales tax revenue to a complex certified as a motorsports entertainment complex by the Department of Economic Opportunity while the complex upgrades its facilities. Florida is home to two NASCAR-sanctioned tracks and 50 automobile racing tracks. These tracks are located throughout the state and provide local amateur racers and enthusiasts the opportunity to be involved with the sport.

AIF supported this legislation because sports franchises, motorsports and their facilities have a significant positive economic impact in Florida and employ thousands in the state.

HB 7095 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; SB 1216 was laid on the table. SB 208 died in House messages; however, its provision is included in HB 7095.

 **HB 281 Relating to Keystone XL Pipeline by Rep. Mike Hill (R-Pensacola)**

The bill is a memorial that urges the President to issue final approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline Project (Project). The proposed Project involves the construction of an

875-mile pipeline between Morgan, Montana, and Steele City, Nebraska. The Project would also cross the U.S.-Canadian border at Morgan, Montana. The construction of the Project is the fourth and final phase of the larger Keystone Pipeline (Pipeline), a pipeline infrastructure that would have the capacity to deliver roughly 830,000 barrels per day of crude oil from oil sands in Canada to the Gulf Coast of Texas. Memorials have no force of law, as they are mechanisms for formally petitioning the U.S. Congress to act on a particular subject.

AIF supported developing memorials to Congress and the President urging the expansion of hydraulic fracturing and the building of the Keystone XL pipeline.

HB 281 is awaiting Officers' signatures and delivery to the Secretary of State.

 **HB 325/SB 586 Relating to Brownfields by Rep. Charlie Stone (R-Ocala) and Sen. Thad Altman (R-Melbourne)**

This legislation clarifies, in statute, the process for designation of a Brownfields area and offers liability protection for anyone responsible for rehabilitation of a Brownfields site. Subsequently, the legislation encourages redevelopment in our state's Brownfields areas.

AIF supported legislation promoting Florida's Brownfield Program to promulgate a variety of financial and regulatory incentives that encourage parties to voluntarily clean up and redevelop Brownfield sites. By restoring Brownfield sites, the properties return to the tax rolls quicker and become useful in their community.

HB 325 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; SB 586 was laid on the table.

 **HB 685/SB 654 Relating to Business Organizations by Rep. Pat Rooney, Jr. (R-Palm Beach Gardens) and Sen. Jeff Clemens (D-Lake Worth)**

This legislation amends the Florida Business Corporation Act to allow for the creation of two new forms of corporate enterprise: the social purpose corporation and the benefit corporation. These new entities will allow busi-

nesses to engage in societal benefit programs that may not involve or satisfy the traditional corporate norm of profit maximization. The new forms of corporation are similar, the primary difference being that a social purpose corporation has a specified social purpose or purposes designated in advance, whereas a benefit corporation is to create a general public benefit in a manner selected by management and assessed by a third-party standard.

AIF supported this legislation that will attract new businesses and entrepreneurs to the state of Florida.

HB 685 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; SB 654 was laid on the table.

 **SB 7023 Relating to Economic Development by Rep. Travis Hutson (R-Palm Coast)**

This bill does a number of things, including: making technical changes to statutes; directs Space Florida to consult with VISIT Florida in developing a space tourism marketing plan; promotes the goals of accountability and proper stewardship by recipients of the state's loan programs; and, most importantly, exempts new small business developments from transportation concurrency requirements and proportionate share requirements for three years.

AIF supported legislation that will assist Florida's small businesses and encourage economic development in our state.

HB 7023 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14.

 **SB 372 Relating to Developments of Regional Impact by Sen. Bill Galvano (R-Bradenton)**

The bill reduces the minimum population and density requirements for counties to qualify as a dense urban land area (DULA). Land development projects are exempt from development of regional impact (DRI) review if they are located in a DULA. This bill would designate an additional 7 counties and 20 municipalities as DULAs. The bill eliminates the adoption of an urban service area as criteria for designation for a DULA. The DRI review process was created in 1972 in order to ensure that developers and local governments take the necessary steps to ensure that large developments will not have negative impacts on the environment or public safety. Currently, 8 counties and 242 cities qualify as a Dense Urban Land Area (DULA), exempting them from DRI review because of the sophistication of their local planning personnel and policies.

AIF supported this bill that reduces bureaucracy and burdensome red tape for Florida's businesses.

SB 372 died in the Senate Committee on Rules.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

 **HB 851/SB 1400 Relating to Postsecondary Education Tuition and Fees by Rep. Jeanette Nunez (R-Miami) and Sen. Jack Latvala (R-Clearwater)**

This legislation provides that students, regardless of their immigration status, who attend a Florida high school for three consecutive years and enroll in an institution of higher education within 24 months after graduation are not required to pay out-of-state fees, provided they submit their high school transcript as documentary evidence of attendance and graduation. While these students are not classified as residents for tuition purposes, they may be reported for purposes of state funding. This bill enables future generations of Florida's children to get a higher education and/or specialized degree, obtain good paying jobs and become contributors to our state's economy.

AIF supported allowing all Florida high school graduates to qualify for in-state tuition at our public colleges, universities and independent universities regardless of their immigration status, subject to meeting all admission standards.

HB 851 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; SB 1400 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

 **HB 377/ SB 628 Relating to Educational Facilities Financing by Rep. George Moraitis, Jr. (R-Ft. Lauderdale) and Sen. Bill Montford (D-Apalachicola) **PRIORITY****

This legislation expands the Higher Educational Facilities Financing Law (HEFFA) to include a greater number of qualifying projects and to allow non-profit, SACS accredited, K-12 schools to obtain these funds for qualifying purposes. Current law only permits these entities to access the tax-exempt bond markets not backed by the full faith and credit of the state to borrow funds for capital outlay and cash flow purposes.

AIF supported this bill and made this expansion a priority in the 2014 legislative session. This bill will allow independent institutions and non-profit SACS accredited K-12 institutions to expand their capacity and access for Florida's K-20 students at no cost to the Florida taxpayers.

HB 377 died in the House Education Committee; SB 628 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

 **HB 487/SB 1206 Relating to Agricultural Industry Certifications by Rep. Jake Raburn (R-Valrico) and Sen. Bill Montford (D-Apalachicola)**

This legislation develops a pathway for students to

PRIORITY = included in AIF's 2014 Session Priorities.

 Supported by AIF.  Opposed by AIF.

demonstrate expertise in the agricultural industry. It requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACs), in cooperation with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Science at the University of Florida and the College of Agriculture and Food Sciences at the Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University, to annually provide to the state board and the Department of Education information and industry certifications for farm occupations to be considered for placement on the Industry Certification Funding List and the Postsecondary Industry Certification Funding List.

AIF supported adding agriculture to industry certifications because it recognizes the critical workforce needs the state will face unless more students pursue agricultural careers.

HB 487 was approved by Governor Scott and assigned Chapter No. 2014-33; SB 1206 was laid on the table.

HB 541/SB 900 Relating to Public-Private Partnerships by Rep. Greg Steube (R-Sarasota) and Sen. Jack Latvala

This legislation allows the private sector to offer unsolicited bids on university projects, comprehensive agreements for construction projects, and grants the Board of Governors approval authority on public-private partnership projects within the state university system.

AIF strongly supported utilization of the private sector in helping to solve public construction needs.

HB 541 died in the House Appropriations Committee; SB 900 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

SB 790 Relating to Education by Sen. John Legg (R-Lutz) PRIORITY

SB 790 would establish a targeted and purposeful approach to technology enhancements in Florida's classrooms that improve student performance outcomes. The bill ties technology-enhanced classroom teaching and learning to measurable student performance outcomes and requires an independent evaluation of the school districts' outcomes and technology inventory and infrastructure needs, which the districts must report to the Department of Education. Consequently, the school districts must document how technology enhancements affect performance of students. In addition, the bill authorizes public schools to promote digital literacy and competency in Florida's schools, which will help equip Florida's students with skills to succeed in a competitive economy.

AIF supported removing all barriers for accessing innovative technology-driven education to improve our workforce through education reforms.

SB 790 died on the Senate calendar.

SB 850 Relating to Education by Sen. John Legg (R-Lutz)

The bill expands school choice options to all K-12 students, expands options and strengthens requirements for middle school and high school students, creates a new middle grades early warning system to identify at-risk students, strengthens anti-hazing provisions, and requires the Florida College System (FCS) institutions to customize a collegiate high school program for students in every school district. This legislation also authorizes industry certification providers to notify students and parents about the college credits earned and the savings their families gain through participation. This program will provide a return on the investment of state dollars for the industry certifications earned by the student while attending public school.

AIF supported this bill because improving our workforce through education reforms will be a key ingredient to job creation as it motivates more businesses to operate in Florida.

SB 850 is awaiting Governor Scott's approval as of 6/4/14.

SB 1528 Relating to Charter Schools by Sen. Rob Bradley (R-Orange Park)

This bill allows for a military installation commander to apply for a charter school on a military installation under established conditions and revises the requirements for a charter school application to include additional fiscal responsibility standards. The bill expands school choice options to all K-12 students, expands options and strengthens requirements for middle school and high school students, creates a new middle grades early warning system to identify at-risk students, strengthens anti-hazing provisions, and requires the Florida College System (FCS) institutions to customize a collegiate high school program for students in every school district.

AIF supported this bill because education reforms are needed to prepare a stronger workforce for the future.

SB 1528 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

HB 7117/SB 1642 Relating to Education Accountability by the House Education Committee and the Senate Committee on Education

Effective for the 2014-2015 school year, this legislation clarifies the state's school grading system using a simple and objective A through F and 100-point school grading system with no safety nets or triggers. Under the bill, district and school grades will be simplified and released at the same time for all schools.

AIF supported increasing transparency in school grading so that education becomes a better value for

Florida's families, taxpayers and businesses.

SB 1642 was approved by Governor Scott and assigned Chapter No. 2014-23. HB 7117 was laid on the table.

 **HB 7083 Relating to School Choice by Rep. Jose Diaz (R-Miami) PRIORITY**

This bill authorizes out-of-state entities that successfully operate a system of charter schools elsewhere to apply and qualify for high-performing charter school system status in Florida. Eligibility criteria to be adopted by the Florida board must be aligned with the priorities specified in the federal Charter Schools Program Grants for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools, which emphasizes student achievement. Additionally, the bill shifts the focus of the state's program for replicating quality charter schools towards meeting school district needs for innovative school choice options and serving areas served by struggling traditional public schools.

AIF supported greater educational choices for Florida families by removing artificial enrollment caps that prevent public charter schools from meeting the demand of students on waiting lists, restricting authority of school districts from imposing additional regulatory burdens on public charter schools, and changes the funding formulas to require that funding follows the individual student.

HB 7083 died in the Senate Committee on Education.

ENERGY

 **HB 947/SB 1070 Relating to Fuel Terminals by Rep. Lake Ray (R-Jacksonville) and Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey) PRIORITY**

This legislation declares fuel terminals located in or next to Florida's ports as critical state infrastructure. It goes further to allow for expansion of existing fuel terminals within the terminals' property boundaries, while limiting local governments' regulation of permitting, although nothing in the bill will prevent local government from enforcing state and federal safety standards.

AIF supported this bill because terminals are essential components to petroleum logistics, and Florida's energy portfolio, enabling the bulk transfer of the 27 million gallons of gasoline and diesel into Florida each day for further distribution.

SB 1070 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; HB 947 was laid on the table.

ENVIRONMENT

 **SB 312/HB 575 Relating to Agriculture by Rep. Ben Albritton (R-Bartow) and Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey) PRIORITY**

This legislation provides several sales tax exemptions for agriculture producers and allows a farm enrolled in a Dispersed Water Storage program offered by a water management district to retain the "Greenbelt" land classification on its property as long as it participates in the program.

AIF supported this legislation to lower tax burdens on Florida's farmers.

SB 312 died in House messages; HB 575 died in the House Finance & Tax Subcommittee.

 **HB 601/SB 536 Relating to Reclaimed Water by Rep. Lake Ray (R-Jacksonville) and Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey) PRIORITY**

This legislation directs the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, in cooperation with the five Water Management Districts, to conduct a study and submit a report on the expansion of the beneficial use of reclaimed water, including stormwater and excess surface water.

AIF supported state funding for alternative water supply projects. Water retention and storage are vital to expanding Florida's water supply, which will give the state a head start on economic development and jobs in the future.

SB 536 is awaiting Governor Scott's approval as of 6/4/14; HB 601 was laid on the table.

 **HB 703/SB 1464 Relating to Environmental Regulation by Rep. Jimmy Patronis (R-Panama City) and Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey) PRIORITY**

Under this legislation, voting requirements adopted by a local government for proposed plans or plan amendments that are more stringent than a simple majority, such as a super majority vote, would be prohibited.

AIF supported this type of regulatory reform to lessen regulation on Florida businesses.

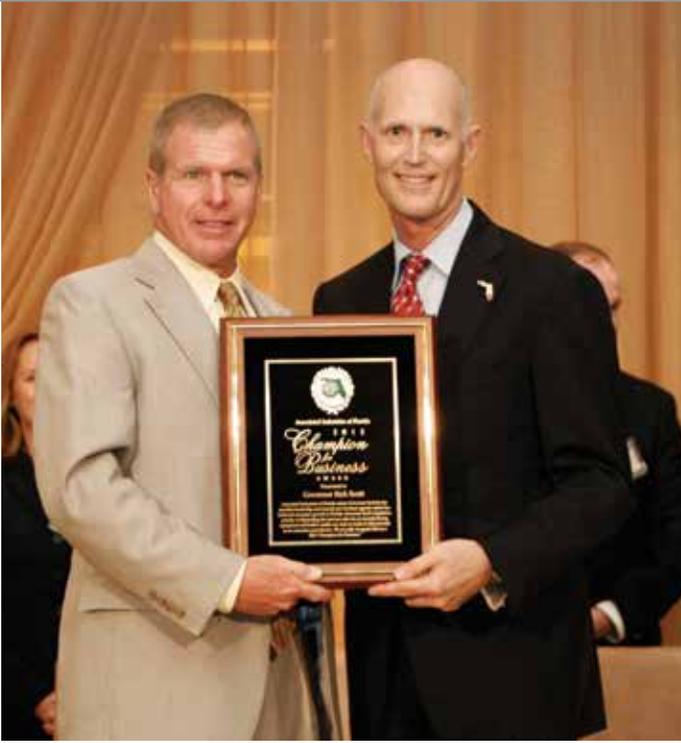
HB 703 died in the House State Affairs Committee; SB 1464 died in the Senate Committee on Community Affairs.

 **SB 1174 Relating to Carbon Dioxide Emissions Guidelines by Sen. Audrey Gibson (D-Jacksonville)**

This memorial urges the United States Congress to allow states to develop their own performance standards, compliance schedules, and guidelines for regulating carbon

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 Supported by AIF.  Opposed by AIF.



sion of the Acquisition and Restoration Council and established minimum flows and levels in Outstanding Florida Springs. The bill also required a study of nutrient reduction improvements for row crops and the beneficial use of reclaimed water, stormwater, and excess surface water.

AIF supported state funding for alternative water supply projects but **OPPOSED** this bill due to its lack of adequate funding to implement its provisions and the heavy regulatory burdens it would place on Florida businesses.

SB 1576 died in House messages.

HEALTH CARE

👍 SB 278/HB 323 Relating to Pharmacy by Sen. Denise Grimsley (R-Sebring), Rep. Mike La Rosa (R-Saint Cloud) and Rep. Daphne Campbell (D-Miami Shores) **PRIORITY**

This legislation increases the cap on the number of pharmacy technicians that a pharmacist may supervise. Further, the bill authorizes pharmacists to administer the meningococcal vaccine and removes the requirement that a pharmacist obtain a prescription from a physician in order to administer the shingles vaccine.

AIF supported this legislation to ensure greater access to quality health care and advocated for growth of strong job opportunities for Floridians, such as pharmacy technicians.

HB 323 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; SB 278 was laid on the table.

👍 SB 1230/HB 1275 Relating to Physician Assistants by Sen. Alan Hays (R-Umatilla) and Rep. Larry Ahern (R-St. Petersburg) **PRIORITY**

This legislation seeks to increase the number of physician assistants (PA) that one physician may supervise at a time. It would have exempted an increased ratio for dermatologists' offices, which generally requires more hands-on supervision by a physician. The legislation also allows a physician to supervise a physician assistant at a site other than their primary office for the provision of specialty skin services if certain training is completed. Further, these bills simplified the reporting system for PAs who work under multiple physicians in hospitals.

AIF supported this measure and continues to support removing regulatory scope of practice obstacles for qualified health care professionals to ensure greater access to quality health care for Floridians at more affordable costs.

SB 1230 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations; HB 1275 died in the House Health Policy Committee.

dioxide emissions.

Specifically, the memorial urges Congress to respect the primacy of states and to rely on state regulators who take into account unique policies, energy needs, resource mix, economic priorities, and environmental priorities.

AIF supported this bill and believes the state is best suited to determine its own performance standards, compliance schedules, and guidelines for regulating carbon dioxide emissions.

SB 1174 was signed by Officers and filed with the Secretary of State.

👍 HB 1427 Relating to Citrus Greening Disease by Rep. Ben Albritton (R-Bartow) **PRIORITY**

This memorial urges the U.S. Congress to support the Florida citrus industry in its efforts to combat and defeat Huanglongbing (HLB), commonly known as citrus greening disease, through policy initiatives, regulatory support, and adequate funding. The disease has no known cure. Over a five year period from 2005-2011, it is estimated that HLB caused an economic loss of \$4.54 billion and caused the loss of 8,257 jobs in Florida.

AIF supported state and federal funding for research into the causes and cure of citrus greening disease.

HB 1427 died on the House calendar.

👍 SB 1576 Relating to Springs by Sen. Charlie Dean (R-Inverness) **PRIORITY**

SB 1576 provided for the protection of springs in Florida. Specifically, the bill provides funding from documentary stamp revenues to pay for changes to the makeup and mis-

 **SB 488 Relating to Out-of-network Physician Charges by Sen. Jeremy Ring (D-Margate) PRIORITY**

This bill protects consumers and brings greater transparency to out-of-network charges. It requires health care facilities to provide a patient with notification of potential out-of-network physician charges. The bill also amended the Florida Patient's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities to make patients responsible for reviewing this information.

AIF supported legislation that gives patients more information about the providers involved in their treatment so that the patients can make better decisions about the care they receive.

SB 488 died in the Senate Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs.

 **HB 751 Relating to Telehealth by Rep. Travis Cummings (R-Orange Park) and Rep. Mia Jones (D-Jacksonville) PRIORITY**

HB 751 expanded the use of telemedicine technology in Florida. The bill establishes definitions for "telehealth" and requires telehealth services provided to a patient in Florida to be documented properly. Further, the bill required out-of-state providers to register with the applicable practice board or with the Department of Health unless their service was provided during an emergency, the service was in consultation with a Florida licensed health care provider, and the provider did not provide service more than 10 times per year.

AIF supported this legislation and continues to advocate for an unfettered role for telemedicine services that gives our citizens access to better quality care at lower costs.

HB 751 died in the House Health & Human Services Committee.

 **SB 1646 Relating to Telemedicine by the Senate Committee on Health Policy PRIORITY**

Similar to HB 751, this bill also attempted to expand the use of telemedicine in Florida. However, this version added regulatory barriers and increased costs that outweighed its potential savings and benefits.

AIF opposed this bill throughout the session since its implementation would have increased costs and regulations that the benefits of increase telemedicine access would not outweigh.

SB 1646 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

 **SB 1354 Relating to Health Care by Sen. Denise Grimsley (R-Sebring)**

 **HB 1001 Relating to Health Care by Rep. Jason Brodeur (R-Sanford)**

These bills would have required health insurers to use a single standardized form for obtaining prior authorization for a medical procedure; deemed a prior authorization request submitted for prescription drugs as approved, unless an insurer responded within three business days; allowed prescribing providers to override step-therapy procedures and required managed care organizations participating in the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Program to establish a broader prescribed drug formulary or preferred drug list.

AIF opposed this bill from its inception because it would have increased pharmacy and other health care costs and created additional bureaucracy for Florida's consumers and businesses.

SB 1354 died in House messages.

HB 1001 died in the House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee.

 **HB 7113 Relating to Health Care by Rep. Greg Steube (R-Sarasota) and Rep. Jason Brodeur (R-Sanford)**

This large, comprehensive health care package was battled between the House and Senate in the final days of session and ultimately did not pass. While the bill contained some positive provisions on telehealth and expanded scope of practice for various health care providers, it also contained measures that would have limited access to health care and raised the cost of coverage.

AIF opposed the bill because its costly provisions for step therapy, prior authorizations, and drug formularies outweighed the benefits of its measures to expand telehealth and scope of practice.

HB 7113 died in House messages.

INSURANCE

 **SB 1580/HB 1351 Relating to Workers' Compensation Cost Task Force by Sen. Alan Hays (R-Umatilla) and Rep. Charlie Stone (R-Ocala)**

This legislation seeks to enact changes to the state's current workers' compensation laws. It would have created the Workers' Compensation Cost Task Force for the purpose of analyzing workers' compensation costs and recommending any changes to the current system. AIF strongly cautioned against forming this task force due to several cases currently pending before the Florida Supreme Court



State Representatives field questions at an AIF conference.

that challenge the constitutionality of the workers' compensation law. Given the court's recent opinions on other topics, including its recent disregard for the Legislature's fact finding ability, AIF continued to be very concerned that the outcome of any of the pending cases could disrupt the critical balance of the system on which Florida employers rely.

AIF opposed this legislation because the looming potential for the court to alter workers' compensation law warranted the need for stability of the current system for the state's employers.

SB 1580 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations; HB 1351 died in the House Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee.

👍 HB 375/SB 870 Relating to Insurance by Rep. David Santiago (R-Deltona) and Sen. Chris Smith (D-Oakland Park) **PRIORITY**

This legislation contains several law changes to make the state's administration of our insurance laws simpler and less burdensome for employers and regulators.

AIF supported legislation that simplifies the regulatory processes under which Florida employers operate.

HB 375 died in Senate messages; SB 870 was laid on the table.

👍 HB 391 Relating to Florida Catastrophic Storm Risk Management Center by Rep. Bill Hager (R-Boca Raton)

This bill provides that the State Board of Administration shall annually transfer a portion of the investment income

from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to the Florida Catastrophic Storm Risk Management Center located at The Florida State University. The amount of funding to be transferred would be the lesser amount of \$1 million, or 35 percent of the fund's investment income minus \$10 million, as determined by using the most recent fiscal year-end audited financial statements of the Fund.

The bill specifies that any funds transferred must solely be used for and consistent with the Center's statutory purpose of supporting the state's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from catastrophic storms.

AIF supported a more effective Storm Risk Management Program to ensure that the state is adequately prepared for a natural disaster.

HB 391 died on the House calendar.

👍 HB 879/SB 542 Relating to Flood Insurance by Rep. Ed Hooper (R-Clearwater) and Sen. Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg)

This legislation is the Senate's flood insurance plan, designed to attract personal residential insurers to write flood insurance, which is currently covered almost entirely by the National Flood Insurance Program.

AIF supported the Legislature's efforts to attract more private writers for flood insurance to give consumers an alternative to the federally run government program.

SB 542 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; HB 879 was laid on the table.



👍 HB 565 Relating to Insurance by Rep. David Santiago (R-Deltona)

This bill makes changes to the boiler inspection law to allow more persons to be eligible to inspect boilers in Florida while maintaining the inspector competency requirement in current law. The changes also permits insurers writing boiler and machinery insurance to utilize boiler inspectors they employ to inspect boilers in Florida if they hold an insurance license in another state or Canadian province.

AIF supported this bill because it provides sensible regulatory reform for the insurance marketplace.

HB 565 died in Senate messages.

👍 HB 1271/SB 1308 Relating to Insurer Solvency by Rep. Clay Ingram (R-Pensacola) and Sen. David Simmons (R-Altamonte Springs)

This bill adopts several updates from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). Specifically, the bill adds additional protections for holding company systems, updates requirements for life insurance reserves, and improves actuarial information provided to the Office of Insurance Regulation from insurers.

AIF supported legislation that modernizes insurance regulation and takes steps to achieve uniformity with other states, creating consistent regulations and a more efficient allocation of capital, which improves Florida's insurance marketplace for business and personal lines policyholders.

SB 1308 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; HB 1271 was laid on the table.

👍 SB 1672 Relating to Property Insurance by the Senate Committee on Banking & Insurance

The bill addresses several aspects of Citizens eligibility for commercial residential multi-peril policies and includes several fraud protections, including prohibiting contractors from waiving deductibles to induce policyholders to file claims.

AIF supported reducing fraud in the property insurance marketplace, which helps control insurance costs for businesses and homeowners alike.

SB 1672 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14.

LEGAL & JUDICIAL

👍 HB 187 Relating to Civil Remedies Against Insurers by Rep. Kathleen Passidomo (R-Naples) **PRIORITY**

This bill would have established a 60-day timeframe during which an insurer may investigate and, if warranted, tender policy limits to settle a liability claim. An offer of policy limits within 60 days should be legally sufficient to demonstrate a "good faith effort" by the insurer to settle a liability claim on behalf of its policyholder and bar a bad faith cause of action. This bill would have given businesses and insurers reasonable time to settle a liability claim without litigation.

AIF supported this bill because it would have decreased the cost of litigation and asserted more certainty in settling liability claims.

HB 187 died in the House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee.

👍 HB 379 Relating to Damages in Negligence Actions by Rep. Charles David Hood, Jr. (R-Daytona Beach) **PRIORITY**

This bill would limit evidence to only the actual amounts paid for medical services that were medically necessary to treat the injuries suffered when a jury is deciding the amount of damages to be awarded in a personal injury case. This bill would prevent artificial inflation of medical estimates and expenses billings that could be used as evidence in a trial.

AIF supported this legislation and continues to support

leveling the playing field and making Florida's legal climate a better place to do business.

HB 379 died in the House Judiciary Committee.

 **HB 387/SB 470 Relating to Malt Beverage Tastings by Rep. Kathleen Passidomo (R-Naples) and Sen. Nancy Detert (R-Venice)**

This legislation expanded the ability of certain licensed businesses to host malt beverage tastings on their premises and sell alcoholic beverages in sealed containers for off premises consumption.

AIF supported the expansion of competition and marketing opportunities this legislation would have created for numerous Florida business operators.

HB 387 died on the House calendar; SB 470 died in the Senate Committee on Rules.

 **SB 926/HB 957 Relating to Wage Theft by Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey) and Rep. Neil Combee (R-Auburndale)**

This legislation sought to standardize the process for civil actions for wage theft claims filed anywhere in Florida. The legislation would have prevented each local government from establishing local regulations that confuse the process for businesses operating in multiple counties and municipalities.

AIF supported a uniform process for wage theft claims that will foster positive work environments and encourage economic development.

SB 926 died on the Senate calendar; HB 957 died in the House Local & Federal Affairs Committee.

 **HB 413/SB 1006 Relating to Consumer Collection Practices by Rep. David Santiago (R-Deltona) and Sen. Alan Hays (R-Umatilla)**

This legislation subjects "control persons" of consumer collection agencies (CCAs) to state and federal criminal background checks, and subjects these persons to disqualifying periods based on the severity and timeliness of a criminal conviction. It enhances the authority of the Office of Financial Regulation (OFR) to register, investigate, examine, and bring enforcement actions against CCAs. Under this legislation, CCA registrants are required to report criminal convictions, changes from the initial application, and changes to the controlling persons of a CCA agency.

AIF supported this legislation because it gives businesses more confidence in turning over their accounts receivable functions to credible agents.

HB 413 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14;

SB 1006 was laid on the table.

 **HB 569/SB 670 Relating to Nursing Home Litigation by Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Shalimar) and Sen. John Thrasher (R-St. Augustine)**

This legislation provides that a statutory cause of action is the exclusive remedy against a nursing home licensee, its management or consulting company, managing employees, and direct caregivers alleging direct or vicarious liability for the recovery of damages for the personal injury or death of a nursing home resident arising out of negligence or a violation of a resident's statutory rights. This legislation also requires payment of a judgment within 60 days, unless agreed otherwise, or the nursing home is subject to licensure sanction by the Agency for Health Care Administration.

AIF supported the streamlining of litigation in order to preserve the growth of the nursing home industry while protecting our vulnerable elderly.

SB 670 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; HB 569 was laid on the table.

 **HB 771/SB 1182 Relating to Secondary Metals Recyclers by Rep. Neil Combee (R-Auburndale) and Sen. Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg)**

This legislation shifts authority of the secondary metal recyclers program from the Department of Revenue to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which has law enforcement capabilities, to strengthen the regulation of secondary metal recyclers.

AIF supported a well regulated secondary metal recyclers program that will reduce the likelihood of metal theft in the state.

HB 771 died in the House Appropriations Committee; SB 1182 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

 **HB 1135/SB 1138 Relating to Civil Liability of Farmers by Rep. Kevin Rader (D-Boca Raton) and Sen. Greg Evers (R-Crestview)**

Under this legislation, a farmer is exempt from civil liability when gratuitously allowing a person to come onto the land to remove farm produce or crops at any time. Presently, the exemption applies only when that activity takes place after harvesting.

AIF supported legislation that will reduce the number of frivolous lawsuits brought against Florida's business owners.

HB 1135 died on the House calendar; SB 1138 died on House messages.

IT GOVERNANCE

 **HB 7073/SB 928 Relating to Information Technology Governance by Rep. Seth McKeel (R-Lakeland) and the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee** **PRIORITY**

This legislation creates the Agency for State Technology (AST), within the Department of Management Services, headed by an executive director who will serve as the state's Chief Information Officer. The AST would be responsible for developing and implementing information technology standards, while consolidating services where applicable. Creating a state data center would also be a task of the AST, including oversight of the state's digital storage and management. The defunct Agency for Enterprise Information Technology is abolished by the bill and its duties are transferred to the AST. The AST would be given extensive authority to set state technology policy and perform project oversight of large IT projects.

AIF has been working on this issue for many years and continues to advocate that Florida's business processes have much to gain from technology as long as there are effective information governance laws in place and strong leadership from the Chief Information Officer in the Executive Branch.

HB 7073 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; SB 928 was laid on the table.

 **SB 1524/HB 7085 Relating to Security of Confidential Personal Information by Sen. John Thrasher (R-St. Augustine) and the House Civil Justice Subcommittee**

This legislation creates the "Florida Information Protection Act of 2014," which creates new Florida requirements for various notifications a company must make in the event of a data breach.

AIF advocated for this important legislation because it provides clear direction to companies for handling data and security challenges in a timely and consistent manner.

SB 1524 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; HB 7085 was laid on the table.

 **HB 151/SB 242 Relating to Security of a Protected Consumer's Information by Rep. Heather Fitzenhagen (R-Fort Myers) and Sen. Nancy Detert (R-Venice)**

The bill creates the "Keeping I.D. Safe (KIDS) Act" to authorize a representative of a minor consumer younger than sixteen years of age, or a guardian, to place a security freeze on that consumer's credit report.

AIF supported protecting consumer information to guard minors from potential identity theft. Legislation resulting in reduced instances of credit fraud is a common-sense action for the Legislature.

SB 242 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; HB 151 was laid on the table.

 **HB 4017/SB 1010 Relating to Cable and Video Services by Rep. Ray Rodrigues (R-Fort Myers) and Sen. Garrett Richter (R-Naples)**

The bill repeals a study by the Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability on the status of video competition in Florida. This is a study that duplicates an annual national study done by the Federal Communications Commission and is an unnecessary expense for government and companies to compile and submit proprietary information.

AIF supported eliminating duplicative laws that put an unnecessary compliance burden on Florida's businesses and government.

SB 1010 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; HB 4017 was laid on the table.

TAXATION

 **SB 156/HB 7123 Relating to Motor Vehicle and Mobile Home Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges by Sen. Joe Negron (R-Palm City) and the House Finance & Tax Subcommittee** **PRIORITY**

This legislation reduces some of the fees required to register a motor vehicle, vessel or mobile home, and return them to the amount required prior to September 1, 2009; a top priority for AIF. The fee reductions result in a \$12 per-year savings in the amount paid to register a motor vehicle, \$2 to register a vessel, and either \$4.50 or \$9 to register a mobile home. The total result of this bill is a \$395 million tax reduction for Florida's residents. This legislation is the lion's share of Governor Scott's goal of \$500 million in tax cuts during the session.

AIF supported this legislation from the start because it leaves more money in the pockets of Floridians and encourages growth and job creation for businesses, especially those with a fleet of vehicles.

SB 156 was approved by Governor Scott and assigned Chapter No. 2014-6; HB 7123 was laid on the table.

PRIORITY = included in AIF's 2014 Session Priorities.



Supported by AIF.



Opposed by AIF.



Tom Feeney, President and CEO of AIF, stands with Governor Rick Scott, Senate President Don Gaetz, Speaker of the House Will Weatherford and other members of the Florida Legislature to sign Senate Bill 156 that cuts \$400 million in annual vehicle registration fees for Florida families.

👍 HB 175/SB 294 Relating to Emergency Communication System by Rep. Greg Steube (R-Sarasota) and Sen. Alan Hays (R-Umatilla)

This legislation seeks to reduce the current charge for 911 services on all phone lines, including mobile. In addition, the legislation implements the findings of the E911 Board, allowing for the collection of the 911 fee at the retail point of sale for prepaid wireless phone plans. Implementing a point of sale collection method for prepaid plans and enabling the fee to be collected from everyone with access to 911 may make it possible to reduce the fee for all consumers. The bill would also put priority on allowing counties to use funds to upgrade and replace 911 systems for the next generation.

AIF was a proponent of this legislation because it lessens the 911 surcharge on Florida's phone users, as well as supports a robust and modern emergency communications system vital to the welfare of Florida's business community.

HB 175 is awaiting Governor Scott's signature as of 6/4/14; SB 294 was laid on the table.

👍 SB 266 Relating to Communications Services Taxes by Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) **PRIORITY**

This bill seeks to lower the state portion of the communications services tax (CST) and the tax rate on direct-to-home satellite services. The bill would have changed the distribution of direct-to-home satellite CST revenue to ensure local governments continued to receive the same

amount of revenue as they did under current law.

AIF supported this bill because the tax rate on communications services is higher than on general sales and makes the communications services expense a significant deterrent for businesses to locate here.

SB 266 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

👍 HB 5601 Relating to Taxation by Rep. Ritch Workman (R-Melbourne), Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) and the House Finance & Tax Subcommittee

👍 SB 712 Relating to Taxes on Prepaid Calling Arrangements by Sen. Bill Galvano (R-Bradenton) **PRIORITY**

👍 HB 567/SB 362 Relating to Hurricane Preparedness by Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Shalimar) and Sen. Rob Bradley (R-Orange Park) **PRIORITY**

👍 SB 792 Relating to Tax on Sales, Use, and Other Transactions by Sen. Anitere Flores (R-Miami) **PRIORITY**

👍 SB 1076 Relating to Electrical Power or Energy by Sen. Anitere Flores (R-Miami) **PRIORITY**

HB 5601 is the tax package containing \$105 million of Governor Scott's goal to provide \$500 million in tax relief for Floridians this session. Many stand-alone bills were ultimately added to this package.

This legislation enacts the following:

- Three-day back-to-school tax holiday in August,

estimated to save \$40 million for families

- Sales tax holiday for hurricane supplies worth up to \$750
- Sales tax holiday in September for energy-efficient appliances
- Three-year exemption on sales tax for cement mixing drums
- Eliminates the sales tax for child car seats, bicycle helmets, medicinal pet food and college meal plans
- Reduces the tax on prepaid calling plans
- Increases tax credits for New Market programs and Habitat for Humanity
- Cuts taxes on uncollectable debt on credit cards issued by retailers
- Lowers the effective tax rate for title insurance
- Distributes \$5 million from cigarette taxes to the Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute
- Reduces taxes on electricity for businesses and shifts revenue to the Public Education Capital Outlay program, a top priority of Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam
- Revise the definition of the term “prepaid calling arrangement” for purposes of the communications services tax (CST) and the sales tax.
- Eliminates the assessment of a higher sales tax rate on commercial electricity over a three-year period.

AIF supported this package of tax cuts for individuals and businesses because it will stimulate the economy and make Florida a more attractive place to live and conduct business.

AIF supported clarification that prepaid calling arrangements, such as wireless phones purchased at retail stores, should be taxed as tangible personal property.

AIF supported sales tax holidays for school and hurricane supplies. Tax holidays are a win-win for Florida families and the state as sales tend to increase more than without the tax holiday.

AIF supported sales tax holidays for hurricane supplies. This tax holiday is a win-win for customers and the state as sales tend to increase more than they would without the tax holiday.

AIF supported the reduction of the state sales tax on commercial electricity consumption. The state sales tax rate on electricity is 7% while the rate on general sales is 6%. The use of energy is a major expense for Florida businesses and paying a rate higher than the general sales tax rate makes Florida less attractive to companies looking to relocate or start a business in the state.

SB 712 died in House messages; however, provision is included in HB 5601.

HB 567 died in the House Appropriations Committee; SB 362 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations; however, their provision is included in HB 5601.

SB 792 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations; however, its provision is included in HB 5601.

SB 1076 died in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance & Tax; however, its provision is included in HB 5601.

HB 5601 was approved by Governor Scott and assigned Chapter No. 2014-38.

SB 134 Relating to Tax-exempt Income by Sen. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) **PRIORITY**

The bill increases the level of income that is exempt from the Florida corporate income tax. Florida imposes a 5.5 percent tax on the net income of corporations doing business in Florida. Currently, the first \$50,000 of a corporation's income that is subject to Florida tax is exempted from the corporate income tax. This bill increases the exemption from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

AIF supported Governor Scott's proposed increase of the exempt income amount from the current \$50,000 to the proposed \$75,000. This allows a great incentive for small businesses to expand in Florida and for companies looking to relocate here.

SB 134 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

HB 155/SB 596 Relating to Defense Contracting by Rep. Jimmie Smith (R-Lecanto) and Sen. Greg Evers (R-Crestview)

This bill provides tax breaks to prime defense contractors who use Florida-based subcontractors. The bill would allow a prime contractor to reduce its taxable income 4 percent for each subcontract it awards.

AIF supported this bill because reducing the corporate tax liability would likely encourage prime contractors to award more subcontracts to small businesses in Florida.

HB 155 died on the House calendar; SB 596 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

HB 776 Relating to Business Entities by Sen. Wilton Simpson (R-New Port Richey)

This bill decreases and standardizes filing fees and costs for documents filed with the Department of State. Specifically, the repeal of the \$88.75 supplemental corporate fee will likely result in a net savings of \$13.75 for an LLC, \$25 for a for-profit corporation, and \$286.25 for an LP or LLLP



due to a net reduction in fees when an annual report is filed.

AIF supported this bill because it will likely reduce costs for LLCs, for-profit corporations, not-for-profit corporations and partnerships that operate in Florida.

SB 776 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

HB 803/SB 898 Relating to Communications Services Tax by Rep. Jim Boyd (R-Bradenton) and Sen. Joseph Abruzzo (D-Wellington)

The bill clarifies that the state's Communications Service Tax (CST) is not applicable to communications between hotels and their franchises, to correct a recent Department of Revenue audit practice assessing the CST without statutory authority.

AIF supported clarifying the application of the CST and reducing its unintended application on Florida's businesses.

HB 803 was approved by Governor Scott and assigned Chapter No. 2014-36; SB 898 was laid on the table.

HB 1237/SB 1632 Relating to Special Districts by Rep. Larry Metz (R-Groveland) and Sen. Kelli Stargel (R-Lakeland)

This legislation reorganizes chapter 189, F.S., relating to special districts, into eight parts; revises duties of the Legislative Auditing Committee; specifies applicability of procedures regarding suspension and removal of a member of the governing body of a special district; revises when a special district may be declared inactive; prohibits special districts declared inactive from collecting taxes, fees, or assessments; and provides for costs of litigation & reasonable attorney fees under certain conditions. These bills also require each special district to update and maintain an internet website on which the district must publish extensive information. In addition, the legislation clarifies that a special district declared inactive on the unanimous vote of its governing body may be dissolved without a referendum and repeals a part of the Community Improvement Authority Act due to its irrelevance throughout the Act's duration in statute.

AIF supported common-sense and transparent policy in the creation and enforcement of special districts, which reduces uncertainty and red tape for Florida's business community.

SB 1632 was approved by Governor Scott and assigned Chapter No. 2104-22; HB 1237 was laid on the table.

SB 1342 Relating to Nonresidential Farm Buildings by Sen. Charlie Dean, Sr. (R-Inverness)

This bill exempts nonresidential farm buildings from county or municipal assessments in addition to the current exemption from county and municipal fees.

AIF supported reducing taxes on Florida's farming families and businesses and eliminating inconsistent and confusing provisions of state and local tax codes.

SB 1342 died in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

TRANSPORTATION

HB 1389/SB 1618 Relating to Chauffeured Limousines by Rep. James Grant (R-Tampa) and Sen. Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg)

This legislation creates a new category of public transit within Hillsborough County to permit service between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user as agreed by the user and provider of the service. It provides a uniform statewide regulation of emerging transportation technology, specifically chauffeured limousines, to provide stability and predictability to businesses implementing such technology, providing convenience and safety to the traveling public, and enhancing personal mobility.

AIF supported statewide digital transportation service policies that stimulate price competition, promote consumer choice and create jobs.

HB 1389 died on the House calendar; SB 1618 died in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development.



Vote for Business

- Dennis Baxley (R)
- Marti Coley (R)
- Steve Crisafulli (R)
- Heather Fitzenhagen (R)
- Erik Fresen (R)
- Dave Hood (R)
- Doug Holder (R)
- Mike La Rosa (R)
- ML Magar (R)
- Seth McKeel (R)
- Bryan Nelson (R)
- Cary Pigman (R)
- Jake Raburn (R)
- Dan Raulerson (R)
- Pat Rooney (R)
- Rob Schenck (R)
- Will Weatherford (R)
- John Wood (R)
- Ritch Workman (R)



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 2014 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.



We applaud these 19 legislators who have helped make Florida the best place to do business.



2014

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.



Gov. Rick Scott is receiving his second AIF Champions for Business Award and is only the second Governor to receive the

award in its 11-year history. As a longtime friend to the business community, Governor Scott proved once again this year to be an ally by signing various pieces of important legislation promoting the state's business climate and helping Florida's families. Perhaps most notably, Governor Scott signed SB 156, which rolled back vehicle registration fees that will save taxpayers \$395 million. This tax reduction was a large portion of Governor Scott's efforts to cut taxes by \$500 million, a goal which he and the Legislature accomplished this session. Under the Governor's leadership, Florida has become one of the most attractive states in which to live and conduct business and AIF is committed to working alongside the Governor to continue this progress.



Speaker Will Weatherford (R-Wesley Chapel) is now a four-time recipient of the AIF Champion for Business Award. A

strong advocate for education, Speaker Weatherford played a tremendous role in the passage of HB 851, which extends in-state tuition rates to undocumented students who graduate from a Florida high school or earn a GED. Under Speaker Weatherford's leadership, future generations of Florida's children will be enabled to get a higher education and/or specialized degree, obtain good paying jobs and become contributors to our state's economy. Creating these opportunities for students will ensure an educated workforce and give Florida's businesses a competitive edge.



Sen. Joe Negron (R-Palm City) is receiving his fourth AIF Champions for Business Award. His legislation, SB 156, rolls back

vehicle registration fees to pre-September 2009 levels, which will benefit every family or business that owns a vehicle to the tune of \$395 million in reduced taxes. AIF supported SB 156 from its inception because it leaves more money in the pockets of Floridians and encourages growth and job creation for businesses, especially those with a fleet of vehicles.



Rep. Richard Corcoran (R-Lutz) is receiving his first AIF Champion for Business Award. Rep. Corcoran is being recognized

for his vital role in protecting step therapy as an approach to control costs and mitigate risk for patients. Step therapy is a progressive approach to drug treatment that says patients should only be prescribed higher cost medication if lower cost, lower risk medications do not work. SB 1354 and HB 7113 were the principal bills proposed that would have negated the benefits of step therapy for patients and businesses alike. Through the efforts of Rep. Corcoran, these bills never passed the House of Representatives.



Rep. Steve Crisafulli (R-Merritt Island) is receiving his fourth AIF Champion for Business Award. As the Speaker-designate, Rep. Crisafulli

demonstrated critical leadership by helping to defeat efforts to undermine step therapy. Step therapy is a progressive approach to drug treatment that says patients should only be prescribed higher cost medication if lower cost, lower risk medications do not work. Eliminating this component of managed medical care would dramatically increase health care costs for patients and employers. SB 1354 and HB 7113 were the principal bills intended to make it easier for medical providers to override step therapy procedures. Under Speaker-designate Crisafulli's leadership, these bills were never passed by the Florida House of Representatives.

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



Sen. Jack Latvala (R-Clearwater) is receiving his third AIF Champion for Business Award. Sen. Latvala championed the

in-state tuition legislation, HB 851, in the Senate. By sponsoring similar legislation and helping to maneuver HB 851 through the Senate, he has shown his commitment to expanding access to education for all of Florida's students who graduate from a Florida high school or earn a GED. Improving our workforce through education will be a key ingredient of job creation and will also ensure businesses continue to locate to Florida.



Rep. Seth McKeel (R-Lakeland) is receiving his second AIF Champion for Business Award. His legislation, HB 7073, aims

to modernize the state's IT infrastructure and ensure Florida is no longer the only state in the nation without a Chief Information Officer. This necessary legislation creates the Agency for State Technology (AST) that will develop and implement information technology standards, develop technology policy and consolidate services where applicable. HB 7073 brings Florida in-line technologically with other states and aims to increase coordination among agencies. The AST will boost bottom lines in Florida's business community through streamlined interactions and increased efficiency.



Sen. Bill Montford (D-Tallahassee) is receiving his first AIF Champion for Business Award. Sen. Montford demonstrated his

dedication to protecting Florida's robust agricultural industry when he stood with the industry's stakeholders in order to strengthen food security and keep Florida's agricultural producers competitive.



Rep. Jeanette Nunez (R-Miami) is receiving her first AIF Champion for Business Award. This year, Rep. Nunez is being

recognized for sponsoring and passing HB 851, which puts a freeze on rising college tuition and extends in-state tuition rates to all Florida students, regardless of immigration status. Equal access to higher education opportunities will be crucial as our state grows and prospers to guarantee that the growing demand for an educated workforce is met.

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 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.



Sen. Jeremy Ring (D-Margate) is receiving his third AIF Champion for Business Award. Sen. Ring was instrumental in

developing the IT governance legislation that was signed into law this session. Florida was the only state without a Chief Information Officer, which HB 7073 creates along with the Agency for State Technology (AST). The AST with an effective Chief Information Officer at the helm will modernize the state's IT infrastructure, while making data storage and cross-agency communications more efficient. Businesses will benefit from the new agency through simplified interaction with a more efficient government.

AIF 2014 LOBBYING TEAM



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