



# SINE DIE BRIEF

## 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

**NOTE:** The following is just a brief look at the final dispensation of some of the major working family bills we were following during the 2017 Legislative Session.

	PASS	FAIL
<p><b>Decertifying Florida's Public Sector Unions</b></p> <p><b>HB 11 Plakon / SB 1292 Baxley - OPPOSE</b></p> <p>This legislation would have created burdensome new reporting requirements for public sector unions then used the information collected to decertify those same unions. These bills would have allowed for the decertification of any public sector bargaining unit that can't demonstrate that their dues paying membership represents 50% or more of the total number of employees in the unit.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Weakening the Florida Retirement System</b></p> <p><b>HB 5007 Caldwell / SB 7030 Governmental Oversight &amp; Accountability / SB 7022 Governmental Oversight &amp; Accountability - OPPOSE</b></p> <p>This issue remained dormant during the bulk of the legislative session, moving late in the process through the House and was revived in the Senate as part of the budget process. This legislation will default new hires into the Defined Contribution (401k type) plan as opposed to the Defined Benefit (pension) plan. This change will destabilize the pension system and places thousands of new hires into the inferior plan for retirement security. <b>It was finally passed as part of a massive state employee benefit bill, SB 7022</b>, as part of the budget with little Senate scrutiny or deliberation.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Restructuring the State Group Health Insurance Program</b></p> <p><b>HB 7007 Brodeur / SB 7030 Governmental Oversight &amp; Accountability / SB 7022 Governmental Oversight &amp; Accountability - OPPOSE</b></p> <p>This legislation creates a new tier system for health insurance plans for state and university employees. These tiers could lead to higher premiums and out of pocket expenses for the plan participants. The bill was never considered as a stand-alone policy measure by the Florida Senate. It appeared in various vehicles in the last ten days of session. <b>It was finally passed as part of a massive state employee benefit bill, SB 7022</b>, as part of the budget with little Senate scrutiny or deliberation.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>


**PASS**
**FAIL**

## Pay Increases for State Employees



### **SB 7030 Governmental Oversight & Accountability/SB 7022 Governmental Oversight & Accountability - SUPPORT**

Florida's Labor community has fought for raises for the nation's most overworked and underpaid workforces in the nation. In this year's budget, many state employees will receive significant raises to their base pay including \$1400 for employees making less than \$40,000 per year and \$1000 for employees making more than \$40,000 per year. **These raises were passed in SB 7022 as part of the budget.**

## Workers' Compensation



### **1582 Bradley/HB 7085 Burgess - OPPOSE**

There were competing packages to reform Florida's workers' compensation system and the Senate package was much better for injured workers, their families and Florida's businesses. When it became apparent that the House package would be up for a final vote, we joined with our coalition partners in opposition to the bills.

## Eliminating Protections for our Best Teachers



### **SB 856 Broxson / HB 373 Grant / HB 7069 Appropriations - OPPOSE**

Many local school districts have been providing one year contract extensions for teachers judged effective or highly effective under state criteria. This legislation preempts the local school boards and eliminates those contracts. The measure passed the House but was defeated in the Senate Rules Committee. The bill was revived behind closed doors and added to HB 7069 which contained dozens of education issues including a massive expansion of charter schools and school vouchers. **This bill was forced through as part of the budget process.**

## Preemption of Local Pro-Worker Ordinances



### **SB 534 Perry / HB 599 Williamson - OPPOSE**

These bills create sweeping new preemptions on local government public works construction projects and their ability to enforce ordinances designed to help workers. The bill was amended to allow preemption only if 50% or more of project funding is appropriated by the state of Florida.



**PASS**

**FAIL**

**Preemption of All Local Regulations of Commerce, Trade and Labor**



**HB 17 Fine / SB 1158 Passidomo - OPPOSE**

This legislation would make it impossible for local governments to enact and enforce local rules or ordinances that regulate any businesses, professions or occupations, preempting these regulatory powers to the State Legislature.

**Legal Representation in Public Records Requests**




**SB 80 Steube / HB 163 Burgess - SUPPORT**

This legislation would have diminished the ability for people to secure legal help in the event they were unlawfully denied access to public records. We worked to amend the legislation substantially to address some bad actors who had been abusing Florida's public records laws while protecting access for average Floridians.

**"The Secrecy Bill" Exempting University Searches from Florida's Sunshine Laws**



**SB 478 Passidomo / HB 351 Rommel - OPPOSE**

This legislation would have exempted the search process for College and University presidents and other senior officials from Florida's Sunshine Laws.

**Federal Immigration Enforcement**



**SB 786 Bean / HB 697 Metz - OPPOSE**

This legislation would have forced all city and county employees to serve as de facto immigration enforcement agents for local governments to enforce federal immigration orders which many judicial jurisdictions have rule as unconstitutional.