

FPF Legislative Session Report

March 18-22, 2019



As the third week comes to an end, some committees are quickly approaching their last scheduled meeting. A few bills started moving through the committee process this week, which means they will stay in play for a few more weeks. Many of these bills will die in the committee process unless amended with a bill that's moving.

Two of our priority bills are continuing to move in the Senate but have not yet moved in the House. We will continue to meet with the Committee Chairs to move these bills.

The initial budget for the House is \$89.9 billion for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The Senate has a proposed budget of \$90.3 billion, which has the two chambers \$400 million apart; the Senate's budget includes about \$1.8 billion for Hurricane Michael relief.

Last year, the Legislature passed, and then-Governor Rick Scott signed into law, an \$88.7 billion budget. Governor Ron DeSantis has recommended a proposed budget totaling \$91.3 billion.

Hurricane Michael came ashore as a Category 4 hurricane with winds in excess of 155 mph causing widespread damage to the community and many of our members' own homes. The IAFF and FPF were there on the ground just after the winds subsided to provide aid and it's good to see that the State is stepping up at this level to assist in the rebuilding.

I'm confident this budget will address the needs of this part of the State to continue the rebuilding process. CFO Patronis has been working with the Governor and the legislature to address the needs of the community and the increased wild fire hazard due to all the downed trees. These trees may not receive proper cleanup without some financial assistance.

Funding for Firefighter Cancer Research is still in play with a possible appropriation of one million. We will continue to track these research funds for the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. We were honored to participate in the filming of documentation videos to reduce firefighters' exposure to carcinogens.

These videos were a result of partnering with the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, the Florida Firefighters Safety and Health Collaborative, Chief Tucker, Melvin Stone and the staff

at the college. The videos will be used as a statewide educational tool for existing personnel and new firefighters in the fight to reduce firefighter cancer. I would be remiss if I didn't thank the many departments that sent an engine and crew for the filming: Orange County, Gainesville, Jacksonville, Lakeland, Palm Beach County, Marion County, and Kissimmee.

A late Proposed Committee Bill (PCB), SB 2504, has been filed to move the state employee collective bargaining impasse resolution through the appropriations process. We will watch this bill and the inevitable House bill that will work its way through the budget process.

In addition to Vice President Rocco Salvatori and Secretary/Treasurer Gilbert Marsh, we had Palm Beach Local 2928 President Scott Bielecky and Angelo D'Ariano, Metro-Dade Local 1403 President Omar Blanco and Rich Andrews, and Andre Cruzeta in Tallahassee; all their assistance is greatly appreciated.

Retirement

HB 511 Special Risk Class of the Florida Retirement System (Willhite)

Companion Bill: SB 744 (Book)

FPF Position: Support

SB 744 Special Risk Class of the Florida Retirement System (Book)

Companion Bill: HB 511 (Willhite)

FPF Position: Support

HB 779 Retirement (Clemons)

Companion Bill: SB 784 (Gruters)

FPF Position: Support

SB 784 Retirement (Gruters)

Companion Bill: HB 779 (Clemons)

FPF Position: Support

SB 7016 State-administered Retirement Systems (Governmental Oversight and Accountability)

FPF Position: Support

3/22/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Appropriations, 03/27/19, 1:00 pm, 412 K.

Safety and Health

HB 723 Fire Protection Systems (Donalds)

FPF Position: Support

3/22/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Business & Professions Subcommittee, 03/26/19, 12:00 pm, 212 K.

SB 908 Firesafety Systems (Hooper)

FPF Position: Support

3/18/2019 SENATE Favorable with CS by Banking and Insurance; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/19/2019 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed. 3/20/2019 SENATE Now in Community Affairs.

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

FPF Position: Support

3/19/2019 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Insurance & Banking Subcommittee; 15 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/22/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed.

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

FPF Position: Support

3/20/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Banking and Insurance, 03/25/19, 4:00 pm, 412 K.

Collective Bargaining Representation

[HB 13 Collective Bargaining \(Williamson\)](#)

FPF Position: Oppose

Governmental Operations

[HB 67 Police, Fire, and Search and Rescue Dogs \(Tomkow\)](#)

Companion Bill: SB 96 (Bean)

FPF Position: Support

3/19/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Judiciary Committee, 03/21/19, 8:30 am, 404 H. 3/21/2019 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Judiciary Committee; 16 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/22/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed.

[SB 96 Police, Fire, and Search and Rescue Dogs and Police Horses \(Bean\)](#)

Companion Bill: HB 67 (Tomkow)

FPF Position: Support

3/18/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 03/21/19, 1:30 pm, 110 S. 3/21/2019 SENATE Favorable with CS by Rules; 15 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/22/2019 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed.

[HB 161 Firefighters' Bill of Rights \(Casello\)](#)

FPF Position: Support

[HB 203 Pub.Rec./Civilian Personnel Employed by Law Enforcement Agency \(Zika\)](#)

FPF Position: Support

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

FPF Position: Support

3/18/2019 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 03/21/19. 3/21/2019 SENATE Read Second Time; Placed on Third Reading, 03/27/19.

[SB 494 The Firefighters' Bill Of Rights \(Hooper\)](#)

FPF Position: Support

3/18/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 03/21/19, 1:30 pm, 110 S. 3/21/2019 SENATE Favorable with CS by Rules; 17 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/22/2019 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed.

State Employees

[HB 1215 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services \(Brannan III\)](#)

FPF Position: Support

3/21/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed. 3/22/2019 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee. 3/22/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee, 03/26/19, 8:30 am, 17 H.

[SB 1646 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services \(Albritton\)](#)

[FPF Position: Support](#)

3/20/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Agriculture, 03/25/19, 1:30 pm, 301 S.

[Workers Compensation](#)

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

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

[FPF Position: Support](#)

3/21/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Oversight, Transparency & Public Management Subcommittee, 03/25/19, 3:00 pm, 17 H.

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

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

[FPF Position: Support](#)

3/20/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Banking and Insurance, 03/25/19, 4:00 pm, 412 K.

[Watch Bills](#)

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

3/19/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Health & Human Services Committee, 03/21/19, 9:00 am, 17 H.
3/21/2019 HOUSE Favorable by Health & Human Services Committee; 17 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/21/2019 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading.

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

3/22/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Energy & Utilities Subcommittee, 03/26/19, 9:00 am, 306 H.

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

3/19/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed. 3/20/2019 HOUSE Now in Health Quality Subcommittee. 3/22/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Health Quality Subcommittee, 03/26/19, 8:00 am, 212 K.

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

3/20/2019 SENATE Favorable by Infrastructure and Security; 7 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/21/2019 SENATE Now in Appropriations.

[HB 803 Special Risk Class \(Aloupis\)](#)

3/21/2019 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Oversight, Transparency & Public Management Subcommittee, 03/25/19, 3:00 pm, 17 H.

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

3/20/2019 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Oversight, Transparency & Public Management Subcommittee; 13 Yeas, 0 Nays. 3/20/2019 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed. 3/21/2019 HOUSE Now in State Affairs Committee.

[SB 2504 State Employees \(Appropriations\)](#)

State Employees; Providing for the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified bargaining units of state employees, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2019. 3/22/2019 SENATE Filed. 3/22/2019 SENATE On Committee agenda - Appropriations, 03/27/19, 1:00 pm, 412 K.