



TAMPA BAY
CHAMBER

KEY VOTES 2020

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A Disclaimer

It is important to note that at the time of publishing *Key Votes 2020*, the Legislature has yet to deliver to the Governor the State's record \$91.4B budget. The Chamber was successful in navigating a slower than normal 2020 session, which saw 207 approved bills, just above pace for the fewest passed. Among the Chamber's successes were:

- » fully funding the \$370M Sadowski Housing trust fund,
- » \$50M funding for Visit Florida,
- » passage of "Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel",
- » passage of the "Keep Our Graduates Working Act",
- » passage of "Deregulation of Professions and Occupations",
- » appropriations for "Building a Better Tampa Bay STEM Workforce Initiative",
- » appropriations for "Saint Leo University – Robotics Bachelor's Degree and Micro-credentials Program", and
- » successful passage of the General Appropriations Act and the Governor's Tax Package.

The lone floor vote that did not go the Chamber's way was, HB637, "Impact Fees". All in all, the Chamber saw success in nearly 90% of its positions.

Valued Member,

The Tampa Bay Chamber is driven to fulfill the promise of shared regional prosperity – a heavy lift, but one that we cannot do without well-informed and energized members. To accomplish more, we need greater transparency around policy progress and setbacks. We believe all elected officials should embrace and courageously support strong, empowered local government because it is the right thing to do and because the future of our region depends on it. As a politically active but non-partisan organization, we push for progress with members of both parties in each legislative delegation: Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas. No matter how often a legislator voted for or against the Chamber's positions, our door is always open to dialogue.

Key Votes 2020 reflects the actions of our State Representatives and Senators on bills impacting the Chamber's members, partners and community stakeholders. We will continue to meet with and work with all members of the legislature to share the stories of our members and to build bridges toward a unified, thriving Tampa Bay. If your lawmakers didn't support the Chamber's positions, call them, discuss the impact to our communities, and tell them your concerns and priorities. And if your elected officials showed up for our community, please call them to thank them.

You can find more about the Chamber's policy initiatives at:
www.TampaBayChamber.com/Business-Advocacy.aspx



Bob Rohrlack, DBA, CCE
President & CEO
Tampa Bay Chamber



Maryann Ferenc
Chair
Tampa Bay Chamber



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Ryan J. Toth - Beck Group, The
Lauren L. Valiente Esq. - Foley & Lardner LLP
Jamie Wilson, DBA - Moffitt Cancer Center HQ

KEY VOTES METHODOLOGY

An integral component of the Tampa Bay Chamber's mission is to communicate the views of the business community to our elected officials. Our Advocacy group identifies, prioritizes and recommends policy to our Board of Directors for those issues that affect our local economy, business environment and quality of life in Tampa Bay.

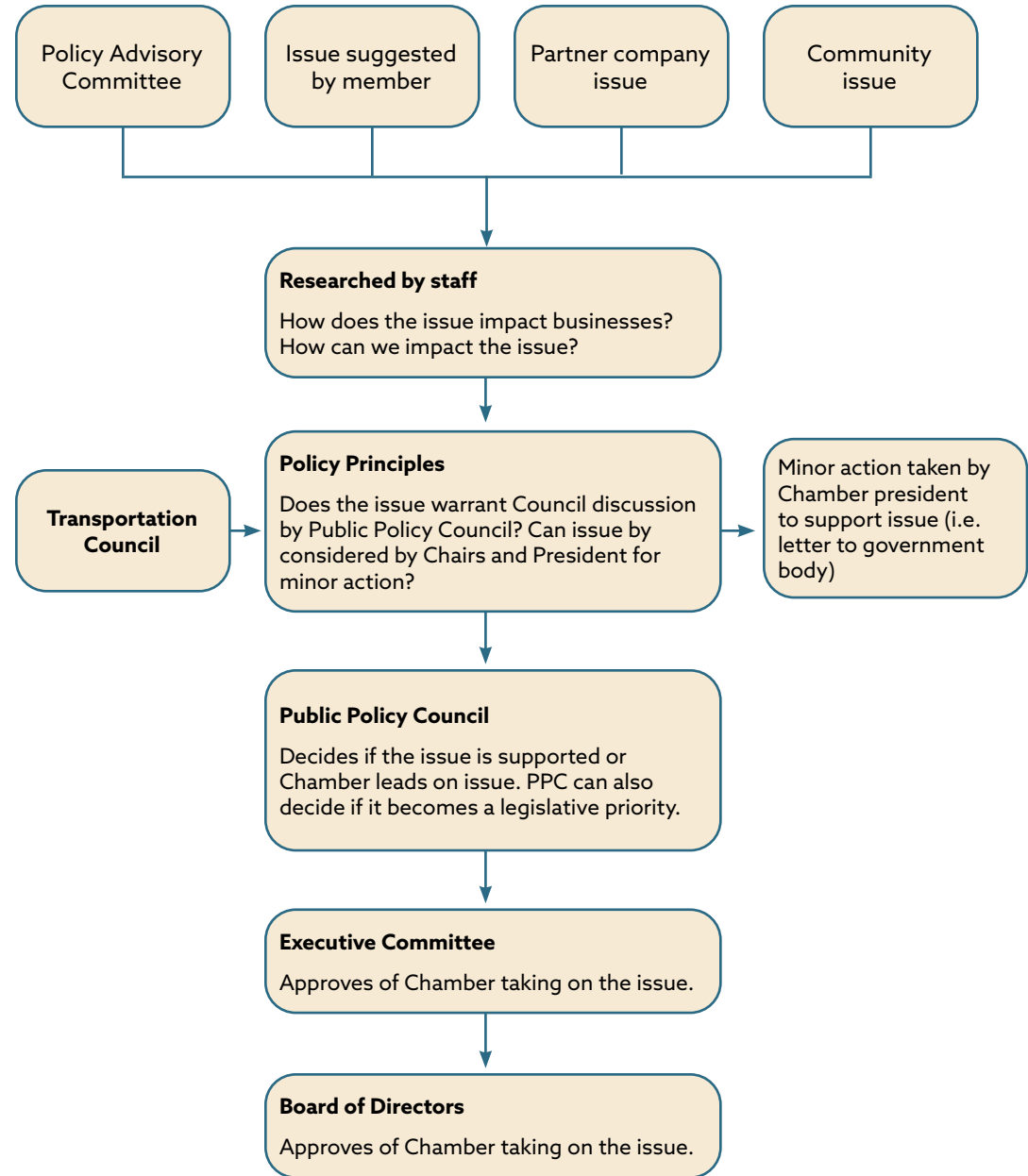
The Chamber's *Key Votes 2020** tracks legislators' votes on bills related to our Legislative Agenda's guiding principles: Workforce Development & Education, Workforce Housing, Transportation, Health Care, Business & Economic Development, and Military & Defense. *Key Votes* tracks whether legislators voted for or against the Chamber's legislative priorities.

We hope *Key Votes 2020* provides some background and accountability in the efforts towards the priorities of the business community in Tampa Bay. This is not an exhaustive review of every bill considered or that we supported or prioritized during the 2020 legislative session, nor is it a complete picture of a legislator's record on issues related to the Chamber. Rather, *Key Votes* provides a useful snapshot of which legislators side with the Chamber on full floor votes.

Conclusion

We thank the legislators who supported our legislative efforts. We hope *Key Votes 2020* adds another dimension to assessing legislators' track records when viewed alongside scorecards from our allied stakeholders and regional partners. We look forward to working with the Florida Legislature in the 2021 session to continue the work of ensuring a strong and vibrant business community in Tampa Bay.

* Please note that *Key Votes 2020* is not a voter guide. While the Tampa Bay Chamber hopes this vote tracker will help you understand more about the legislative process in order to become a stronger advocate, it only tells part of the story when it comes to electing individual legislators. When accessing the qualifications of any candidate or incumbent, voters should consider matters such as performance on committees, constituent services, and positions on all matters in addition to those included here.



LEGISLATORS

House of Representatives

Representative	Local Delegations	District	Party
Mike Beltran	Hillsborough	57	R
Ben Diamond	Pinellas	68	D
Nick DiCeglie	Pinellas	66	R
Fentrice Driskell	Hillsborough	63	D
James "J.W." Grant (J)	Hillsborough, Pinellas	64	R
Dianne "Ms Dee" Hart	Hillsborough	61	D
Adam Roger Hattersley	Hillsborough	59	D
Chris Latvala	Pinellas	67	R
Randy Maggard	Pasco	38	R
Amber Mariano	Pasco	36	R
Lawrence McClure	Hillsborough	58	R
Wengay 'Newt' Newton	Hillsborough, Manatee, Pinellas, Sarasota	70	D
Chris Sprowls	Pinellas	65	R
Jackie Toledo	Hillsborough	60	R
Susan L. Valdes	Hillsborough	62	D
Jennifer Necole Webb	Pinellas	69	D
Ardian Zika	Pasco	37	R

Senate

Senator	Local Delegations	District	Party
Jeff Brandes	Pinellas	24	R
Janet Cruz	Hillsborough	18	D
Bill Galvano	Hillsborough, Manatee	21	R
Ed Hooper	Pasco, Pinellas	16	R
Tom Lee	Hillsborough, Pasco, Polk	20	R
Darryl Ervin Rouson	Hillsborough, Pinellas	19	D
Wilton Simpson	Citrus, Hernando, Pasco	10	R



Workforce Development and Education

Guiding Principle

The business community must partner with stakeholders and policymakers to advocate for adequate resources to help recruit, develop and retain talent in Tampa Bay. Plans must be in place today to train the workforce of tomorrow. The Chamber looks forward to supporting policy that facilitates access to the development of workforce housing. We will work diligently to inform our elected officials that Hillsborough County's new education investment is an opportunity for matching dollars, not replacing them.

The Chamber Supports

- » A pay-for-success model that incentivizes pathways to high-demand workforce credentials and apprenticeships
- » Legislation that prevents the Legislature from diverting the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund
- » Resources for Hillsborough Community College to include funding operational and deferred maintenance needs
- » Legislation that authorizes public schools to offer coding as a second language and colleges/universities to accept coding as a foreign language credit
- » STEM education programs to strengthen equitable access to high quality workforce-related skill sets
- » Including industry certification and skilled training in school and district grade calculations as an additional student success measure
- » Funding for the successful consolidation of the University of South Florida into one accredited Preeminent State Research University

Transportation

Guiding Principle

Transportation is a core service of government that is critical for economic development and facilitating the efficient movement of goods, people and services. Sufficient transportation funding of all options is needed to implement a robust and connected transportation network in Tampa Bay. We will work diligently to inform our elected officials that Hillsborough County's new transportation investment is an opportunity for matching dollars, not replacing them.

The Chamber Supports

- » State regulation of peer-to-peer operators including language requiring operators to enter into an agreement with airports
- » Funding for the Westshore Interchange project as part of the Tampa Bay Next Program
- » The continued study of the Multi-Use Corridors of Regional Significance (M-CORES) Infrastructure Program
- » Preserving sufficient Right of Way along Interstate 4 between Tampa and Orlando for high speed rail
- » Policy and funding for school route safety enhancements

Health Care

Guiding Principle

The Tampa Bay Chamber supports reducing the cost of health insurance to the business community by increasing access to quality health care for all Floridians and legislation that gives our health care providers the infrastructure and regulatory environment needed to best serve our community.

The Chamber Supports

- » Legislation that increases Moffitt Cancer Center's portion of annual funding from Florida's cigarette tax
- » Increased behavioral health funding
- » Increased Medicaid funding
- » FHA's opposition to the creation of Advanced Birth Centers in Florida
- » FHA's opposition to the exclusion of non-profit hospitals from property tax exemptions in Florida

Military and Defense

Guiding Principle

The Tampa Bay Chamber has enjoyed a close working relationship with MacDill Air Force Base – a vital part of our nation's defense that has a \$3 billion impact on the Tampa Bay community. We understand the importance of supporting our brave men and women and their families who serve our country and call our community home. As a Great American Defense Community, we will continue to support policies and investments that strengthen the defense community in Tampa Bay.

Business and Economic Development

Guiding Principle

Economic development and business thrive where regional collaboration is strong, regulatory and tax burdens are minimal, right to work laws that protect our citizens remain in place and wages are market rate. Businesses locate and expand in areas where these factors exist.

The Chamber Supports

- » Legislation that creates a uniform framework for recognizing servicemember academic credits and waives transfer of transcript fees for servicemembers and their dependents
- » Adequate transportation options for military families in Hillsborough County including a MacDill Ferry connection

The Chamber Supports

- » Legislation that strengthens Florida's local governments, economic development and tourism agencies
- » Adequate funding for Visit Florida and Enterprise Florida
- » The flexibility that Florida's Home Rule powers give municipalities
- » Local investment efforts like the All For Transportation referendum and vote
- » Phased initiatives to reduce the tax burden on commercial real estate leases
- » The ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution
- » Restoring Arts & Cultural Matching Grants recommended by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs.
- » Innovation Grants for company relocation or expansion to be used for:
- » Office space on a college/university campus
- » Research with professors applicable to business
- » Augment the hiring of students to work on those projects

KEY VOTES – HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Representative	District	Party	Catalyst			Inclusive Organization					Hub For Business			
			HB 0637	HB 2161	HB 4271	HB 0171	HB 0239	HB 3893	HB 5001	HB 7097	HB 1203	HB 2757	HB 3277	HB 9157
Mike Beltran	57	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Ben Diamond	68	D	✓	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Nick DiCeglie	66	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Fentrice Driskell	63	D	✓	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	X	DC	IP	IP	IP
James "J.W." Grant (J)	64	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Dianne "Ms Dee" Hart	61	D	✓	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Adam Roger Hattersley	59	D	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	X	DC	IP	IP	IP
Chris Latvala	67	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Randy Maggard	38	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Amber Mariano	36	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Lawrence McClure	58	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Wengay 'Newt' Newton	70	D	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Chris Sprowls	65	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Jackie Toledo	60	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Susan L. Valdes	62	D	✓	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Jennifer Necole Webb	69	D	✓	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP
Ardian Zika	37	R	X	SF	SF	✓	DC	IP	✓	✓	DC	IP	IP	IP

Key

- X Voted against chamber position
- ✓ Voted for chamber position
- E Excused (Neutral) not counted in total votes
- A Absent Vote
- DC Died in Committee
- SF Successfully Funded
- IP Indefinitely Postponed

Catalyst

HB 0637
Impact Fees

HB 2161
Building a Better Tampa Bay STEM Workforce Initiative

HB 4271
Saint Leo University - Robotics Bachelor's Degree and Micro-credentials Program

Inclusive Organization

HB 0171
Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel

HB 0239
Equal Rights for Men and Women

HB 3893
Earn to Learn FL

HB 5001
General Appropriations Act

HB 7097
Taxation

Hub For Business

HB 1203
Pathways to Career Opportunities

HB 2757
LaunchCode Florida Tech Career & Veteran Initiative

HB 3277
Hillsborough Community College - Workforce Education Center

HB 9157
St. Petersburg College - Industrial Workforce Business Incubator

KEY VOTES - SENATE

Senator	District	Party	Catalyst				Inclusive Organization				Hub For Business		
			SB 0130	SB 0154	SB 0306	SB 0494	SB 0090	SB 0096	SB 0104	SB 0132	SB 0356	SB 0362	SB 0474
Jeff Brandes	24	R	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	✓	✓	✓
Janet Cruz	18	D	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	✓	✓	✓
Bill Galvano	21	R	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	✓	✓	E
Ed Hooper	16	R	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	✓	✓	✓
Tom Lee	20	R	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	✓	✓	✓
Darryl Ervin Rouson	19	D	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	✓	✓	✓
Wilton Simpson	10	R	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	DC	✓	✓	✓

Key

- ✗ Voted against chamber position
- ✓ Voted for chamber position
- E Excused (Neutral) not counted in total votes
- A Absent Vote
- DC Died in Committee
- SF Successfully Funded
- IP Indefinitely Postponed

Catalyst

SB 0130

Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

SB 0154

Human Trafficking Education in Schools

SB 0306

State Funds (The Housing Trust Fund was ultimately fully-funded at \$370M)

SB 0494

H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute

Inclusive Organization

SB 0090

Discrimination in Labor and Employment

SB 0096

Educational Opportunities for Veterans

SB 0104

Services for Veterans and Their Families

SB 0132

Sunshine Scholarship Program

Hub For Business

SB 0356

Keep Our Graduates Working Act

SB 0362

Florida Tourism Marketing

SB 0474

Deregulation of Professions and Occupations

HB 0637

Impact Fees

Revises conditions that counties, municipalities, & special districts must satisfy before enacting an impact fee by ordinance or resolution; provides impact fee credits are assignable & transferrable under certain conditions; requires counties & municipalities to establish impact fee review committees; provides for membership; provides procedures for meetings & establishing quorums; provides committee duties.

Bill Author DiCeglie
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Companion Bill Passed
Chamber Position Oppose

HB 2161

Building a Better Tampa Bay STEM Workforce Initiative

Provides an appropriation for the Building a Better Tampa Bay STEM Workforce Initiative.

Bill Author Toledo
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Funded in HB 5001
Chamber Position Support

HB 4271

Saint Leo University - Robotics Bachelor's Degree and Micro-credentials Program

Provides an appropriation for the Saint Leo University - Robotics Bachelor's Degree and Micro-credentials Program.

Bill Author Maggard
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Funded in HB 5001
Chamber Position Support

HOUSE BILLS - INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATION

HB 0171

Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel

Requires BOG & SBE to create uniform system for award of postsecondary credit to certain servicemembers & veterans; provides process for award of postsecondary credit for military experience & credentials; requires specified postsecondary institutions to waive transcript fee for active duty members, certain veterans, & their spouses & dependents.

Bill Author Ponder
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Passed via floor vote
Chamber Position Support

HB 0239

Equal Rights for Men and Women

Ratifies proposed amendment to U.S. Constitution relating to equal rights for men & women.

Bill Author Driskell
Effective Date Not Specified
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

HB 3893

Earn to Learn FL

Earn to Learn FL: Provides an appropriation for the Earn to Learn FL.

Bill Authors Driskell
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Indefinitely Postponed (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

HOUSE BILLS - INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATION

HB 5001

General Appropriations Act

Provides moneys for annual period beginning July 1, 2020, & ending June 30, 2021, & supplemental appropriations for period ending June 30, 2020, to pay salaries & other expenses, capital outlay—buildings & other improvements, & for other specified purposes of various agencies of state government.

Bill Authors Appropriations Committee, Cummings
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Passed
Chamber Position Support

HB 7097

Taxation

Increasing a population limit on counties that may use tourist development tax revenues for certain uses; extending the timeframe within which certain changes to property damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Michael must commence to prevent the assessed value of the property from increasing; revising the deadlines for applying for additional ad valorem tax exemptions for certain servicemembers for a specified tax year; authorizing a property appraiser in a county for which the Governor has declared a state of emergency to post notices of proposed property taxes on its website if mailing the notice is not possible; providing sales tax exemptions for certain clothing, wallets, bags, school supplies, personal computers, and personal computer-related accessories during a certain timeframe; providing sales tax exemptions for certain disaster preparedness supplies during a certain timeframe, etc

Bill Authors Appropriations Committee and Ways & Means Committee and Avila
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Passed
Chamber Position Support

HOUSE BILLS - HUB FOR BUSINESS

HB 1203

Pathways to Career Opportunities

Requires Commissioner of Education to submit to certain entities report with recommendations relating to implementation of Pathways in Technology Early College High School program; provides requirements for such program & report; provides for expiration.

Bill Author Mariano
Effective Date Upon becoming a law
Current Status Died (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

HB 2757

LaunchCode Florida Tech Career & Veteran Initiative

Provides an appropriation for the LaunchCode Florida Tech Career & Veteran Initiative.

Bill Author Grant (J)
Effective Date Not Specified
Current Status Indefinitely Postponed (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

HB 3277

Hillsborough Community College - Workforce Education Center

Provides an appropriation for the Hillsborough Community College - Workforce Education Center.

Bill Author Newton
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Indefinitely Postponed (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

HB 9157

St. Petersburg College - Industrial Workforce Business Incubator

Provides an appropriation for the St. Petersburg College - Industrial Workforce Business Incubator.

Bill Author Diamond
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Indefinitely Postponed (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

SENATE BILLS - CATALYST

SB 0130

Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

Authorizing the Governor to approve workforce training grants to certain charter schools under the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund; authorizing certain charter schools to apply for specified grant funds, etc.

Bill Author Hutson
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

SB 0154

Human Trafficking Education in Schools

Revising the required health education in public schools to include information regarding the dangers and signs of human trafficking; specifying the minimum requirements of the human trafficking education portion of the comprehensive health education curriculum, etc.

Bill Author Thurston, Jr.
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

SB 0306

State Funds

Exempting the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund from a provision authorizing the Legislature, in the General Appropriations Act, to transfer unappropriated cash balances from specified trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and the General Revenue Fund.

Bill Author Mayfield
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Fund was fully funded \$370M
Chamber Position Support

SB 0494

H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute

Increasing, at specified time-frames, the percentage of cigarette tax proceeds paid to the Board of Directors of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute for certain purposes, etc.

Bill Author Simpson
Effective Date Upon becoming a law
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

SENATE BILLS – INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATION

SB 0090

Discrimination in Labor and Employment

Creating the “Senator Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Protection Act”; prohibiting an employer from providing less favorable employment opportunities to employees based on their sex; prohibiting an employer from taking certain employment actions against employees; prohibiting an employer from engaging in certain activities relating to wages and benefits, etc.

Bill Author Stewart
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Monitor

SB 0096

Educational Opportunities for Veterans

Defining the term “disabled veteran”; providing that disabled veterans receiving certain federal educational assistance benefits are eligible to receive an award for the remaining cost of tuition and fees at state universities and Florida College System institutions, etc.

Bill Author Cruz
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Monitor

SB 0104

Services for Veterans and Their Families

Requiring the Department of Veterans’ Affairs to establish the Florida Veterans’ Care Coordination Program to provide for veterans and their families behavioral healthcare referral and care coordination services; requiring the department to contract with a certain nonprofit entity to enter into agreements with Florida 211 Network participants to provide such services; providing for the statewide delivery of specified services by program teams, etc.

Bill Author Harrell
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

SB 0132

Sunshine Scholarship Program

Establishing the Sunshine Scholarship Program; requiring the Department of Education to administer the program; requiring certain financial aid to be credited to a student’s tuition and fees before the award of a Sunshine Scholarship; requiring a student to repay the scholarship amount under certain circumstances, etc.

Bill Author Braynon II
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Died in Committee (3/14)
Chamber Position Support

SB 0356

Keep Our Graduates Working Act

Creating the “Keep Our Graduates Working Act of 2020”; prohibiting a state authority from suspending or revoking a person’s professional license, certificate, registration, or permit solely on the basis of a delinquency or default in the payment of his or her student loan, etc.

Bill Author Hutson
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Substituted for HB 0115; HB 0115 has been enrolled
Chamber Position Support

SB 0362

Florida Tourism Marketing

Revising the scheduled repeal of the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation direct-support organization; abrogating the scheduled repeal of the Division of Tourism Marketing of Enterprise Florida, Inc., etc.

Bill Author Hooper
Effective Date Upon becoming a law
Current Status Appropriated \$50M & reauthorized for 3 additional years
Chamber Position Support

SB 0474

Deregulation of Professions and Occupations

Citing this act as the “Occupational Freedom and Opportunity Act”; deleting the requirement that a yacht broker maintain a separate license for each branch office; specifying that the failure to repay certain student loans is not considered a failure to perform a statutory or legal obligation for which certain disciplinary action can be taken; revising licensure requirements for engineers who hold specified licenses in another state; providing that certain cosmetology services may be performed in a location other than a licensed salon under certain circumstances, etc.

Bill Author Albritton
Effective Date July 1, 2020
Current Status Substituted for HB 1193; HB 1193 has been enrolled
Chamber Position Support

A significant goal of the Tampa Bay Chamber has been to establish Memorandums of Understanding and formal partnerships with other community partners and organizations that share our desire and vision for a united, strong voice for business in our region.

We're proud to say that we currently have Memorandums of Understanding with the following community partners: Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce, Greater Plant City Chamber of Commerce, Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce, Indo-US Chamber of Commerce, North Tampa Bay Chamber, South Tampa Chamber of Commerce, Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber, Tampa Downtown Partnership, Uptown Chamber of Commerce, Westshore Alliance, and Ybor Chamber – making up over 10,000 members.



Memorandums of Understanding with the above chambers and business organizations do not necessarily reflect agreement on the legislative priorities or positions detailed within Key Votes 2020.



**TAMPA BAY
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