

Subject: Public Records Request #365 - RECORDS RELEASE

Date: Friday, June 17, 2022 at 3:04:09 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: PublicRecordsRequests

To: AO Records

CC: Betta, Katherine, Brown, Debbie, Tamayo, Justin, Perez, Michelle

EXTERNAL SENDER

Good afternoon,

Pursuant to the public records request submitted on May 23, 2022, the responsive records have been sent in a separate email from our dropbox service on the following:

- **“All electronic communications (including email messages, complete email chains, calendar invitations, text messages, and any attachments) sent by (A) the Florida legislators and legislative aides listed in Column A, below, and (B) individuals communicating on behalf of the external organizations listed in Column B, below (including, but not limited to, anyone communicating from an email address ending in the listed domain(s)).**

Column A: Florida Legislators	Column B: External Organizations
a) Sen. Dennis Baxley	i. Alliance Defending Freedom (adflegal.org)
b) Legislative Assistant Debbie Dennis	ii. America First Legal (aflegal.org)
c) President Pro Tempore Aaron Bean	iii. American College of Pediatricians (acpeds.org)
d) Legislative Assistant Dee Alexander	iv. American Family Association (afa.net)
e) Legislative Assistant Chad Corcoran	v. American Principles Project (americanprinciplesproject.org)
f) Legislative Assistant Chesten Goodman	vi. Child and Parental Rights Campaign (childparentrights.org)
g) Legislative Assistant Henry Mahler	vii. Concerned Women for America (concernedwomen.org or cwfa.org)
h) Majority Leader Debbie Mayfield	viii. Eagle Forum (@eagleforum.org)
i) Staff Director Ronnie Whitaker	ix. Family Policy Alliance (familypolicyalliance.com)
j) Legislative Assistants Kelli Lane	x. Family Research Council (frc.org)
k) Legislative Assistants Karly Smith	xi. Family Research Council Action (fraction.org)
l) Sen. Manny Diaz, Jr.	xii. First Liberty Institute (firstliberty.org)
m) Legislative Assistant Judith Ruiz	xiii. Florida Family Policy Council (ffamily.org)
n) Sen. Joe Gruters	xiv. Liberty Counsel (lc.org, lcaction.org)
o) Legislative Assistant Victoria Brill	xv. United In Purpose (unitedinpurpose.org)
p) Legislative Assistant GeeDee Kerr	xvi. Wallbuilders (wallbuilders.com)
q) Sen. Kathleen Passidomo	xvii. Child and Parental Rights Campaign (childparentrights.org)
r) Legislative Assistant Sheri Green	
s) Senator Kelli Stargel	

-
- **Please provide all responsive records from January 11, 2022, to April 7, 2022."**

The Senate provides this response pursuant to Article 1, Section 24 of the Florida Constitution, Title III, Section 11.0431 of the Florida Statutes and Senate Rule 1.48. Under Art. 1, s. 24(c) of the Florida Constitution, each house of the Legislature is exclusively authorized to adopt rules governing the enforcement of the maintenance, control and disposition of public records with respect to their own public records.

Sincerely,

Michelle

Michelle Perez

Public Records Manager

Office of the Senate General Counsel

302 The Capitol

404 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Phone: (850) 487-5237

Fax: (850) 487-6444

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@floridafamilyaction.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 2:37 PM EDT
To: Stargel, Kelli (Web) <STARGEL.KELLI.WEB@flsenate.gov>
Subject: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation
Attachment(s): "image002.png", "image004.png"

April 7, 2022

Senator Kelli Stargel
2033 East Edgewood Drive Suite 1
Lakeland, FL 33803

Dear Senator Stargel:

Greetings. We are writing you for two reasons.

First, we want to thank you for your support of life, family, parental rights, and religious liberty in the past term covering the 2021 and 2022 sessions. In this time of national opposition to conservative values from woke institutions, you as a member of Florida's legislature, have been a solid bastion standing for what is true, right, and beautiful. Under the leadership of Governor **Ron DeSantis**, President **Wilton Simpson**, and Speaker **Chris Sprowls**, Florida has been a bulwark, a national model, and an example for others around this nation for defending and advancing pro-life, pro-family, and pro-freedom policies.

We strongly commend you for taking on the hard votes on key issues, despite attacks from the media and leftist activists. Thank you for your willingness to stand firm during this session.

Second, in recognition of the courage of your votes during the last two sessions, Florida Family Policy Council would like to publicly honor you along with other fellow legislators with our "First Principles Award," a beautifully engraved glass award, to be presented to you at our annual dinner in Orlando, Florida, on Saturday, May 14, 2022, from 6-8 pm. Our dinner will feature **Seth Dillon** of the Babylon Bee, the leading conservative satire site, as our keynote speaker; US Senator **Marco Rubio**; and others, along with State Senator **Aaron Bean** as the Master of Ceremonies. We are expecting 700-800 attendees at this year's event.

Further information on our dinner, including location, time, and the ticket cost, can be found at www.FLfamily.org

The deadline to RSVP is Thursday, May 6th at the close of business to inform us of your intent to attend the dinner and receive the award in person. Thank you again for your service and we hope to see you on May 14th.

Sincerely,



John Stemberger
President



Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

Handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. J. [unclear]".

Carroll A. D. D. D. D.

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@floridafamilyaction.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 2:37 PM EDT
To: Mayfield, Debbie (Web) <Mayfield.Debbie.Web@flsenate.gov>
Subject: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation
Attachment(s): "image002.png", "image004.png"

April 7, 2022

Senator Debbie Mayfield
900 East Strawbridge Avenue
Melbourne, FL 32901

Dear Senator Mayfield:

Greetings. We are writing you for two reasons.

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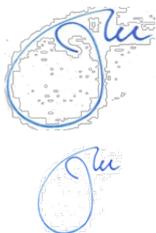
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John Stemberger
President

Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

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Carroll A. D. D. D. D.

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@floridafamilyaction.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 2:37 PM EDT
To: Passidomo, Kathleen (Web) <Passidomo.Kathleen.Web@flsenate.gov>
Subject: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation
Attachment(s): "image002.png", "image004.png"

April 7, 2022

Senator Kathleen Passidomo
3299 Tamiami Trail East Suite 203
Naples, FL 34112

Dear Senator Passidomo:

Greetings. We are writing you for two reasons.

First, we want to thank you for your support of life, family, parental rights, and religious liberty in the past term covering the 2021 and 2022 sessions. In this time of national opposition to conservative values from woke institutions, you as a member of Florida's legislature, have been a solid bastion standing for what is true, right, and beautiful. Under the leadership of Governor **Ron DeSantis**, President **Wilton Simpson**, and Speaker **Chris Sprowls**, Florida has been a bulwark, a national model, and an example for others around this nation for defending and advancing pro-life, pro-family, and pro-freedom policies.

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President

Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

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Carroll A. D. D. D. D.

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@floridafamilyaction.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 2:37 PM EDT
To: Bean, Aaron (Web) <Bean.Aaron.Web@flsenate.gov>
Subject: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation
Attachment(s): "image002.png", "image004.png"

April 7, 2022

Senator Aaron Bean
13453 North Main Street Suite 301
Jacksonville, FL 32218

Dear Senator Bean:

Greetings. We are writing you for two reasons.

First, we want to thank you for your support of life, family, parental rights, and religious liberty in the past term covering the 2021 and 2022 sessions. In this time of national opposition to conservative values from woke institutions, you as a member of Florida's legislature, have been a solid bastion standing for what is true, right, and beautiful. Under the leadership of Governor **Ron DeSantis**, President **Wilton Simpson**, and Speaker **Chris Sprowls**, Florida has been a bulwark, a national model, and an example for others around this nation for defending and advancing pro-life, pro-family, and pro-freedom policies.

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Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

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Carroll D. D. D. D.

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@floridafamilyaction.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 2:37 PM EDT
To: Baxley, Dennis (Web) <Baxley.Dennis.Web@flsenate.gov>
Subject: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation
Attachment(s): "image002.png", "image004.png"

April 7, 2022

Senator Dennis Baxley
206 South Hwy 27/441
Lady Lake, FL 32159

Dear Senator Baxley:

Greetings. We are writing you for two reasons.

First, we want to thank you for your support of life, family, parental rights, and religious liberty in the past term covering the 2021 and 2022 sessions. In this time of national opposition to conservative values from woke institutions, you as a member of Florida's legislature, have been a solid bastion standing for what is true, right, and beautiful. Under the leadership of Governor **Ron DeSantis**, President **Wilton Simpson**, and Speaker **Chris Sprowls**, Florida has been a bulwark, a national model, and an example for others around this nation for defending and advancing pro-life, pro-family, and pro-freedom policies.

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President



Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

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Carroll A. D. D. D. D.

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>

Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00 PM EST

To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>

Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT

If you have not registered already, registration for the Prayer Breakfast this Tuesday has been extended to 4:00 today.

(Tallahassee, FL) Governor Ron DeSantis will speak at our legislative prayer breakfast for our Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days on January 25th, 2022. This will be the second year he attends the event. The registration deadline has been extended to 4:00 PM today and we are encouraging attendees to register now.

REGISTER HERE:

<https://events.idonate.com/prolifefamilydays2022>

PRAYER BREAKFAST DETAILS

Tuesday, 1/25/2022

6:30 am - Doors/Registration open

7:00 am - Breakfast buffet

7:30 am - Program begins

8:45 am - Program ends

Location:

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Parking: Free at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

Tuesday's attire is Business Professional.

Blessings,

Chris

Christopher Yates

Assistant to the President

Director of Development

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Avenue

Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org

407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: Hayden, Paul <HAYDEN.PAUL@flsenate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:00 PM EST
To: Kokkinos, Rebecca <KOKKINOS.BECKY@flsenate.gov>
CC: Green, Sheri <GREEN.SHERI@flsenate.gov>
Subject: FW: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Becky,

In case you didn't see this, here is corrected dates and times from Chris Yates with the Florida Family Policy Council for the Pro-Life, Pro-Families Days on Monday, Jan. 24 and Tuesday Jan. 25

Paul Hayden
Legislative Assistant to
Senator Kathleen C. Passidomo
District 28
239-417-6205

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57 PM
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....

Update! My mistake, please see the correct dates and times as listed below...

Good Afternoon,

You are invited to join us in Tallahassee for Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days next Monday and Tuesday **January 24th and 25th**

If you are unable to attend the entire event, you may still attend our dinner and/or breakfast:

Dinner - Monday evening, 1/24/2022

Reception: 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm
Dinner: 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm
\$50.00
Donald Tucker Civic Center
505 W Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday morning, 1/25/2022

7:00 am - 8:45 am
\$19.50
Donald Tucker Civic Center
505 W Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

**Full Event- Begins at 3:00 pm on Monday 1/24/2022
and concludes at 3:00 pm on Tuesday 1/25/2022**

\$100.00
Donald Tucker Civic Center
505 W Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

I have attached a PDF with more details. Also, feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you for serving our great state of Florida!

Blessings,
Chris

Christopher Yates
Assistant to the President
Director of Development

Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

PRO-Life PRO-Family Days AT THE CAPITOL

#LIFEWINS

Monday & Tuesday, January 24 & 25, 2022

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center | 505 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee

Featured Speakers



**Congresswoman
Kat Cammack**
Representing Florida's 3rd
District in the U.S. House



Abby Johnson
Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
Advocate



Two important days of:

Training
Briefing from Experts
Supreme Court Visit
Fellowship
Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
Prayer Breakfast
Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)

From: Kokkinos, Rebecca <KOKKINOS.BECKY@flsenate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 4:10 PM EST
To: Green, Sheri <GREEN.SHERI@flsenate.gov>; Fleno, Chadrick <Fleno.Chadrick@flsenate.gov>
Subject: FW: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

This looks like a FYI....she can't attend any of this.

Becky Kokkinos
Chief Legislative Aide to Senator Kathleen Passidomo
District 28
850-487-5028
Senate Office Building 400

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57 PM
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Assistant to the President
Director of Development
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



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PRO-Life PRO-Family Days AT THE CAPITOL

#LIFEWINS

Monday & Tuesday, January 24 & 25, 2022

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Featured Speakers



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Kat Cammack**
Representing Florida's 3rd
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Abby Johnson
Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
Advocate



Two important days of:

Training
Briefing from Experts
Supreme Court Visit
Fellowship
Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
Prayer Breakfast
Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)

From: Ruiz, Judith
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 11:30 AM EST
To: Manny Diaz Jr. <mannydiaz2012@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

[Interested?](#)

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57 PM
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....

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Prayer Walks
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Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

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From: DeBow, Denise on behalf of Stargel, Kelli (Web)
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 3:21 PM EDT
To: Watson, Kathleen <Watson.Kathleen@flsenate.gov>
Subject: FW: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation
Attachment(s): "image002.png", "image004.png"

From: Aaron Dipietro <aarond@floridafamilyaction.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 2:38 PM
To: Stargel, Kelli (Web) <STARGEL.KELLI.WEB@flsenate.gov>
Subject: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation

April 7, 2022

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2033 East Edgewood Drive Suite 1
Lakeland, FL 33803

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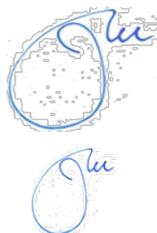
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Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



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Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 3:22 PM EDT
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First, we want to thank you for your support of life, family, parental rights, and religious liberty in the past term covering the 2021 and 2022 sessions. In this time of national opposition to conservative values from woke institutions, you as a member of Florida's legislature, have been a solid bastion standing for what is true, right, and beautiful. Under the leadership of Governor **Ron DeSantis**, President **Wilton Simpson**, and Speaker **Chris Sprowls**, Florida has been a bulwark, a national model, and an example for others around this nation for defending and advancing pro-life, pro-family, and pro-freedom policies.

We strongly commend you for taking on the hard votes on key issues, despite attacks from the media and leftist activists. Thank you for your willingness to stand firm during this session.

Second, in recognition of the courage of your votes during the last two sessions, Florida Family Policy Council would like to publicly honor you along with other fellow legislators with our "First Principles Award," a beautifully engraved glass award, to be presented to you at our annual dinner in Orlando, Florida, on Saturday, May 14, 2022, from 6-8 pm. Our dinner will feature **Seth Dillon** of the Babylon Bee, the leading conservative satire site, as our keynote speaker; US Senator **Marco Rubio**; and others, along with State Senator **Aaron Bean** as the Master of Ceremonies. We are expecting 700-800 attendees at this year's event.

Further information on our dinner, including location, time, and the ticket cost, can be found at www.FLfamily.org

The deadline to RSVP is Thursday, May 6th at the close of business to inform us of your intent to attend the dinner and receive the award in person. Thank you again for your service and we hope to see you on May 14th.

Sincerely,



John Stemberger
President

Aaron D. DiPietro

Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

Handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. J. [unclear]".

Carroll A. D. D. D. D.

From: Passidomo, Kathleen (Web)
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2022 2:40 PM EDT
To: Hayden, Paul <HAYDEN.PAUL@flsenate.gov>
Subject: FW: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation
Attachment(s): "image002.png","image004.png"

Sheri Green
Senior Legislative Assistant to
Senator Kathleen Passidomo
District 28
850-487-5028

From: Aaron Dipietro <aarond@floridafamilyaction.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 2:38 PM
To: Passidomo, Kathleen (Web) <Passidomo.Kathleen.Web@flsenate.gov>
Subject: 2022 FFPC Awards Dinner Invitation

April 7, 2022

Senator Kathleen Passidomo
3299 Tamiami Trail East Suite 203
Naples, FL 34112

Dear Senator Passidomo:

Greetings. We are writing you for two reasons.

First, we want to thank you for your support of life, family, parental rights, and religious liberty in the past term covering the 2021 and 2022 sessions. In this time of national opposition to conservative values from woke institutions, you as a member of Florida's legislature, have been a solid bastion standing for what is true, right, and beautiful. Under the leadership of Governor **Ron DeSantis**, President **Wilton Simpson**, and Speaker **Chris Sprowls**, Florida has been a bulwark, a national model, and an example for others around this nation for defending and advancing pro-life, pro-family, and pro-freedom policies.

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FL-SEN-22-0500-A-000039



John Stemberger
President

Aaron D. DiPietro

Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

Handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. J. [unclear]".

Carroll A. D. D. D. D.

From: DeBow, Denise on behalf of Stargel, Kelli (Web)
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:03 PM EST
To: Watson, Kathleen <Watson.Kathleen@flsenate.gov>
Subject: FW: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION

Update! My mistake, please see the correct dates and times as listed below...

Good Afternoon!

You are invited to join us in Tallahassee for Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days next Monday and Tuesday - January 23rd and 24th.

If you are unable to attend the entire event, you may still attend our dinner and/or breakfast:

Dinner - Monday evening, 1/24/2022

Reception: 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm

\$50.00

Donald Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday morning, 1/25/2022

7:00 am - 8:45 am

\$19.50

Donald Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

**Full Event- Begins at 3:00 pm on Monday 1/24/2022
and concludes at 3:00 pm on Tuesday 1/25/2022**

\$100.00

Donald Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

I have attached a PDF with more details. Also, feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you for serving our great state of Florida!

Blessings,

Chris

Christopher Yates
Assistant to the President
Director of Development
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

PRO-Life PRO-Family Days AT THE CAPITOL

#LIFEWINS

Monday & Tuesday, January 24 & 25, 2022

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center | 505 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee

Featured Speakers



**Congresswoman
Kat Cammack**
Representing Florida's 3rd
District in the U.S. House



Abby Johnson
Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
Advocate



Two important days of:

Training
Briefing from Experts
Supreme Court Visit
Fellowship
Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
Prayer Breakfast
Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)

From: Hayden, Paul <HAYDEN.PAUL@flsenate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:14 PM EST
To: Kokkinos, Rebecca <KOKKINOS.BECKY@flsenate.gov>
CC: Green, Sheri <GREEN.SHERI@flsenate.gov>
Subject: FW: You are invited...
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Becky,

I received this email from Chris Yates with the Florida Family Policy Council inviting the senator to several events related to Pro-Family Days on Monday, Jan. 23 and Tuesday, Jan. 24. Just wanted to make sure that you got it.

Paul Hayden
Legislative Assistant to
Senator Kathleen C. Passidomo
District 28
239-417-6205

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:35 PM
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: You are invited...

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Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

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Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

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[Tickets](#)

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Chris

Christopher Yates
Assistant to the President
Director of Development
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268

FL-SEN-22-0500-A-000045



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

PRO-Life PRO-Family Days AT THE CAPITOL

#LIFEWINS

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Featured Speakers



**Congresswoman
Kat Cammack**
Representing Florida's 3rd
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Two important days of:

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Supreme Court Visit
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Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
Prayer Breakfast
Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)

From: Ruiz, Judith
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 7:50 PM EST
To: Manny Diaz <mannydiaz2012@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: Meeting Request SB 148

Interested?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Date: January 13, 2022 at 5:59:19 PM EST
To: "Ruiz, Judith" <Ruiz.Judith@flsenate.gov>, "Farinas, Claudia" <Farinas.Claudia@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Meeting Request SB 148

January 13th, 2022

Hello Ruiz and Claudia,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council. I wanted to request a meeting with Sen. Diaz on SB 148. We are supportive of the proposal and look forward to discussing the bill's status and strategies on moving the bill forward. I am available next week beginning Tuesday. Please let me know what works best for your office. Thank you for your help and I look forward to working with you.

Sincere regards,

Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director
Florida Family Policy Council
(904) 608-4471
aarond@flfamily.org
[4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806](http://4853.S.OrangeAvenue,Orlando,FL32806)
www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>

Sent: Saturday, January 15, 2022 8:00 AM EST

To: Stargel, Kelli <STARGEL.KELLI@flsenate.gov>

Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 1 of 9



Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 1 of 9 - January 15, 2022

Dear Friend,

The New Year has just commenced and with it, the 2022 Florida Legislative Session is upon us. Opening Tuesday, January 11th, at 12 noon, the Capitol roared to life and is charging full steam ahead. Proceedings began with House Speaker Chris Sprowls and Senate President Wilton Simpson welcoming and briefing their respective chambers, before all members from the House and Senate convened in the larger House Chamber to hear Governor Ron DeSantis deliver an impassioned State of the State speech. He passionately outlined the lead Florida has taken during the Covid pandemic in simultaneously protecting public health and the vulnerable and protecting and preserving freedom for all. From supporting additional funding to law enforcement, to providing gas tax relief to Floridians, to protecting Florida's natural resources, DeSantis' energy came through clearly and resonated in the chamber.

He made a brief passing reference to life and spoke of the need to provide for adoption and foster care. Other priorities he covered included prohibiting discriminatory Critical Race Theory philosophy from being taught in Florida's public-school students, providing more school choice and educational freedom for Florida's parents, and resisting additional big government COVID mandates for the sake of Florida's small businesses and workers.

Florida Family Policy Council's team is excited about the 2022 session and the many strong proposals that have been introduced, while remaining alert to possible threats from extremely bad proposals. Topping the list of our priorities is the just-introduced groundbreaking pro-life bill, that if enacted, would eliminate brutal late-term abortions in the state of Florida and provide the strongest protections for the unborn post *Roe*. In light of the possible overturn of *Roe v. Wade* and the strong support from both leadership and other members, we are very optimistic about moving this bill forward. Also high on our agenda is enshrining Medical Rights of Conscience in state law; banning the dangerous teaching of Critical Race Theory with all its harmful effects from public schools; further expanding the Parent's Bill of Rights in the field of education; and protecting religious organizations from discriminatory mandates in public emergencies.

Below is a list of some of the top good and bad bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

This year, we're being represented by our new Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro who is our eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

PS- Hope to see you on January 24-25 at our Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days in Tallahassee, an amazing citizen issue training and lobbying event. Tickets can be purchased [here](#):

John Stemberger and Aaron DiPietro

Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5](#) / [SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the Dobbs case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse Roe v. Wade, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-Roe. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

ACTION ALERT: HB 5 has been placed on the agenda of the first House committee stop Professions and Public Health Subcommittee on Wednesday, the 19th at 1:00pm

SUPPORT 2. [HB 167](#) Private Action Heartbeat Act (Rep. Barnaby) – No Senate Companion

Description: This bill seeks to restrict abortion after a human heartbeat is detected. However, unlike most pro-life proposals in which the state government enforces the law to protect the unborn, this proposal prohibits the state government from enforcing the law. Instead, the proposal allows private citizens the right to sue abortion clinics and doctors for damages on abortions done after a detectable heartbeat with the intent to financially weaken abortion clinics. The bill does not have a Senate companion though and is dead for this session.

Action: The bill appears to be dead for this session because the sponsor was unable to find a Senate Companion.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 6023/SB 628](#) Abortion Clinic Regulations Act (Rep. Eskamani/Sen. Book)

Description: This pair of bills seeks to reverse many key and recently passed protections for unborn children and their mothers: repealing the 24-hour waiting period law, which requires mothers preparing for an abortion to wait one day from their initial visit to an abortion clinic before having an abortion to have time to reflect on the decision; allowing state tax payer dollars to directly to abortions (it is currently not allowed); and removing safety protocols currently in place regarding abortion clinics.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

The House version (215) still has 3 committees to go through; the Senate version has passed the first committee 6-0 and passed the second and final committee 14-2. It is headed to the full Senate floor for a vote that has yet to be scheduled. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

ACTION ALERT: HB 215, the Religious Institutions Act has been put on the agenda for its first House committee Pandemics and Public Emergencies Committee Wednesday the 19th at 9am.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship, against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a “sex-reassignment” surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Action:

Sexuality/Gender Issues

OPPOSE 1. [HB 0205/SB 0374](#) Gay and Transgender Panic Legal Defenses Act (Rep. Smith (C)/Sen. Book)

Description: This act would seek to add sexual orientation and gender identity as recognized categories in criminal defense law. Although there are some direct concerns about specific applications in real life, the main issue is this bill attempts to slide the subjective, undefinable, and legally fluid categories of sexual orientation and gender identity into state law. This, despite the fact that the Florida legislature has repeatedly rejected adding these categories in other areas of law.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 211](#) Youth and Sexual Identity (Rep. Sabatini)– No Senate companion

Description: The bill seeks to ban anyone from subjecting minors to “sex change” hormone treatments or so-called gender reassignment surgeries. The bill does not have a Senate companion though and is dead for this session.

Action: The bill appears to be dead for the session because of the lack of a Senate Sponsor.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 0249/SB 0456](#) Driver License and Identification Card Gender Designation (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Torres, Jr.)

Description: The proposal seeks to add the category of “non-binary” on ID and Driver’s License State-issued cards. This action would begin the dismantling of government recognition of the biological realities of male and female and set precedent for further undermining sex-specific areas of public law.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 0813/SB 1074](#) Sexually Transmissible Diseases Act (Rep. Robinson (F)/Sen. Pizzo)

Description: Currently, under state law, to knowingly donate blood, organs, or other bodily items that are contaminated by an STD (sexually transmitted disease) or to knowingly participated in intercourse while infected with an STD without informing the partner, is a felony. This proposal would seek to lower that criminal action to a mere misdemeanor.

OPPOSE 5. [HB 6015/SB 0168](#) Marriages Between Persons of the Same Sex Act (Rep. Rayner/Sen. Polsky)

Description: This provision aims to eliminate the language in state statute recognizing marriage as between one man and one woman.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

ACTION ALERT: SB 148 the CRT by Diaz has been place on the agenda for the first committee Education at 11 am.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0057/SB 0242](#) Racial and Sexual Discrimination Ban Act (Rep. Fine/Sen. Gruters)

Description: This bill would prohibit state and municipalities from requiring Critical Race Theory (CRT) employee training. Specifically, “race- or sex scapegoating-” based training would be banned; this “means assigning fault, blame, or bias to a race or sex, or to a member of a race or sex because of his or her race or sex. The term includes any claim that, consciously or subconsciously, and by virtue of his or her race or sex, a member of any race is inherently racist or is inherently inclined to oppress others, or that a member of a sex is inherently sexist or is inherently inclined to oppress others.”

OPPOSE 3. [HB 6065/SB 0212](#) Unfairness in Women's Sports Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Farmer, Jr.)

Description: This ordinance would reverse current state law protecting women’s sports and would force females to play women’s sports with biological males who subjectively identify as female.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 6077/SB 0810](#) Postsecondary Intellectual Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity Act (Rep. Hinson/Sen. Polsky)

Description: The proposal would remove free speech protections for college students as well as the ability of students to film lectures or presentations in class. It also eliminates state-mandated reviews of free speech to ensure state colleges and universities are promoting the free exchange of ideas.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This bill aims to crack down on graphic and sexually explicit Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) material in Florida public schools. It requires schools to receive written parental consent before a child is allowed to participate in any reproductive health classes; allows parents and citizens procedures to review such materials and call for their removal; and overall, increase transparency and public oversight over sex education.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state's Parent's Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Other Related Issues

OPPOSE 1. [HB 0549/SB 1884](#) Legalization of Recreational Marijuana Act (Rep. Omphroy/Sen. Powell)

Description: This proposed statute would legalize recreational marijuana in the state of Florida.

OPPOSE 2. [HB 6003/SB 1854](#) Legal Rights of the Natural Environment Act (Rep. Eskamani/Sen. Farmer)

Description: The proposal would grant human rights status to the natural environment.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0405/SB 0936](#) Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Act (Rep. Plakon/Sen. Baxley)

Description: The ordinance intends to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and proving solutions on how to counteract the problem.

SUPPORT 4. [HB 75/SB 594](#) Discrimination on the Basis of COVID-19 Vaccination or Postinfection Recovery Status (Rep. Sabatini/Sen. Perry)

Description: The ordinance intends to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and proving solutions on how to counteract the problem.

SUPPORT 5. [HJR 0663/SJR 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution would seek to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This provides an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Ave, Suite C, Orlando, FL 32806
Info@FLfamily.org * Phone: 407-251-5130

[Unsubscribe](#)

Donate



From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>

Sent: Saturday, January 15, 2022 8:00 AM EST

To: Mayfield, Debbie <Mayfield.Debbie@flsenate.gov>

Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 1 of 9



Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 1 of 9 - January 15, 2022

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ACTION ALERT: HB 215, the Religious Institutions Act has been put on the agenda for its first House committee Pandemics and Public Emergencies Committee Wednesday the 19th at 9am.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship, against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a “sex-reassignment” surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Action:

Sexuality/Gender Issues

OPPOSE 1. [HB 0205/SB 0374](#) Gay and Transgender Panic Legal Defenses Act (Rep. Smith (C)/Sen. Book)

Description: This act would seek to add sexual orientation and gender identity as recognized categories in criminal defense law. Although there are some direct concerns about specific applications in real life, the main issue is this bill attempts to slide the subjective, undefinable, and legally fluid categories of sexual orientation and gender identity into state law. This, despite the fact that the Florida legislature has repeatedly rejected adding these categories in other areas of law.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 211](#) Youth and Sexual Identity (Rep. Sabatini)– No Senate companion

Description: The bill seeks to ban anyone from subjecting minors to “sex change” hormone treatments or so-called gender reassignment surgeries. The bill does not have a Senate companion though and is dead for this session.

Action: The bill appears to be dead for the session because of the lack of a Senate Sponsor.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 0249/SB 0456](#) Driver License and Identification Card Gender Designation (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Torres, Jr.)

Description: The proposal seeks to add the category of “non-binary” on ID and Driver’s License State-issued cards. This action would begin the dismantling of government recognition of the biological realities of male and female and set precedent for further undermining sex-specific areas of public law.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 0813/SB 1074](#) Sexually Transmissible Diseases Act (Rep. Robinson (F)/Sen. Pizzo)

Description: Currently, under state law, to knowingly donate blood, organs, or other bodily items that are contaminated by an STD (sexually transmitted disease) or to knowingly participated in intercourse while infected with an STD without informing the partner, is a felony. This proposal would seek to lower that criminal action to a mere misdemeanor.

OPPOSE 5. [HB 6015/SB 0168](#) Marriages Between Persons of the Same Sex Act (Rep. Rayner/Sen. Polsky)

Description: This provision aims to eliminate the language in state statute recognizing marriage as between one man and one woman.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

ACTION ALERT: SB 148 the CRT by Diaz has been place on the agenda for the first committee Education at 11 am.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0057/SB 0242](#) Racial and Sexual Discrimination Ban Act (Rep. Fine/Sen. Gruters)

Description: This bill would prohibit state and municipalities from requiring Critical Race Theory (CRT) employee training. Specifically, “race- or sex scapegoating-” based training would be banned; this “means assigning fault, blame, or bias to a race or sex, or to a member of a race or sex because of his or her race or sex. The term includes any claim that, consciously or subconsciously, and by virtue of his or her race or sex, a member of any race is inherently racist or is inherently inclined to oppress others, or that a member of a sex is inherently sexist or is inherently inclined to oppress others.”

OPPOSE 3. [HB 6065/SB 0212](#) Unfairness in Women's Sports Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Farmer, Jr.)

Description: This ordinance would reverse current state law protecting women’s sports and would force females to play women’s sports with biological males who subjectively identify as female.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 6077/SB 0810](#) Postsecondary Intellectual Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity Act (Rep. Hinson/Sen. Polsky)

Description: The proposal would remove free speech protections for college students as well as the ability of students to film lectures or presentations in class. It also eliminates state-mandated reviews of free speech to ensure state colleges and universities are promoting the free exchange of ideas.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This bill aims to crack down on graphic and sexually explicit Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) material in Florida public schools. It requires schools to receive written parental consent before a child is allowed to participate in any reproductive health classes; allows parents and citizens procedures to review such materials and call for their removal; and overall, increase transparency and public oversight over sex education.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state's Parent's Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Other Related Issues

OPPOSE 1. [HB 0549/SB 1884](#) Legalization of Recreational Marijuana Act (Rep. Omphroy/Sen. Powell)

Description: This proposed statute would legalize recreational marijuana in the state of Florida.

OPPOSE 2. [HB 6003/SB 1854](#) Legal Rights of the Natural Environment Act (Rep. Eskamani/Sen. Farmer)

Description: The proposal would grant human rights status to the natural environment.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0405/SB 0936](#) Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Act (Rep. Plakon/Sen. Baxley)

Description: The ordinance intends to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and proving solutions on how to counteract the problem.

SUPPORT 4. [HB 75/SB 594](#) Discrimination on the Basis of COVID-19 Vaccination or Postinfection Recovery Status (Rep. Sabatini/Sen. Perry)

Description: The ordinance intends to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and proving solutions on how to counteract the problem.

SUPPORT 5. [HJR 0663/SJR 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution would seek to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This provides an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Florida Family Policy Council

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 2:08 PM EST
To: Mayfield, Debbie <Mayfield.Debbie@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 2 of 9



Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 2 of 9 - January 21, 2022

Dear Friend,

The second week of session has come to a close, with plenty of action and bill movement.

On Tuesday, the teaching of Critical Race Theory in public schools and in mandatory corporate training was up for debate, as Sen. Manny Diaz articulated his perspective that such ideologies had no place in public school classrooms or mandatory corporate training classes. Diaz's bill, SB 148, passed the committee after intense back and forth with opponents. Florida Family Policy Council Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro spoke out in favor of the bill, noting the importance of separating the teaching of true history, good or bad, from political philosophies that have nothing to do with the teaching of history in the classroom. This was in contrast to the bill opponents, who sought to conflate teaching history and CRT political ideology as one and the same.

On Wednesday, the pro-life, late-term abortion 15 week ban passed its first House Committee after intense debate and cross examination of the legislations. Under tremendous fire from pro-abortion representatives, bill sponsors Reps. Erin Grall and Jenna Persons-Mulicka held their ground, calmly defending the legislation with poise. Over 90 speaker cards were submitted as supporters and opponents debated whether HB 5 should be made law. FFPC's Aaron DiPietro testified in support of the bill, declaring in part, "Late term abortion is incompatible with the concept of human dignity and has no place in civilized society."

Earlier that day, Aaron also testified in favor of HB 215, which requires that religious institutions be treated on an equal level in cases of public emergencies. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Nick DiCeglie, passed shortly thereafter.

On Thursday, The Parents Rights in Education bill (HB 1557) passed its first committee. Facing questions on multiple fronts, bill sponsor Rep. Joe Harding skillfully made the case for the bill, asserting that parental rights was foundational to protecting children. Speakers for the bill included January Littlejohn, a local mother, who shared her family's story of their daughter's school encouraging her daughter into identifying as a boy, and all the while concealing all of the information from January and her husband and going behind their backs. FFPC's Aaron DiPietro also stood in defense of parental rights, affirming that protecting children is best accomplished by empowering parents to be informed and engaged in their children's lives.

Below is a list of some of the top good and bad bills FFPC is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

This year, we're being represented by our new Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro who is our eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

John Stemberger and Aaron DiPietro

Aaron DiPietro testifying in support of **HB 5/SB 146 Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act**

Now, for this week's update on our core legislative agenda!

Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the Dobbs case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse Roe v. Wade, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-Roe. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics providing

needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 passed its first House committee stop Professions and Public Health Subcommittee on Wednesday 12-6; it now heads to its second out of three stops, Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee. On the Senate side, SB 146 has two committees to pass.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 167](#) Private Action Heartbeat Act (Rep. Barnaby) – No Senate Companion

Description: This bill seeks to restrict abortion after a human heartbeat is detected. However, unlike most pro-life proposals in which the state government enforces the law to protect the unborn, this proposal prohibits the state government from enforcing the law. Instead, the proposal allows private citizens the right to sue abortion clinics and doctors for damages on abortions done after a detectable heartbeat with the intent to financially weaken abortion clinics. The bill does not have a Senate companion though and is dead for this session.

Status: The bill appears to be dead for this session because the sponsor was unable to find a Senate Companion.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 6023/SB 628](#) Abortion Clinic Regulations Act (Rep. Eskamani/Sen. Book)

Description: This pair of bills seeks to reverse many key and recently passed protections for unborn children and their mothers: repealing the 24-hour waiting period law, which requires mothers preparing for an abortion to wait one day from their initial visit to an abortion clinic before having an abortion to have time to reflect on the decision; allowing state tax payer dollars to directly to abortions (it is currently not allowed); and removing safety protocols currently in place regarding abortion clinics.

Status: No movement.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

Status: The House version (215) passed its first committee Wednesday 14-3; it now has 2 committees to remaining; the Senate version has passed the first committee 6-0 and passed the second and final committee 14-2. It is headed to the full Senate floor for a vote that has yet to be scheduled. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

ACTION ALERT: SB 1184, the Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act, has been put on the agenda for its first Senate committee, the Health Policy Committee, on Wednesday the 26th at 10am.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non-emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a "sex-reassignment" surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

ACTION ALERT: HB 747, the Medical Conscience Protection Act, has been put on the agenda for its first House committee, the

Sexuality/Gender Issues

OPPOSE 1. [HB 0205/SB 0374](#) Gay and Transgender Panic Legal Defenses Act (Rep. Smith (C)/Sen. Book)

Description: This act would seek to add sexual orientation and gender identity as recognized categories in criminal defense law. Although there are some direct concerns about specific applications in real life, the main issue is this bill attempts to slide the subjective, undefinable, and legally fluid categories of sexual orientation and gender identity into state law. This despite the fact that the Florida legislature has repeatedly rejected adding these categories in other areas of law.

Status: No movement.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 211](#) Youth and Sexual Identity (Rep. Sabatini)– No Senate companion

Description: The bill seeks to ban anyone from subjecting minors to “sex change” hormone treatments or so-called gender reassignment surgeries. The bill does not have a Senate companion though and is dead for this session.

Status: The bill appears to be dead for the session because of the lack of a Senate Sponsor.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 0249/SB 0456](#) Driver License and Identification Card Gender Designation (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Torres, Jr.)

Description: The proposal seeks to add the category of “non-binary” on ID and Driver’s License State-issued cards. This action would begin the dismantling of government recognition of the biological realities of male and female and set precedent for further undermining sex-specific areas of public law.

Status: No movement.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 0813/SB 1074](#) Sexually Transmissible Diseases Act (Rep. Robinson (F)/Sen. Pizzo)

Description: Currently, under state law, to knowingly donate blood, organs, or other bodily items that are contaminated by an STD (sexually transmitted disease) or to knowingly participate in intercourse while infected with an STD without informing the partner, is a felony. This proposal would seek to lower that criminal action to a mere misdemeanor.

Status: No movement.

OPPOSE 5. [HB 6015/SB 0168](#) Marriages Between Persons of the Same Sex Act (Rep. Rayner/Sen. Polsky)

Description: This provision aims to eliminate the language in state statute recognizing marriage as between one man and one woman.

Status: No movement.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 passed the Education Committee Tuesday (6-3); it now heads to the Rules committee as the final Senate stop. The House version (HB 7) still has 3 committees to go through.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0057/SB 0242](#) Racial and Sexual Discrimination Ban Act (Rep. Fine/Sen. Gruters)

Description: This bill would prohibit state and municipalities from requiring Critical Race Theory (CRT) employee training. Specifically, "race- or sex scapegoating-" based training would be banned; this "means assigning fault, blame, or bias to a race or sex, or to a member of a race or sex because of his or her race or sex. The term includes any claim that, consciously or subconsciously, and by virtue of his or her race or sex, a member of any race is inherently racist or is inherently inclined to oppress others, or that a member of a sex is inherently sexist or is inherently inclined to oppress others."

Status: No movement.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 6065/SB 0212](#) Unfairness in Women's Sports Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Farmer, Jr.)

Description: This ordinance would reverse current state law protecting women's sports and would force females to play women's sports with biological males who subjectively identify as female.

Status: No movement.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 6077/SB 0810](#) Postsecondary Intellectual Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity Act (Rep. Hinson/Sen. Polsky)

Description: The proposal would remove free speech protections for college students as well as the ability of students to film lectures or presentations in class. It also eliminates state-mandated reviews of free speech to ensure state colleges and universities are promoting the free exchange of ideas.

Status: No movement.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This bill aims to crack down on graphic and sexually explicit Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) material in Florida public schools. It requires schools to receive written parental consent before a child is allowed to participate in any reproductive health classes; allows parents and citizens procedures to review such materials and call for their removal; and overall, increase transparency and public oversight over sex education.

Status: No movement.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state's Parent's Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 has passed its first committee, 15-5 and now heads to its final House stop Judiciary. No movement has occurred on the Senate side yet.

Other Related Issues

OPPOSE 1. [HB 0549/SB 1884](#) Legalization of Recreational Marijuana Act (Rep. Omphroy/Sen. Powell)

Description: This proposed statute would legalize recreational marijuana in the state of Florida.

Status: No movement.

OPPOSE 2. [HB 6003/SB 1854](#) Legal Rights of the Natural Environment Act (Rep. Eskamani/Sen. Farmer)

Description: The proposal would grant human rights status to the natural environment.

Status: No movement.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0405/SB 0936](#) Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Act (Rep. Plakon/Sen. Baxley)

Description: The ordinance intends to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and proving solutions on how to counteract the problem.

Status: No movement.

SUPPORT 4. [HJR 0663/SJR 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution would seek to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This provides an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

ACTION ALERT: HJR 663, the Recall of County Officers and Commissioners, has been put on the agenda for its first House committee, the Local Administration and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, on Tuesday the 25th at 9am.

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 3:06 PM EST
To: Baxley, Dennis <Baxley.Dennis@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 3 of 9



Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 3 of 9 - January 28, 2022

Dear Friend,

The third week of the nine-week session is complete as we come to the end of January. With Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days occurring Monday and Tuesday, this was our most action-packed week with advocating for our bills and training allies on priority legislation. And legislative activity this week took the term “explosive” to a whole new level—complete chaos broke out in the committee during the hearing on the major pro-life bill. Read more on this and watch a video clip below.

This week saw over 150 pro-life, pro-family supporters gather in Tallahassee to be inspired, informed, and empowered to engage the Florida legislature; the theme was #LifeWins. FFPC Legislative Director **Aaron DiPietro** and Communications Director **Melissa Woodford**, along with Florida Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission President **Bill Bunkley**, trained attendees on priority legislation, lobbying tactics, and updates on the state of the legislature.

Monday evening, **Reps. Joe Harding** and **John Snyder** shared their passion for engaging in the civic arena in Tallahassee, **U.S. Congresswoman Kat Cammack** shared her powerful pro-life testimony of how her mother chose life and her work to defend life in Washington, and former Planned Parenthood director-turned pro-life leader **Abby Johnson** shared her story and strategies on how to win the pro-life battle in Florida and across America.

Tuesday morning, **Abby Johnson** and **Congresswoman Cammack** joined **Rep. Dana Trabuisky** and **Gov. Ron DeSantis** in addressing the group before everyone headed out to lobby their representatives on Capitol Hill. The group was addressed later at the Capitol by **House Speaker Chris Sprowls** and at the Supreme Court by **Justice Carlos Muñoz**.

Attendees were also able to rally tremendous support in the first House committee hearing for the Medical Rights of Conscience Act. **Rep. John Snyder**, the bill sponsor, did an extraordinary job defending the bill and the reality that no health care provider should be forced to violate their sacred oath “to do no harm” by violating their conscience. FFPC’s **Aaron DiPietro** and **Melissa Woodford** testified, sharing testimonies of doctors supporting the legislation.

Wednesday started off with fireworks as the House Judiciary Committee debated **HB 7**, called the Individual Freedom Act, or the proposed ban on Critical Race Theory in public schools. Debate heated up as emotions ran high, with **Chair Erin Grall** stepping in to restore calm in the fierce conflict. The bill passed soon after.

In the other body, the Senate Health Policy Committee was having its own intense discussions as the members conducted the confirmation hearing for Surgeon General **Joseph Ladapo**. Afterwards, it considered, debated, and passed the Free Speech for Medical Professionals Act, run by **Senator Doug Broxson**. FFPC’s **Aaron DiPietro** testified in support, maintaining that “freedom of speech is a constitutional right; medical providers are no exception....Diversity of thought and the free exchange of ideas is critical in preserving free speech and should absolutely apply to medical professionals.”

On Thursday, the heightened tensions erupted in the Health Appropriations Subcommittee during hearings over the pro-life, 15-week, late-term abortion ban that later passed. After leadership closed public comment due to time and debate constraints, pro-abortion advocates erupted in loud chants and protests (despite more than ample testimony from their side), forcing Capitol police to clear the entire chambers to restore order. [Check out a video clip of this chaos here](#). FFPC’s **Aaron DiPietro** was present at the hearing. The Sergeant at Arms officers allowed some members of the public to reenter as the committee completed debate. Key highlights included debate from **Reps. Dana Trabuisky** and **Michelle Salzman** making the case to defend unborn babies through this law. The bill passed, in spite of the serious interruptions.

Below is an updated list of some of the top good and bad bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill’s text. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

This year, we’re being represented by our new Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro who is our eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We’re excited to have him on our team.

We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

John Stemberger hosts interview with Abby Johnson and Kat Cammack at Pro Family Days Event

Florida Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission President Bill Bunkley presenting on "How to Lobby: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."

Rep. John Snyder defends his bill, the Medical Rights of Conscience Act

Rep. John Snyder in committee presenting his bill

Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro testifies in support of HB 747, the Medical Rights of Conscience Act

Now, for this week's update on our core legislative agenda!

Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the Dobbs case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse Roe v. Wade, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-Roe. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 passed its second House committee stop, Healthcare Appropriations Subcommittee, on Thursday 10-5; it now heads to its final committee stop, Health and Human Services. On the Senate side, SB 146 has two committees to pass.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

Status: The House version (215) passed its second committee Wednesday 15-7; it now has 1 committee left; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor Thursday 31-3 and has been sent to the House. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

Status: Wednesday, the Senate version passed its first committee, Health Policy, 6-3 and has two more committee stops; the House version has yet to be heard.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non-emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held

convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a “sex-reassignment” surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill passed its first committee, Professions and Healthcare, Tuesday 12-6; it now moves on to its second of three committee stops.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 is in Rules committee as the final Senate stop. The House version (HB 7) passed its first of 3 committees, Judiciary, 14-7; it now goes to State Affairs.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This bill aims to crack down on graphic and sexually explicit Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) material in Florida public schools. It requires schools to receive written parental consent before a child is allowed to participate in any reproductive health classes; allows parents and citizens procedures to review such materials and call for their removal; and overall, increase transparency and public oversight over sex education.

Status: No movement yet.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state’s Parent’s Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 has passed its first committee 15-5 and now heads to its final House stop, Judiciary. No movement has occurred on the Senate side yet.

Other Related Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0405/SB 0936](#) Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Act (Rep. Plakon/Sen. Baxley)

Description: The ordinance intends to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and proving solutions on how to counteract the problem.

Status: No movement yet.

SUPPORT 2. [HJR 0663/SJR 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution would seek to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This provides an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Status: The House version passed its first committee, Local Administration and Veterans Affairs, 14-0; the Senate version has not moved yet.

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 3:18 PM EST
To: Stargel, Kelli <STARGEL.KELLI@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 3 of 9



Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 3 of 9 - January 28, 2022

Dear Friend,

The third week of the nine-week session is complete as we come to the end of January. With Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days occurring Monday and Tuesday, this was our most action-packed week with advocating for our bills and training allies on priority legislation. And legislative activity this week took the term “explosive” to a whole new level—complete chaos broke out in the committee during the hearing on the major pro-life bill. Read more on this and watch a video clip below.

This week saw over 150 pro-life, pro-family supporters gather in Tallahassee to be inspired, informed, and empowered to engage the Florida legislature; the theme was *#LifeWins*. FFPC Legislative Director **Aaron DiPietro** and Communications Director **Melissa Woodford**, along with Florida Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission President **Bill Bunkley**, trained attendees on priority legislation, lobbying tactics, and updates on the state of the legislature.

Monday evening, **Reps. Joe Harding** and **John Snyder** shared their passion for engaging in the civic arena in Tallahassee, **U.S. Congresswoman Kat Cammack** shared her powerful pro-life testimony of how her mother chose life and her work to defend life in Washington, and former Planned Parenthood director-turned pro-life leader **Abby Johnson** shared her story and strategies on how to win the pro-life battle in Florida and across America.

Tuesday morning, **Abby Johnson** and **Congresswoman Cammack** joined **Rep. Dana Trabuisky** and **Gov. Ron DeSantis** in addressing the group before everyone headed out to lobby their representatives on Capitol Hill. The group was addressed later at the Capitol by **House Speaker Chris Sprowls** and at the Supreme Court by **Justice Carlos Muñiz**.

Attendees were also able to rally tremendous support in the first House committee hearing for the Medical Rights of Conscience Act. **Rep. John Snyder**, the bill sponsor, did an extraordinary job defending the bill and the reality that no health care provider should be forced to violate their sacred oath “to do no harm” by violating their conscience. FFPC’s **Aaron DiPietro** and **Melissa Woodford** testified, sharing testimonies of doctors supporting the legislation.

Wednesday started off with fireworks as the House Judiciary Committee debated **HB 7**, called the Individual Freedom Act, or the proposed ban on Critical Race Theory in public schools. Debate heated up as emotions ran high, with **Chair Erin Grall** stepping in to restore calm in the fierce conflict. The bill passed soon after.

In the other body, the Senate Health Policy Committee was having its own intense discussions as the members conducted the confirmation hearing for Surgeon General **Joseph Ladapo**. Afterwards, it considered, debated, and passed the Free Speech for Medical Professionals Act, run by **Senator Doug Broxson**. FFPC’s **Aaron DiPietro** testified in support, maintaining that “freedom of speech is a constitutional right; medical providers are no exception....Diversity of thought and the free exchange of ideas is critical in preserving free speech and should absolutely apply to medical professionals.”

On Thursday, the heightened tensions erupted in the Health Appropriations Subcommittee during hearings over the pro-life, 15-week, late-term abortion ban that later passed. After leadership closed public comment due to time and debate constraints, pro-abortion advocates erupted in loud chants and protests (despite more than ample testimony from their side), forcing Capitol police to clear the entire chambers to restore order. [Check out a video clip of this chaos here](#). FFPC’s **Aaron DiPietro** was present at the hearing. The Sergeant at Arms officers allowed some members of the public to reenter as the committee completed debate. Key highlights included debate from **Reps. Dana Trabuisky** and **Michelle Salzman** making the case to defend unborn babies through this law. The bill passed, in spite of the serious interruptions.

Below is an updated list of some of the top good and bad bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill’s text. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

This year, we’re being represented by our new Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro who is our eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We’re excited to have him on our team.

We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

John Stemberger hosts interview with Abby Johnson and Kat Cammack at Pro Family Days Event

Florida Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission President Bill Bunkley presenting on "How to Lobby: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."

Rep. John Snyder defends his bill, the Medical Rights of Conscience Act

Rep. John Snyder in committee presenting his bill

Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro testifies in support of HB 747, the Medical Rights of Conscience Act

Now, for this week's update on our core legislative agenda!

Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the Dobbs case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse Roe v. Wade, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-Roe. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 passed its second House committee stop, Healthcare Appropriations Subcommittee, on Thursday 10-5; it now heads to its final committee stop, Health and Human Services. On the Senate side, SB 146 has two committees to pass.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions that were harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law during state emergencies.

Status: The House version (215) passed its second committee Wednesday 15-7; it now has 1 committee left; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor Thursday 31-3 and has been sent to the House. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

Status: Wednesday, the Senate version passed its first committee, Health Policy, 6-3 and has two more committee stops; the House version has yet to be heard.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non-emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held

convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a “sex-reassignment” surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill passed its first committee, Professions and Healthcare, Tuesday 12-6; it now moves on to its second of three committee stops.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 is in Rules committee as the final Senate stop. The House version (HB 7) passed its first of 3 committees, Judiciary, 14-7; it now goes to State Affairs.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This bill aims to crack down on graphic and sexually explicit Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) material in Florida public schools. It requires schools to receive written parental consent before a child is allowed to participate in any reproductive health classes; allows parents and citizens procedures to review such materials and call for their removal; and overall, increase transparency and public oversight over sex education.

Status: No movement yet.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state’s Parent’s Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 has passed its first committee 15-5 and now heads to its final House stop, Judiciary. No movement has occurred on the Senate side yet.

Other Related Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0405/SB 0936](#) Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Act (Rep. Plakon/Sen. Baxley)

Description: The ordinance intends to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and proving solutions on how to counteract the problem.

Status: No movement yet.

SUPPORT 2. [HJR 0663/SJR 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution would seek to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This provides an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Status: The House version passed its first committee, Local Administration and Veterans Affairs, 14-0; the Senate version has not moved yet.

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FL-SEN-22-0500-A-000071

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Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 4 of 9 - February 4, 2022

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Tuesday, HB 7, called the Individual Freedom Act, which restricts CRT in public schools, among other places, was heard in the State Affairs committee. The bill's sponsor, **Rep. Bryan Avila**, once again presented it. Members in opposition to the bill maintained the bill limited the ability to teach true history, while supporters asserted that the bill was in fact designed to encourage the teaching of history, free of political ideology. FFPC Legislative Director **Aaron DiPietro** spoke out in favor of the bill, again encouraging the members to draw the line between teaching historical facts on the one hand and teaching concepts of systemic racism, white guilt, and "intersectionality" on the other, concepts which are ideological frameworks, not historical facts. The hearing, though impassioned, was distinctly less combative than the prior committee hearing, and the bill passed the committee.

Also on Tuesday, **Rep. Nick DiCeglie** gave testimony in House Judiciary in the final committee for HB 215, the Religious Institutions Act, raising the legal protections for churches and ensuring equal treatment under public emergencies under the legal standard of strict scrutiny. **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** spoke in favor of the bill, highlighting the bill as not giving government a blank check to restrict religious institutions in public emergencies, but instead placing strong limitations on state action by raising the standards of protections.

Finally, on Wednesday, **Sen. Kelli Stargel**, sponsor of the pro-life, 15-week, late-term abortion ban (SB 146), answered questions about her bill, making the case to defend the lives of the unborn. There was a strong turnout in support of the bill, greatly dwarfing the opponents' numbers. I was there in person to testify and **Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro** also testified in support of the bill. I focused on the late-term abortion problem that would be addressed by this law, while Aaron focused on the dangers to mothers receiving those abortions. Aaron also spoke in a separate speaking slot against the attempt to allow abortion exceptions in the cases of rape and incest, arguing that while such actions were evil and deserved to be punished, the innocent child should never receive the death penalty for the crime of the father. [You can watch our testimony at the hearing HERE.](#) Many on both sides testified, including pregnancy care center volunteers, post-abortive mothers, and Planned Parenthood abortion doctors. [The bill passed](#), heading to one more stop on the Senate side.

Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of our legislative agenda on our website, which will be updated in the BLOG as new priorities arise.

Also, below some of the bills is an ACTION ALERT in Red, signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills. Next week is shaping up to be an action-packed week for some of our top-priority bills!

Our legislative affairs director Aaron DiPietro is doing a great job as our primary eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

John Stemberger testifying in support of [HB 5/SB 146](#), the 15-week, pro-life, late-term abortion ban

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Abortion/Life Issues

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Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-*Roe*. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 is now awaiting a hearing in its final committee stop, Health and Human Services. On the Senate side, SB 146 passed its first committee, Health Policy, Wednesday 6-4 and heads to its final Senate committee, Appropriations.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

Status: The House version (215) passed its final committee Tuesday 15-4; it now heads to the House floor; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor 31-3 and has been sent to the House. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

ACTION ALERT: The House version (215) has been placed on the Calendar for a full House vote. Once passed, the bill will head to Governor DeSantis's desk.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

Status: Wednesday, the Senate version passed its first committee, Health Policy, 6-3 and has two more committee stops; the House version has yet to be heard.

ACTION ALERT: SB 1184 will be heard in its second committee meeting, Judiciary, on Monday, February 7th (the committee meets from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non-emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a "sex-reassignment" surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill passed its first committee Professions and Healthcare Tuesday 12-6; it now moves on to its second of three stops. It is awaiting movement in the Senate.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 is in Rules committee as the last of 3 committee Senate stops. The House version (HB 7) passed its first two committees, Judiciary and most recently, State Affairs 16-8; it now is in its final committee, Education and Employment, before heading to the full House Floor.

ACTION ALERT: HB 7 will be heard in its final committee meeting, Education and Employment, on Tuesday, February 8th (the committee meets from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm) in 17 H in the House Office Building.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state's Parent's Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 has passed its first committee, 15-5 and now heads to its final House stop Judiciary.

ACTION ALERT: SB 1834, the Senate version will be heard in its first committee meeting, Education, on Tuesday, February 8th (the committee meets from 9 am to 11 pm) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

Other Related Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HJR 0663/SJR 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution would seek to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This provides an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Status: The House version passed its first committee Local Administration and Veterans Affairs 14-0; the Senate version has not moved yet.

ACTION ALERT: HJR 663 will be heard in its second House committee meeting, Public Integrity and Elections, on Monday, February 7th (the committee meets from 11 am to 1 pm) in 404 H in the House Office Building.

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Dear Friend,

The fourth week of session is finished. Though somewhat more tame than last week with its explosive outbreaks, week 4 was no less action-packed. Week 4 marked a critical juncture in the 2022 session. It separated the bills already moving and advancing through committees—many of which are well on their way to being made law—from those bills not moving at all. In short, bills not seeing any action by this week (and next week at the absolute latest), are most likely dead for this session.

Tuesday, HB 7, called the Individual Freedom Act, which restricts CRT in public schools, among other places, was heard in the State Affairs committee. The bill's sponsor, **Rep. Bryan Avila**, once again presented it. Members in opposition to the bill maintained the bill limited the ability to teach true history, while supporters asserted that the bill was in fact designed to encourage the teaching of history, free of political ideology. FFPC Legislative Director **Aaron DiPietro** spoke out in favor of the bill, again encouraging the members to draw the line between teaching historical facts on the one hand and teaching concepts of systemic racism, white guilt, and "intersectionality" on the other, concepts which are ideological frameworks, not historical facts. The hearing, though impassioned, was distinctly less combative than the prior committee hearing, and the bill passed the committee.

Also on Tuesday, **Rep. Nick DiCeglie** gave testimony in House Judiciary in the final committee for HB 215, the Religious Institutions Act, raising the legal protections for churches and ensuring equal treatment under public emergencies under the legal standard of strict scrutiny. **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** spoke in favor of the bill, highlighting the bill as not giving government a blank check to restrict religious institutions in public emergencies, but instead placing strong limitations on state action by raising the standards of protections.

Finally, on Wednesday, **Sen. Kelli Stargel**, sponsor of the pro-life, 15-week, late-term abortion ban (SB 146), answered questions about her bill, making the case to defend the lives of the unborn. There was a strong turnout in support of the bill, greatly dwarfing the opponents' numbers. I was there in person to testify and **Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro** also testified in support of the bill. I focused on the late-term abortion problem that would be addressed by this law, while Aaron focused on the dangers to mothers receiving those abortions. Aaron also spoke in a separate speaking slot against the attempt to allow abortion exceptions in the cases of rape and incest, arguing that while such actions were evil and deserved to be punished, the innocent child should never receive the death penalty for the crime of the father. [You can watch our testimony at the hearing HERE.](#) Many on both sides testified, including pregnancy care center volunteers, post-abortive mothers, and Planned Parenthood abortion doctors. [The bill passed](#), heading to one more stop on the Senate side.

Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of our legislative agenda on our website, which will be updated in the BLOG as new priorities arise.

Also, below some of the bills is an ACTION ALERT in Red, signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills. Next week is shaping up to be an action-packed week for some of our top-priority bills!

Our legislative affairs director Aaron DiPietro is doing a great job as our primary eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

John Stemberger testifying in support of [HB 5/SB 146](#), the 15-week, pro-life, late-term abortion ban

Now, for this week's update on our core legislative agenda!

Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-*Roe*. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 is now awaiting a hearing in its final committee stop, Health and Human Services. On the Senate side, SB 146 passed its first committee, Health Policy, Wednesday 6-4 and heads to its final Senate committee, Appropriations.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

Status: The House version (215) passed its final committee Tuesday 15-4; it now heads to the House floor; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor 31-3 and has been sent to the House. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

ACTION ALERT: The House version (215) has been placed on the Calendar for a full House vote. Once passed, the bill will head to Governor DeSantis's desk.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

Status: Wednesday, the Senate version passed its first committee, Health Policy, 6-3 and has two more committee stops; the House version has yet to be heard.

ACTION ALERT: SB 1184 will be heard in its second committee meeting, Judiciary, on Monday, February 7th (the committee meets from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non-emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a "sex-reassignment" surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill passed its first committee Professions and Healthcare Tuesday 12-6; it now moves on to its second of three stops. It is awaiting movement in the Senate.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 is in Rules committee as the last of 3 committee Senate stops. The House version (HB 7) passed its first two committees, Judiciary and most recently, State Affairs 16-8; it now is in its final committee, Education and Employment, before heading to the full House Floor.

ACTION ALERT: HB 7 will be heard in its final committee meeting, Education and Employment, on Tuesday, February 8th (the committee meets from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm) in 17 H in the House Office Building.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state's Parent's Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 has passed its first committee, 15-5 and now heads to its final House stop Judiciary.

ACTION ALERT: SB 1834, the Senate version will be heard in its first committee meeting, Education, on Tuesday, February 8th (the committee meets from 9 am to 11 pm) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

Other Related Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HJR 0663/SJR 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution would seek to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This provides an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Status: The House version passed its first committee Local Administration and Veterans Affairs 14-0; the Senate version has not moved yet.

ACTION ALERT: HJR 663 will be heard in its second House committee meeting, Public Integrity and Elections, on Monday, February 7th (the committee meets from 11 am to 1 pm) in 404 H in the House Office Building.

Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Ave, Suite C, Orlando, FL 32806
Info@FLfamily.org * Phone: 407-251-5130

[Unsubscribe](#)

Donate



Subject: KMS- Aaron DePietro FFPC

Start: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 1:30 PM EST

End: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 1:45 PM EST

Show Time As: Busy

Recurrence: None

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Stargel, Kelli

Required Attendees: Stargel, Kelli <Stargel.Kelli@flsenate.gov>

Contact 904-608-4471

I apologize. The number did not attach. Here it is. Contact 904-608-4471

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org

aarond@flfamily.org

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>

Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:47:48 PM

To: Watson, Kathleen <Watson.Kathleen@flsenate.gov>

Subject: Re: Meeting Request on SB 146

Thank you Mrs. Watson, that works well. At this point, it will just be myself. I will let you know if anyone will be joining me, but I think it will just be me. My cell is below. Thank you again

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org

aarond@flfamily.org

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 12:32 PM EST
To: Brill, Victoria <Brill.Victoria@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Meeting request on SB 1294/SB 1684

Hello Victoria,

I wanted to request a meeting with Sen. Gruters on SB 1294 and 1684 to discuss the bills statuses and what we can do to help move them forward. I am available this afternoon, tomorrow 11-12:30 or after 2, or Friday morning. Thank you for your help and please let me know if you have any questions.

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org

aarond@flfamily.org

signature_1271379529

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 5:59 PM EST
To: Ruiz, Judith <Ruiz.Judith@flsenate.gov>; Farinas, Claudia <Farinas.Claudia@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Meeting Request SB 148

January 13th, 2022

Hello Ruiz and Claudia,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council. I wanted to request a meeting with Sen. Diaz on SB 148. We are supportive of the proposal and look forward to discussing the bill's status and strategies on moving the bill forward. I am available next week beginning Tuesday. Please let me know what works best for your office. Thank you for your help and I look forward to working with you.

Sincere regards,

Aaron DiPietro
Legislative Affairs Director
Florida Family Policy Council
(904) 608-4471
aarond@flfamily.org
[4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806](http://4853.S.OrangeAvenue,Orlando,FL32806)
www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 12:21 PM EST
To: Flack, Hunter <Flack.Hunter@flsenate.gov>
CC: Brill, Victoria <Brill.Victoria@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Meeting request with Sen. Gruters

Hello Hunter,

I wanted to follow up on the request for a meeting with Sen. Gruters on SB 1834 primarily; also, on SB 242; 1004; 1294; and 1684, we would like to discuss the bills statuses and what we can do to help move them forward. Let me know when works well for your office. Thank you for your help and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincere regards,

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org

aarond@flfamily.org

signature_1271379529

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57 PM EST
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Update! My mistake, please see the correct dates and times as listed below...

Good Afternoon,

You are invited to join us in Tallahassee for Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days next Monday and Tuesday **January 24th and 25th**

If you are unable to attend the entire event, you may still attend our dinner and/or breakfast:

Dinner - Monday evening, 1/24/2022

Reception: 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm

\$50.00

Donald Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday morning, 1/25/2022

7:00 am - 8:45 am

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\$100.00

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

I have attached a PDF with more details. Also, feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you for serving our great state of Florida!

Blessings,
Chris

Christopher Yates
Assistant to the President
Director of Development
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

PRO-Life PRO-Family Days AT THE CAPITOL

#LIFEWINS

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Featured Speakers



**Congresswoman
Kat Cammack**
Representing Florida's 3rd
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Abby Johnson
Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
Advocate



Two important days of:

Training
Briefing from Experts
Supreme Court Visit
Fellowship
Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
Prayer Breakfast
Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: FLfamily.org/profamilydays

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 2:34 PM EST
To: Brill, Victoria <Brill.Victoria@flsenate.gov>
CC: Flack, Hunter <Flack.Hunter@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Re: Meeting request on SB 1294/SB 1684

Great, thank you so much!

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
aarond@flfamily.org

signature_1271379529

From: Brill, Victoria <Brill.Victoria@flsenate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 2:27:11 PM
To: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Cc: Flack, Hunter <Flack.Hunter@flsenate.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting request on SB 1294/SB 1684

Good Afternoon Aaron,

Thank you for contact Sen. Gruters' office. I have copied Hunter Flack on this e-mail to help you set up a meeting.

Thank you!
Vickie

Vickie Brill, MBA
Chief Legislative Aide
Sen. Joe Gruters, District 23
(941) 378-6309
(850) 487-5023

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 12:32 PM
To: Brill, Victoria <Brill.Victoria@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Meeting request on SB 1294/SB 1684

Hello Victoria,

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Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
aarond@flfamily.org

[REDACTED]

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Thank you!
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Legislative Affairs Director
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4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
aarond@flfamily.org

[REDACTED]

From: Manny Diaz Jr. <mannydiaz2012@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 11:38 PM EST

To: Ruiz, Judith <Ruiz.Judith@flsenate.gov>

Subject: Re: Meeting Request SB 148

Sure

Manny Diaz, Jr.

On Jan 13, 2022, at 7:50 PM, Ruiz, Judith <Ruiz.Judith@flsenate.gov> wrote:

Interested?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>

Date: January 13, 2022 at 5:59:19 PM EST

To: "Ruiz, Judith" <Ruiz.Judith@flsenate.gov>, "Farinas, Claudia" <Farinas.Claudia@flsenate.gov>

Subject: Meeting Request SB 148

January 13th, 2022

Hello Ruiz and Claudia,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council. I wanted to request a meeting with Sen. Diaz on SB 148. We are supportive of the proposal and look forward to discussing the bill's status and strategies on moving the bill forward. I am available next week beginning Tuesday. Please let me know what works best for your office. Thank you for your help and I look forward to working with you.

Sincere regards,

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director

Florida Family Policy Council

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aarond@flfamily.org

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www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM EST
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Update! My mistake, please see the correct dates and times as listed below...

Good Afternoon!

You are invited to join us in Tallahassee for Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days next Monday and Tuesday - January 23rd and 24th.

If you are unable to attend the entire event, you may still attend our dinner and/or breakfast:

Dinner - Monday evening, 1/24/2022

Reception: 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm

\$50.00

Donald Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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7:00 am - 8:45 am

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[Tickets](#)

I have attached a PDF with more details. Also, feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you for serving our great state of Florida!

Blessings,
Chris

Christopher Yates
Assistant to the President
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For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

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Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
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Two important days of:

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Briefing from Experts
Supreme Court Visit
Fellowship
Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
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Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06 PM EST
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Correct Dates are Monday, January 24, 2022 and Tuesday, January 25, 2022

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Abby Johnson
Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
Advocate



Two important days of:

- Training**
 - Briefing from Experts**
 - Supreme Court Visit**
 - Fellowship**
 - Praise & Worship**
 - Prayer Walks**
 - Prayer Breakfast**
 - Great Food**
- (Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)

From: Lane, Kelli <Lane.Kelli@flsenate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:22 PM EST
To: Smith, Karly <SMITH.KARLY@flsenate.gov>; Fairchild, Kailey <FAIRCHILD.KAILEY@flsenate.gov>
Subject: SESSION INVITE FW: You are invited...
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Fyi...

Kelli Lane

Senior District Legislative Assistant

Senator Debbie Mayfield, District 17

900 East Strawbridge Avenue

Melbourne, FL 32901

(321) 409-2025

Lane.kelli@flsenate.gov

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:35 PM
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: You are invited...

Good Afternoon,

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Featured Speakers



**Congresswoman
Kat Cammack**
Representing Florida's 3rd
District in the U.S. House



Abby Johnson
Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
Advocate



Two important days of:

Training
Briefing from Experts
Supreme Court Visit
Fellowship
Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
Prayer Breakfast
Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)

From: Lane, Kelli <Lane.Kelli@flsenate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 3:18 PM EST
To: Smith, Karly <SMITH.KARLY@flsenate.gov>; Fairchild, Kailey <FAIRCHILD.KAILEY@flsenate.gov>
Subject: UPDATED FW: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Kelli Lane

Senior District Legislative Assistant
Senator Debbie Mayfield, District 17
900 East Strawbridge Avenue
Melbourne, FL 32901
(321) 409-2025
Lane.kelli@flsenate.gov

From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57 PM
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....

Update! My mistake, please see the correct dates and times as listed below...

Good Afternoon,

You are invited to join us in Tallahassee for Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days next Monday and Tuesday **January 24th and 25th**

If you are unable to attend the entire event, you may still attend our dinner and/or breakfast:

Dinner - Monday evening, 1/24/2022

Reception: 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm
Dinner: 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm
\$50.00
Donald Tucker Civic Center
505 W Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday morning, 1/25/2022

7:00 am - 8:45 am
\$19.50
Donald Tucker Civic Center
505 W Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

Full Event- Begins at 3:00 pm on Monday 1/24/2022 and concludes at 3:00 pm on Tuesday 1/25/2022

\$100.00
Donald Tucker Civic Center
505 W Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
[Tickets](#)

I have attached a PDF with more details. Also, feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you for serving our great state of Florida!

Blessings,
Chris

Christopher Yates
Assistant to the President
Director of Development
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue

Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

PRO-Life PRO-Family Days AT THE CAPITOL

#LIFEWINS

Monday & Tuesday, January 24 & 25, 2022

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center | 505 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2022 5:45 PM EST
To: Bean, Aaron <BEAN.AARON@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Victory Report: Week 9 of 9 of Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session

VICTORY REPORT:
Week 9 of 9 - March 11, 2022

Dear Friend,

The final week of the Florida legislative session is finished for the year and what a year it was! The 2022 Florida Legislative Session was one of the most productive and victory-filled sessions in Florida Family Policy Council's history.

Here is the final report on the 2022 session!

Monday afternoon, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, (aka the so-called "Don't Say Gay" bill) (HB 1557) was heard on the full Senate floor. After nearly two hours of amendments filed by Democrat senators meant to undermine the bill, (all defeated by the other senators), bill sponsor **Sen. Dennis Baxley** began his defense of a parent's right to be informed and involved in their children's education. **Baxley** tag-teamed with **Sen. Manny Diaz** and **Sen. Danny Burgess** to respond to the fiery questions and attacks on how the bill would be applied to education policy. The three senators did a powerful job countering objects and laying out the case for school districts to be transparent with parents. They stressed parental involvement when official policy changes occur in the treatment of children within those districts. They also mentioned the importance of establishing standards for official instruction on sexual issues with K-3 students.

Tuesday morning, the Senate again took up **HB 1557** for final debate and a final vote. Opponents strongly criticized the bill as an attack on LGBT identifying youth, completely ignoring the actual text of the bill. Senators standing firm in debate for parental rights included **Sens. Ileana Garcia, Danny Burgess, Ray Rodrigues, Manny Diaz, and Debbie Mayfield**. Bill sponsor **Dennis Baxley** closed out the debate with a final call to empower parents by giving them the tools to protect and educate their children as they know best.

The bill passed in the Senate 22-17 with all of the Democrat Senators voted no in opposition to parental rights. Two Republican senators, **Sen. Jennifer Bradley** and **Jeff Brandes**, voted against the bill as well. During the process, both senators stated that their opposition to the bill was based on the negative public perception (founded on inaccurate media narratives). In summary, they opposed the bill based on what opponents perceived was in the bill, rather than voting based on what was clearly laid out in the bill text.

I personally did several media interviews on this bill and "flipped" the false "Don't Say Gay" narrative by saying the bill should really be called a "Don't turn my son into a daughter" bill. This cut so deep to the heart of the debate two different pro-gay, pro-trans legislators referred to my argument on two separate occasions to criticize it. You can see one of these TV interviews here: [VIDEO: John Stemberger Defends the Parental Rights in Education Act on NTD News.](#)

LGBTQ activists did everything they could to try to stop this commonsense bill, but they all failed. They staged massive protests at the capital. They had a school "walk out" over the bill. They even ran TV ads across Florida asking people to call DISNEY WORLD because the Disney Corporation had not spoken out against the bill. See that ad here: [VIDEO: Commercial Urging Disney to Oppose Parental Rights in Education Bill.](#)

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Finally, in responding to a snarky reporter, Governor DeSantis did a full-blown WWE "Dusty Rhodes" smack down when defending the parents rights bill. The powerful clip went viral and exploded on social media. Check it out here: [VIDEO: Gov. Ron DeSantis Lights Disney on Fire After Its Outrage Over Parental Rights Bill.](#)

Wednesday afternoon, **HB 7**, the **Individual Freedom Act**, the bill restricting the teaching of Critical Race Theory (CRT) in public schools and other places, was heard on the full Senate floor. **Sen. Manny Diaz**, the bill sponsor, skillfully defended the bill for nearly four hours, deflecting attacks on the bill, answering opponents' hypotheticals, and defending the principles within the bill, aided in great part by **Sen. Danny Burgess**.

The bill, up for debate the following morning, passed on a party line 24-15 vote. Opponents argued that the bill would forbid the teaching of key portions of American history on slavery, segregation, and other evils from American history, which was not true and blatantly in contradiction to the intent and text of the bill.

Highlights in support of the bill include **Sen. Kelli Stargel**, who asserted that historical revisionism showing only one side of history to push political agenda clouds the complete truth of history being shared. She shared the story of her grandfather, a

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former sheriff, who stood against lynch mobs to ensure that a young African American man received a fair trial, even though it cost him greatly politically. She affirmed that she and her family could be proud of her grandfather's stand, contrary to politically driven false stereotypes painted by historical revisionists. With passion, she declared that attempting to make children today feel guilty and personally responsible for the sins of others in the past belonging to their 'race' was exactly the kind of harmful teaching the bill sought to prohibit.

Bill sponsor **Sen. Manny Diaz** gave a powerful close, sharing the story of his family fleeing from Cuba and its authoritarian government. As highlighted by **Diaz**, there was no free of thought or debate, and education was really government indoctrination telling students what to think, not how to think, a concern that seems to be creeping into America as well. America may have serious faults, **Diaz** acknowledged, but still is the greatest nation of opportunity and freedom in the world. The bill passed on a party line vote immediately after, 24-15.

Florida Family Policy Council would like to take this opportunity to strongly commend Florida Senate and House leadership for addressing some very challenging issues that had to be addressed, despite inaccurate media narratives and fierce opposition from leftist special interest groups. Because of the controversy surrounding these bills, serious time must be allotted for questions, amendments and debate that takes tremendous time from other agenda items – the legislature literally spent days if not weeks just to pass our five priority bills over the course of the session. This does not count the hours upon hours spent in committee.

By passing the priority bills listed below in this report below, Senate leadership under President Wilton Simpson and President Designate Kathleen Passidomo and House leadership under Speaker Chris Sprowls and Speaker Designate Paul Renner have established Florida as a nationwide leader on protecting unborn children, preserving religious freedom, and defending parental rights, among other victories!

Below is a full list of the exciting wins from this session, with both the several good bills that were passed, and all the bad bills were defeated. We also included a brief overview of several good bills that didn't make it this session, but that we made great progress on and hope to see introduced in future sessions.

Finally, **Aaron DiPietro**, our legislative director, did a remarkable job in his first year in Tallahassee. He was a winsome and formable advocate for our causes, and because of this, he quickly won the respect of legislators, our allies, and legislative staff. Aaron is quickly becoming a reliable authority in Tallahassee on all things related to life, family, and liberty issues.

Thank you for your financial support, engagement, and your prayers that enable our team to be the advocates for life, family, religious freedom, and liberty in Tallahassee. We could not be able to engage this intensely without your support!

Thank you all and God bless!

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

2022 Session Victories!

GOOD BILLS PASSED

VICTORY!!! 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-*Roe*. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 passed the full House and Senate side and is awaiting the governor's signature, which he has stated he will give!

VICTORY!!! 2. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

Status: The House passed SB 254, 88-29 and the Senate passed the bill 31-3. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions. The bill now heads

to the governor's desk!

VICTORY!!! 3. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: HB 7 passed off the Senate floor 24-15 and passed the House 74-41. The bill now heads to the governor's desk!

VICTORY!!! 4. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state's Parent's Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 passed the full House floor 69-47, while the Senate passed HB 1557, 22-17 before the full floor. It now heads to Governor DeSantis, who has strongly voiced support for the bill and heavily criticized opponents for spreading false narratives about the bill. Florida Family Policy Council was strategically and deeply involved in advocating for 1557 on Capitol Hill through the entire process.

VICTORY!!! 5. [HB 1467/SB 1300](#) Education Act (Rep. Garrison/Sen. Gruters)

Description: This proposal adds term limits in state law for school board members for a max of 12 consecutive years (municipalities are allowed to enact tighter term limits). The bill streamlines the process for parents and concerned citizens to petition school districts on removing inappropriate materials from public school libraries. It also adds extra procedures for approving and reviewing materials that come into the library and extra reporting requirements to the state on materials removed by various schools across the state to increase transparency for school districts and accountability to parents and taxpayers.

Status: HB 1557 passed the full House floor 79-41, while the Senate passed HB, 24-15 before the full floor. It now heads to Governor DeSantis!

BAD BILLS DEFEATED

OPPOSE 1. [HB 6023/SB 628](#) Abortion Clinic Regulations Act (Rep. Eskamani/Sen. Book)

Description: This pair of bills sought to reverse many key and recently passed protections for unborn children and their mothers: repealing the 24 hour waiting period law, which requires mothers preparing for an abortion to wait one day from their initial visit to an abortion clinic before having an abortion to have time to reflect and think over the decision; allowing state tax payer dollars to directly to abortions (it is currently not allowed); and removing safety protocols currently in place regarding abortion clinics.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 2. [HB 0205/SB 0374](#) Gay and Transgender Panic Legal Defenses Act (Rep. Smith (C)/Sen. Book)

Description: This act sought to add sexual orientation and gender identity as recognized categories in criminal defense law. Although there are some direct concerns about specific applications in real life, the main issue is the attempt of this bill to slide the subjective, undefinable, and legally fluid categories sexual orientation and gender identity into state law, despite being repeatedly rejected by the Florida legislature in other areas of law.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 0249/SB 0456](#) Driver License and Identification Card Gender Designation Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Torres, Jr.)

Description: The proposal sought to add the category of *non-binary* on ID and Driver's License State-issued cards. This action would begin the dismantling of government recognition of the biological realities of male and female and set precedent for further undermining sex-specific areas of public law.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 0813/SB 1074](#) Sexually Transmissible Diseases Act (Rep. Robinson (F)/Sen. Pizzo)

Description: Currently, under state law, to *knowingly* donate blood, organs, or other bodily items that are contaminated by an STD (sexually transmitted disease) or to *knowingly* participated in intercourse while infected with an STD without informing the partner, is a felony. This proposal would have sought to lower that criminal action to a mere misdemeanor.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 5. [HB 6015/SB 0168](#) Marriages Between Persons of the Same Sex Act (Rep. Rayner/Sen. Polsky)

Description: This provision aimed to eliminate the language in state statute recognizing marriage as between one man and one woman.

FL-SEN-22-0500-A-000102

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 6. [HB 6065/SB 0212](#) Unfairness in Women's Sports Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Farmer, Jr.)

Description: This ordinance would have reversed current state law protecting women's sports and force females to play women's sports with biological males who subjectively identify as female.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 7. [HB 6077/SB 0810](#) Postsecondary Intellectual Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity Act (Rep. Hinson/Sen. Polsky)

Description: The proposal would have removed free speech protections for college students, as well as the ability of students to film lectures or presentations in class. It also eliminated free speech reviews conducted to ensure state colleges and universities are promoting an environment protecting and encouraging the free exchange of ideas.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 8. [HB 0549/SB 1884](#) Legalization of Recreational Marijuana Act (Rep. Omphroy/ Sen. Powell)

Description: This proposed statute would have legalized recreational marijuana in the state of Florida.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 9. [HB 6003/SB 1854](#) Legal Rights of the Natural Environment Act (Rep. Eskamani/ Sen. Farmer)

Description: The proposal would have granted human rights-status to the natural environment.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

GOOD BILLS THAT FELL SHORT THIS SESSION

SUPPORT [HB 167](#) Private Action Heartbeat Act (Rep. Barnaby) – No Senate Companion

Description: This bill sought to restrict abortion after a human heartbeat is detected. However, unlike most pro-life proposals in which the state government enforces the law to protect the unborn, this proposal prohibits the state government from enforcing the law. Instead, the proposal allows private citizens the right to sue abortion clinics and doctors for damages on abortions done after a detectable heartbeat, with the intent to financially weaken abortion clinics. The bill did not have a Senate companion, though, and is dead for this session.

Status: The bill died in committee due to no Senate companion bill; the focus in the legislature was on **HB 5**, a separate pro-life bill that passed into law.

SUPPORT [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of the censorship against pro-life and pro-family It also creates a high bar to penalize health care workers for their social media speech to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that their speech caused direct harm to one of their direct patients, and further provides serious penalties for false accusations against health care workers for speaking out on social media free speech.

Status: The Senate version passed two committees, but unfortunately wasn't heard in the final stop; the House version also passed one committee, but failed to be heard in the final committee. We look forward to working on this bill in a future session.

SUPPORT [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide nonemergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a "sex-reassignment" surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill passed the first House committee, but unfortunately stalled due to lack of movement on the Senate. We strongly commended House sponsor **Rep. John Snyder** for his leadership and work on this crucial issue and look forward to working on this bill next session.

SUPPORT [HB 211](#) Youth and Sexual Identity Act (Rep. Sabatini) – No Senate companion

Description: The bill sought to bans anyone from subjecting minors to "sex change" hormone treatments or so-called gender reassignment surgeries. The bill did not have a Senate companion, though, and is dead for this session.

Status: The bill is dead for the session due to having no Senate companion bill.

SUPPORT [HB 0057/SB 0242](#) Racial and Sexual Discrimination Ban Act (Rep. Fine/Sen. Gruters)

Description: This bill would have prohibited state and municipalities from requiring Critical Race Theory (CRT) employee training. Specifically, "Race or sex scapegoating" based training would be banned; this "means assigning fault, blame, or bias to a race or sex, or to a member of a race or sex because of his or her race or sex. The term included any claim that, consciously or subconsciously, and by virtue of his or her race or sex, a member of any race is inherently racist or is inherently inclined to oppress others, or that a member of a sex is inherently sexist or is inherently inclined to oppress others."

Status: The bill failed to advance in either house as a similar piece of legislation, **HB 7**, was the priority focus of leadership. **HB 7** passed both houses and is heading to the governor's desk.

SUPPORT [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This bill aimed to crack down on graphic and sexually explicit Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) material in Florida public schools. It required schools to receive written parental consent before a child is allowed to participate in any reproductive health classes; allowed parents and citizens procedures to review such materials and call for their removal; and overall, increased transparency and public oversight over sex education.

Status: Due to many other high-profile bills listed above taking much of the time in the process, this bill did not move this session, but we strongly support making this a priority next session.

SUPPORT [HB 0405/SB 0936](#) Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Act (Rep. Plakon/Sen. Baxley)

Description: The ordinance intended to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and provide solutions on how to counteract the problem.

Status: The bill failed to advance in either house and is dead for session.

SUPPORT [HB 0663/SB 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution sought to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This would provide an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Status: The bill passed several committees in the House, but failed to advance in the Senate.

Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Ave, Suite C, Orlando, FL 32806
Info@FLfamily.org * Phone: 407-251-5130

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2022 5:44 PM EST
To: Passidomo, Kathleen <Passidomo.Kathleen@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Victory Report: Week 9 of 9 of Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
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Sincerely,

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2022 Session Victories!

GOOD BILLS PASSED

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Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: HB 7 passed off the Senate floor 24-15 and passed the House 74-41. The bill now heads to the governor's desk!

VICTORY!!! 4. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state's Parent's Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 passed the full House floor 69-47, while the Senate passed HB 1557, 22-17 before the full floor. It now heads to Governor DeSantis, who has strongly voiced support for the bill and heavily criticized opponents for spreading false narratives about the bill. Florida Family Policy Council was strategically and deeply involved in advocating for 1557 on Capitol Hill through the entire process.

VICTORY!!! 5. [HB 1467/SB 1300](#) Education Act (Rep. Garrison/Sen. Gruters)

Description: This proposal adds term limits in state law for school board members for a max of 12 consecutive years (municipalities are allowed to enact tighter term limits). The bill streamlines the process for parents and concerned citizens to petition school districts on removing inappropriate materials from public school libraries. It also adds extra procedures for approving and reviewing materials that come into the library and extra reporting requirements to the state on materials removed by various schools across the state to increase transparency for school districts and accountability to parents and taxpayers.

Status: HB 1557 passed the full House floor 79-41, while the Senate passed HB, 24-15 before the full floor. It now heads to Governor DeSantis!

BAD BILLS DEFEATED

OPPOSE 1. [HB 6023/SB 628](#) Abortion Clinic Regulations Act (Rep. Eskamani/Sen. Book)

Description: This pair of bills sought to reverse many key and recently passed protections for unborn children and their mothers: repealing the 24 hour waiting period law, which requires mothers preparing for an abortion to wait one day from their initial visit to an abortion clinic before having an abortion to have time to reflect and think over the decision; allowing state tax payer dollars to directly to abortions (it is currently not allowed); and removing safety protocols currently in place regarding abortion clinics.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 2. [HB 0205/SB 0374](#) Gay and Transgender Panic Legal Defenses Act (Rep. Smith (C)/Sen. Book)

Description: This act sought to add sexual orientation and gender identity as recognized categories in criminal defense law. Although there are some direct concerns about specific applications in real life, the main issue is the attempt of this bill to slide the subjective, undefinable, and legally fluid categories sexual orientation and gender identity into state law, despite being repeatedly rejected by the Florida legislature in other areas of law.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 3. [HB 0249/SB 0456](#) Driver License and Identification Card Gender Designation Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Torres, Jr.)

Description: The proposal sought to add the category of *non-binary* on ID and Driver's License State-issued cards. This action would begin the dismantling of government recognition of the biological realities of male and female and set precedent for further undermining sex-specific areas of public law.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 4. [HB 0813/SB 1074](#) Sexually Transmissible Diseases Act (Rep. Robinson (F)/Sen. Pizzo)

Description: Currently, under state law, to *knowingly* donate blood, organs, or other bodily items that are contaminated by an STD (sexually transmitted disease) or to *knowingly* participated in intercourse while infected with an STD without informing the partner, is a felony. This proposal would have sought to lower that criminal action to a mere misdemeanor.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 5. [HB 6015/SB 0168](#) Marriages Between Persons of the Same Sex Act (Rep. Rayner/Sen. Polsky)

Description: This provision aimed to eliminate the language in state statute recognizing marriage as between one man and one woman.

FL-SEN-22-0500-A-000107

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 6. [HB 6065/SB 0212](#) Unfairness in Women's Sports Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Farmer, Jr.)

Description: This ordinance would have reversed current state law protecting women's sports and force females to play women's sports with biological males who subjectively identify as female.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 7. [HB 6077/SB 0810](#) Postsecondary Intellectual Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity Act (Rep. Hinson/Sen. Polsky)

Description: The proposal would have removed free speech protections for college students, as well as the ability of students to film lectures or presentations in class. It also eliminated free speech reviews conducted to ensure state colleges and universities are promoting an environment protecting and encouraging the free exchange of ideas.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 8. [HB 0549/SB 1884](#) Legalization of Recreational Marijuana Act (Rep. Omphroy/ Sen. Powell)

Description: This proposed statute would have legalized recreational marijuana in the state of Florida.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

OPPOSE 9. [HB 6003/SB 1854](#) Legal Rights of the Natural Environment Act (Rep. Eskamani/ Sen. Farmer)

Description: The proposal would have granted human rights-status to the natural environment.

Status: The bill was never heard and died in committee.

GOOD BILLS THAT FELL SHORT THIS SESSION

SUPPORT [HB 167](#) Private Action Heartbeat Act (Rep. Barnaby) – No Senate Companion

Description: This bill sought to restrict abortion after a human heartbeat is detected. However, unlike most pro-life proposals in which the state government enforces the law to protect the unborn, this proposal prohibits the state government from enforcing the law. Instead, the proposal allows private citizens the right to sue abortion clinics and doctors for damages on abortions done after a detectable heartbeat, with the intent to financially weaken abortion clinics. The bill did not have a Senate companion, though, and is dead for this session.

Status: The bill died in committee due to no Senate companion bill; the focus in the legislature was on **HB 5**, a separate pro-life bill that passed into law.

SUPPORT [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of the censorship against pro-life and pro-family It also creates a high bar to penalize health care workers for their social media speech to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that their speech caused direct harm to one of their direct patients, and further provides serious penalties for false accusations against health care workers for speaking out on social media free speech.

Status: The Senate version passed two committees, but unfortunately wasn't heard in the final stop; the House version also passed one committee, but failed to be heard in the final committee. We look forward to working on this bill in a future session.

SUPPORT [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide nonemergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a "sex-reassignment" surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill passed the first House committee, but unfortunately stalled due to lack of movement on the Senate. We strongly commended House sponsor **Rep. John Snyder** for his leadership and work on this crucial issue and look forward to working on this bill next session.

SUPPORT [HB 211](#) Youth and Sexual Identity Act (Rep. Sabatini) – No Senate companion

Description: The bill sought to bans anyone from subjecting minors to "sex change" hormone treatments or so-called gender reassignment surgeries. The bill did not have a Senate companion, though, and is dead for this session.

Status: The bill is dead for the session due to having no Senate companion bill.

SUPPORT [HB 0057/SB 0242](#) Racial and Sexual Discrimination Ban Act (Rep. Fine/Sen. Gruters)

Description: This bill would have prohibited state and municipalities from requiring Critical Race Theory (CRT) employee training. Specifically, "Race or sex scapegoating" based training would be banned; this "means assigning fault, blame, or bias to a race or sex, or to a member of a race or sex because of his or her race or sex. The term included any claim that, consciously or subconsciously, and by virtue of his or her race or sex, a member of any race is inherently racist or is inherently inclined to oppress others, or that a member of a sex is inherently sexist or is inherently inclined to oppress others."

Status: The bill failed to advance in either house as a similar piece of legislation, **HB 7**, was the priority focus of leadership. **HB 7** passed both houses and is heading to the governor's desk.

SUPPORT [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This bill aimed to crack down on graphic and sexually explicit Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) material in Florida public schools. It required schools to receive written parental consent before a child is allowed to participate in any reproductive health classes; allowed parents and citizens procedures to review such materials and call for their removal; and overall, increased transparency and public oversight over sex education.

Status: Due to many other high-profile bills listed above taking much of the time in the process, this bill did not move this session, but we strongly support making this a priority next session.

SUPPORT [HB 0405/SB 0936](#) Compulsive and Addictive Gambling Prevention Act (Rep. Plakon/Sen. Baxley)

Description: The ordinance intended to establish a Gambling Prevention Commission to study gaming addictions and provide solutions on how to counteract the problem.

Status: The bill failed to advance in either house and is dead for session.

SUPPORT [HB 0663/SB 1004](#) Recall of County Officers and Commissioners (Rep. Williamson/ Sen. Gruters)

Description: The joint resolution sought to place an amendment on the ballot in 2022 to amend the constitution to allow for the recall of all local county and municipal elected officials. This would provide an extra method of keeping locally elected officials accountable for their actions and policy decisions.

Status: The bill passed several committees in the House, but failed to advance in the Senate.

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 4:30 PM EST
To: Mayfield, Debbie <Mayfield.Debbie@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 5 of 9: Insider's Report: Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
Week 5 of 9 - February 11, 2022

Dear Friend,

Week 5 has come to an end! If a bill has not yet been through at least some committees at this point, the odds that it will pass are rapidly shrinking. Subcommittees and some committees are beginning to wrap up as the focus turns to floor debate on the bills passed out of committees. As many good bills advance in the session, the intensity and frustration of the opposition has increased.

On Monday, **Sen. Doug Broxson** presented **SB 1184**, the **Free Speech for Healthcare Practitioners Act**, in its second committee, Judiciary. While addressing threats to freedom of speech for medical providers, **Sen. Broxson** answered opponents who justified government speech restrictions on doctors. He affirmed that a doctor does not forfeit his freedom of speech when he accepts his job. **Sens. Dennis Baxley, Danny Burgess, and Ray Rodrigues** all spoke in debate in favor of the bill, pointing out the Constitutional and scientific significance of medical free speech and calling it crucial to the advancement of medical progress. In addition to compelling physician testimony on the need for the bill, **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** also testified in support. He argued that, if private medical certification boards acted with police powers over medical professionals and restricted their speech, they would have no right to do that—even a governmental body would be forbidden to restrict the free speech of doctors. **Aaron DiPietro** was also briefly cross examined by bill opponent **Sen. Audrey Gibson**. The bill passed shortly thereafter.

Tuesday morning, **SB 1834**, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, the now nationally infamous bill facing attacks all the way up to the White House, was heard in the Senate Education Committee. Bill sponsor **Sen. Dennis Baxley** defended the rights of parents to be involved in their children's educational progress as well as the need for school districts to be transparent with parents when official policy changes. **Baxley** also discussed the importance of parents being involved in overseeing discussions of sexuality with elementary students and keeping school district policy focused on academics.

Public testimony in this committee was quite combative as opponents made the absurd claim that the bill would result in the deaths of LGBT-identifying youth across the state. People in favor of the bill argued that parental rights were fundamental and must be respected by the state, regardless of the political opinions of school district officials. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** spoke about the critical nature of parental involvement in a child's educational success and emphasized the bill's focus on protecting "children by empowering parents to be engaged in their children's lives and education by increasing transparency in official school district policy." Though tensions were high, decorum was maintained until after the bill was passed. As the committee adjourned, opponents from the audience began to shout, "Shame on you," and "Blood is on your hands!" Insults and attacks were even hurled at one mother who testified in support the bill, leading her to be escorted out the back of the committee room for safety precautions.

President Joe Biden Tuesday called this bill "a hateful bill" towards the LGBTQI+ community, and opposition nationwide has dubbed it the "Don't Say Gay" bill. [Watch me defend this bill on Washington Watch with Tony Perkins here at this link](#) or on [NTD News \(The Epoch Times\) at this link](#).

Later that evening, the **Individual Freedom Act**, the bill restricting CRT in public schools, among other places, was heard in the Education and Employment committee, presented once again by **Rep. Bryan Avila**, the bill sponsor. Opponents from both the public and the committee continued to accuse the sponsor of seeking to revise history, while **Rep. Avila** and **Rep. Randy Fine**, among others, passionately argued the opposite, that in fact, the bill was seeking to ensure true history was taught, apart from political bias. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** spoke out in favor of the bill, once again urging the distinction between teaching historical facts and political philosophies of ideological interpretation. Despite heated debate from the opposition over a two hour period, the bill passed out of the committee.

Finally, on Thursday, **HB 5** (the late-term abortion ban) was heard in the Health and Human Services Committee. The hearing kicked off with pro-abortion **Rep. Michelle Rayner** introducing an amendment to strip the pro-life protections from the bill; she was quickly rebuffed by **Reps. Tyler Sirois and Will Robinson** who argued her amendment undermined the bill. The amendment was quickly defeated. Bill sponsors **Reps. Erin Grall and Jenna Persons-Mulicka** then introduced the bill. Surprisingly, the bill opponents declined to cross examine **Grall** and **Persons-Mulicka**, choosing to allow public testimony to proceed. Committee **Chair Colleen Burton** and **Ranking Member Tracie Davis** then debated over time allotted to speakers. After the bill opponents agreed to forfeit closing debate, a compromise time was reached. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** testified in support of the bill, emphasizing the humanity of the child. Other testimonies included a 25-year OB/GYN physician, a 19-week pregnant mother, and nurse all speaking in favor of life. Over one-hundred speaker cards were submitted including many opponents. Toward the end, a small commotion erupted as one speaker attempted to break up the meeting with chants but was quickly escorted out with the offending audience members. The bill passed, heading to the whole House floor next week.

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PHOTO ONLY: Aaron DiPietro's Testimony in Favor of [HB 1557/SB 1834](#), the Parental Rights in Education Act, on Miami News 7

Now, for this week's update on our core legislative agenda!

Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-*Roe*. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 passed its final committee stop, Health and Human Services, Thursday, 14-7. On the Senate side, SB 146 is awaiting a hearing in its final Senate committee, Appropriations.

ACTION ALERT: [HB 1184](#) has been placed on the Special Order Calendar to go before the whole House Chamber on Tuesday.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

Status: The House version (215) now heads to the House floor; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor 31-3 and has been sent to the House. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

The House version (215) has been placed on the Calendar for a full House vote. Once passed, the bill will head to Governor DeSantis's desk.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

Status: On Wednesday, the Senate version passed its second committee, Judiciary, 7-3, and has one final committee stop; the House version will have its first committee Monday.

ACTION ALERT: HB 687 will be heard in its first House committee meeting, Professions and Public Health, on Monday, February 14th (the committee meets from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm) in 212 K in the Knott Building.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non-emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a “sex-reassignment” surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill has passed one committee, and awaits a hearing in Judiciary, the second of three stops. It has not moved in the Senate yet.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 is in Rules committee as the last of 2 committee Senate stops. The House version (HB 7) passed its final committee, Education and Employment, 14-7, and now heads to the full House floor where it awaits a final vote.

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 4:22 PM EST
To: Bean, Aaron <BEAN.AARON@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 5 of 9: Insider's Report: Legislative Session



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Florida Family Policy Council
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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 4:27 PM EST
To: Stargel, Kelli <STARGEL.KELLI@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 5 of 9: Insider's Report: Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council **Insider's Report**

Legislative Session
Week 5 of 9 - February 11, 2022

Dear Friend,

Week 5 has come to an end! If a bill has not yet been through at least some committees at this point, the odds that it will pass are rapidly shrinking. Subcommittees and some committees are beginning to wrap up as the focus turns to floor debate on the bills passed out of committees. As many good bills advance in the session, the intensity and frustration of the opposition has increased.

On Monday, **Sen. Doug Broxson** presented **SB 1184**, the **Free Speech for Healthcare Practitioners Act**, in its second committee, Judiciary. While addressing threats to freedom of speech for medical providers, **Sen. Broxson** answered opponents who justified government speech restrictions on doctors. He affirmed that a doctor does not forfeit his freedom of speech when he accepts his job. **Sens. Dennis Baxley, Danny Burgess, and Ray Rodrigues** all spoke in debate in favor of the bill, pointing out the Constitutional and scientific significance of medical free speech and calling it crucial to the advancement of medical progress. In addition to compelling physician testimony on the need for the bill, **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** also testified in support. He argued that, if private medical certification boards acted with police powers over medical professionals and restricted their speech, they would have no right to do that—even a governmental body would be forbidden to restrict the free speech of doctors. **Aaron DiPietro** was also briefly cross examined by bill opponent **Sen. Audrey Gibson**. The bill passed shortly thereafter.

Tuesday morning, **SB 1834**, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, the now nationally infamous bill facing attacks all the way up to the White House, was heard in the Senate Education Committee. Bill sponsor **Sen. Dennis Baxley** defended the rights of parents to be involved in their children's educational progress as well as the need for school districts to be transparent with parents when official policy changes. **Baxley** also discussed the importance of parents being involved in overseeing discussions of sexuality with elementary students and keeping school district policy focused on academics.

Public testimony in this committee was quite combative as opponents made the absurd claim that the bill would result in the deaths of LGBT-identifying youth across the state. People in favor of the bill argued that parental rights were fundamental and must be respected by the state, regardless of the political opinions of school district officials. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** spoke about the critical nature of parental involvement in a child's educational success and emphasized the bill's focus on protecting "children by empowering parents to be engaged in their children's lives and education by increasing transparency in official school district policy." Though tensions were high, decorum was maintained until after the bill was passed. As the committee adjourned, opponents from the audience began to shout, "Shame on you," and "Blood is on your hands!" Insults and attacks were even hurled at one mother who testified in support the bill, leading her to be escorted out the back of the committee room for safety precautions.

President Joe Biden Tuesday called this bill "a hateful bill" towards the LGBTQI+ community, and opposition nationwide has dubbed it the "Don't Say Gay" bill. [Watch me defend this bill on Washington Watch with Tony Perkins here at this link](#) or on [NTD News \(The Epoch Times\) at this link](#).

Later that evening, the **Individual Freedom Act**, the bill restricting CRT in public schools, among other places, was heard in the Education and Employment committee, presented once again by **Rep. Bryan Avila**, the bill sponsor. Opponents from both the public and the committee continued to accuse the sponsor of seeking to revise history, while **Rep. Avila** and **Rep. Randy Fine**, among others, passionately argued the opposite, that in fact, the bill was seeking to ensure true history was taught, apart from political bias. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** spoke out in favor of the bill, once again urging the distinction between teaching historical facts and political philosophies of ideological interpretation. Despite heated debate from the opposition over a two hour period, the bill passed out of the committee.

Finally, on Thursday, **HB 5** (the late-term abortion ban) was heard in the Health and Human Services Committee. The hearing kicked off with pro-abortion **Rep. Michelle Rayner** introducing an amendment to strip the pro-life protections from the bill; she was quickly rebuffed by **Reps. Tyler Sirois and Will Robinson** who argued her amendment undermined the bill. The amendment was quickly defeated. Bill sponsors **Reps. Erin Grall and Jenna Persons-Mulicka** then introduced the bill. Surprisingly, the bill opponents declined to cross examine **Grall** and **Persons-Mulicka**, choosing to allow public testimony to proceed. Committee **Chair Colleen Burton** and **Ranking Member Tracie Davis** then debated over time allotted to speakers. After the bill opponents agreed to forfeit closing debate, a compromise time was reached. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** testified in support of the bill, emphasizing the humanity of the child. Other testimonies included a 25-year OB/GYN physician, a 19-week pregnant mother, and nurse all speaking in favor of life. Over one-hundred speaker cards were submitted including many opponents. Toward the end, a small commotion erupted as one speaker attempted to break up the meeting with chants but was quickly escorted out with the offending audience members. The bill passed, heading to the whole House floor next week.

Below is an updated list of some of the top bills we are tracking in this session, and some include an **ACTION ALERT in Red**,
FL-SEN-22-0500-A-000116

signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills. Next week is shaping up to be an action-packed week for some of our key, top priority bills!

Stay tuned for our weekly updates throughout the session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

[VIDEO: Watch John Stemberger defend the Parental Rights in Education Bill on Washington Watch with Tony Perkins here at this link .](#)

[VIDEO: Watch John defend the Parental Rights in Education Act on NTD News \(The Epoch Times\)](#)

PHOTO ONLY: Aaron DiPietro's Testimony in Favor of [HB 1557/SB 1834](#), the Parental Rights in Education Act, on Miami News 7

Now, for this week's update on our core legislative agenda!

Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-*Roe*. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 passed its final committee stop, Health and Human Services, Thursday, 14-7. On the Senate side, SB 146 is awaiting a hearing in its final Senate committee, Appropriations.

ACTION ALERT: [HB 1184](#) has been placed on the Special Order Calendar to go before the whole House Chamber on Tuesday.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

Status: The House version (215) now heads to the House floor; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor 31-3 and has been sent to the House. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

The House version (215) has been placed on the Calendar for a full House vote. Once passed, the bill will head to Governor DeSantis's desk.

SUPPORT 2. [HB 0687/SB 1184](#) Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners Act (Rep. Drake/Sen. Broxson)

Description: This proposal provides protections to health care professionals from being penalized, reprimanded, or deprived of their licenses for exercising their freedom of speech on social media. In light of recent pro-life and pro-family censorship against pro-life and pro-family, it requires anyone who attempts to accuse a health care worker of saying something incorrect on social media to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. If anyone falsely accuses a health care worker for saying something incorrect on social media, that person will face serious penalties.

Status: On Wednesday, the Senate version passed its second committee, Judiciary, 7-3, and has one final committee stop; the House version will have its first committee Monday.

ACTION ALERT: HB 687 will be heard in its first House committee meeting, Professions and Public Health, on Monday, February 14th (the committee meets from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm) in 212 K in the Knott Building.

SUPPORT 3. [HB 0747/SB 1820](#) Medical Conscience Protection Act (Rep. Snyder/ Sen. Baxley)

Description: The bill would protect the rights of medical doctors, nurses, or other providers, as well as religious medical facilities, to practice their conscience convictions in their healthcare practices. Specifically, no medical professional or entity could be forced to recommend, participate in, and provide non-emergency medical procedures and actions that would violate their sincerely held convictions and beliefs. For example, no doctor would be forced to perform an abortion, and no nurse would be demanded to participate in a “sex-reassignment” surgery, among other actions that could violate their rights of conscience.

Status: The bill has passed one committee, and awaits a hearing in Judiciary, the second of three stops. It has not moved in the Senate yet.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 is in Rules committee as the last of 2 committee Senate stops. The House version (HB 7) passed its final committee, Education and Employment, 14-7, and now heads to the full House floor where it awaits a final vote.

Education and Parental Rights

SUPPORT 1. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

Description: This proposal seeks to further build on the education provisions of the state’s Parent’s Bill of Rights by allowing greater parental access to school information on their minor children; forbidding school districts from withholding information on children from their parents; prohibiting school districts from encouraging discussions of sexuality and gender identity for younger students; and laying out ground rules for how school districts are to respect parental rights.

Status: HB 1557 has passed its first committee and now heads to its final House stop Judiciary. The Senate version, SB 1834, passed its first committee Education, 6-3, on Tuesday and moves on to Senate Appropriations, the second of three stops.

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2022 5:34 PM EST
To: Mayfield, Debbie <Mayfield.Debbie@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 6 of 9: Insider's Report: Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
Week 6 of 9 - February 18, 2022

Dear Friend,

Week 6 has come and gone and session is over two-thirds complete! This week was filled with exciting advances on three of our top priority bills!

On Monday, **Rep. Brad Drake** presented **HB 687**, the **Free Speech for Healthcare Practitioners Act**, in its first House committee Professions and Public Health. **Rep. Drake** succinctly articulated the threat to free speech for physicians in Florida and the solutions provided in the bill. Multiple physicians testified, sharing their stories of threats against their free speech.

FFPC's Aaron DiPietro also testified in support of the bill, once again maintaining that private medical certification boards given police powers over medical professionals have no right restrict the free speech of doctors under their oversight. He also reminded the committee that the free exchange of ideas and debate in medicine was crucial to the very advancement of science and medical progress. Watch the video below. The bill passed shortly thereafter.

Thursday evening, **HB 1557**, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, the now nationally infamous bill facing attacks all the way up to the White House, was heard in the House Judiciary Committee. Bill sponsor **Rep. Joe Harding** answered opponent House reps' questions on the text of the bill, highlighting the right of parents to be informed and involved in their children's educations. Opponents in public testimony said the bill would silence students' speech on sexual orientation and gender identity, despite absolutely no such language in the bill.

Proponents asserted that parental rights were fundamental and that the bill increased school district transparency. **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** emphasized the true nature and intent of the bill: to empower parents in engaging in their children's educational success by increasing transparency in school district policy. He highlighted that contrary to critics' claims, students were free to speak and discuss whatever they choose and organic discussion with teachers was not hindered. The bill only restricts official school districts from establishing planned instruction on sexuality issues in K-3rd grade. He emphasized the bill's focus on protecting children by empowering parents to be engaged in their children's lives and educations by increasing transparency in official school district policy, which was constantly ignored by the opponents. The video of his testimony can be viewed below.

As debate began, bill opponents on the committee criticized bill supporters' testimony, leading to a public murmuring from the bill supporters in the audience which was promptly quieted by **Chairwoman Erin Grall**. Most of the debate against the bill by multiple representatives in opposition repeated talking points not at all related to the bill. Supporting reps, including **Reps. Scott Plakon and Rep. Spencer Roach**, brought attention back to the actual text and intent of the bill, emphasizing once again the crucial role of the state to protect parental rights. The bill passed immediately after debate concluded.

Finally, the highlight of the week centered around the full House's passage of **HB 5**, the late term abortion ban protecting the unborn after 15 weeks in the state of Florida. Beginning Tuesday afternoon, pro-abortion representatives cross-examined bill sponsors **Reps. Erin Grall and Jenna Persons-Mulicka** for nearly **2 hours**. Following the cross-examination, another **1 ½ hours** was spent debating numerous amendments proposed by pro-abortion reps seeking to undermine the bill--all failed. The debate restarted the next evening around 7 pm; debate lasted an exhausting **6 hours**, with the final vote occurring after midnight.

Highlights include some powerful pro-life testimony:

Rep. Dana Trubusly shared the regret of her abortion and her desire to keep other women from the pain she endured; **Rep. Michelle Salzman** spoke of the horrors of personally experiencing both rape and incest, and yet affirming that as horrible as those situations are, none justify killing the innocent child. **Reps. Mike Beltran and Cord Byrd** addressed the legal and Constitutional issues at stake in defending life; **Reps. Clay Yarborough and David Borrero** passionately defended the humanity of the unborn; and **Reps. Webster Barnaby, Melony Bell, and Scott Plakon** shared personal stories of either they or their parents' choosing life despite pressure to abort, with many other representatives that could be mentioned.

Bill sponsor **Rep. Erin Grall**, in spite of going through nearly **6 hours** of debate, rose to the occasion, delivering an impassioned and heartfelt call for members to defend the children who could not defend or speak for themselves. Around midnight, as **Rep. Grall** was giving her closing statements, a crazy protest erupted in the gallery composed of proabortion activists, prominent among them, a group of primarily young men (ironically) chanting, "My body, my choice." ([Watch the video here or below.](#)) The protestors actively resisted and fought the officers attempting to restore order, leading to the arrest of some. The bill passed off the floor 78-39, on an almost party line vote. The only Republican voting *against* the bill was Rep. **Rene Plasencia**. The only Democrat voting for the bill was Rep. **James Bush**; two other notable yes votes were Republicans **Mike Caruso** and **Sam Killebrew** who had previously voted against pro-life legislation in prior sessions.

Florida Family Policy Council commends House leadership for taking the lead and defending the lives of the unborn, in
FL-SEN-22-0500-A-000119

spite of the fierce opposition, extremely long debate hours, negative media attacks, and time taken away from voting on other issues.

Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

Also, below some of the bills is an Action Alert in Red, signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills. Next week is shaping up to be an action-packed week for some of our key, top priority bills!

We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

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[VIDEO: Watch Aaron DiPietro testify in support of the Free Speech for Healthcare Practitioners Act](#)

[VIDEO: Watch Aaron DiPietro testify in support of the Parental Rights in Education Act](#)

[VIDEO: Protestors chanting in opposition during debate over pro-life bill](#)

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Abortion/Life Issues

SUPPORT 1. [HB 5/SB 146](#) Fetal and Infant Mortality Reduction Act (Rep. Grall/ Sen. Stargel)

Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-*Roe*. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

Status: HB 5 passed Wednesday, 78-39, off the full House floor. On the Senate side, SB 146 is going to a final hearing in its final Senate committee, Appropriations.

ACTION ALERT: The Senate will take up HB 5, the House version for the Senate Appropriations Committee meeting on Monday, February 21. The committee meets from 1-5 pm, with the hearing on HB 5 occurring most likely toward the end of the committee. The committee will meet in the Knott Building in Room 412K.

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Conscience

SUPPORT 1. [HB 0215/SB 254](#) Religious Institutions Protection Act (Rep. DiCeglie/Sen. Brodeur)

Description: The Religious Institutions Bill attempts to stop discriminatory government mandates against religious organizations in times of emergency. This issue came to the forefront during the COVID pandemic when governors from across the nation placed churches and houses of worship under unique restrictions than harsher than those of businesses and other organizations. (For example, in several states, governors allowed most businesses to operate at 50% occupancy, while only allowing 10 or 50 people in a church service, regardless of the size of the church, creating a double standard that discriminated against religious organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law under during state emergencies.

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Status: The Senate version has one final committee stop, Appropriations; on Monday, the House version passed its first committee, Professions and Public Health, 12-5 and has one final committee stop, Health and Human Services.

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

Status: SB 148 is in Rules committee as the last of 2 committee Senate stops. The House version (HB 7) has passed all committees and been scheduled to be heard and possibly voted on by the full House on February 22nd.

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To: Mayfield, Debbie <Mayfield.Debbie@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 7 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
Week 7 of 9 - February 25, 2022

Dear Friend,

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Rep. Joe Harding on the House floor debating HB 1557

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Description: The act, based in part on the Mississippi law recently heard by the Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* case set to potentially undermine and/or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, prohibits abortions after 15 weeks; if enacted, it would be the strongest protection for the unborn post-*Roe*. In addition, the bill mandates stricter reporting requirements on abortion clinics, providing needed data on chemical abortions in the state.

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Status: The House version (215) is now waiting for a final House floor vote; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor 31-3. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions.

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Status: The Senate version has one final committee stop, Appropriations; the House version has one final committee stop, Health and Human Services.

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Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Ave, Suite C, Orlando, FL 32806
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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 5:05 PM EST
To: Bean, Aaron <BEAN.AARON@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 7 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
Week 7 of 9 - February 25, 2022

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Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 5:14 PM EST
To: Stargel, Kelli <STARGEL.KELLI@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 7 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
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Rep. Joe Harding on the House floor debating HB 1557

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 5:31 PM EST
To: Mayfield, Debbie <Mayfield.Debbie@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 7 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
Week 7 of 9 - February 25, 2022

Dear Friend,

Week 7 has come to a close and featured some incredible advances on several of our top priority bills even in the face of ugly and fierce opposition.

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The next hour, the representatives shot down a number of hostile amendments with one exception: a clarifying amendment brought by **Rep. Harding**. The amendment streamlined the timelines for school districts to notify parents on policy changes regarding their students and also added extra pathways for parents to pursue action against hostile school districts. The amendment passed.

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Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 5:24 PM EST
To: Bean, Aaron <BEAN.AARON@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 7 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council **Insider's Report**

Legislative Session
Week 7 of 9 - February 25, 2022

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2022 3:13 PM EST
To: Stargel, Kelli <STARGEL.KELLI@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 8 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
Week 8 of 9 - March 4, 2022

Dear Friend,

Week 8 is over and session is almost finished for the year! One more week to go. Here are some of the highlights from the week on our top priority bills!

Monday morning, the **Parental Rights in Education Act** was heard in the Appropriations Committee. Based on Senate rules and for efficiency, the Senate took up the House version **HB 1557** and skipped the final committee assignment stop, making Appropriations the final stop. Bill sponsor **Sen. Dennis Baxley** defended the rights of parents to be informed and involved in their children's educational progress, as well as the need for school districts to be transparent with parents when official policy changes occur in the care and treatment of the parents' children within those districts. **Baxley** also discussed the importance of parents being involved in overseeing discussions of sexuality with elementary students and keeping school district policy focused on academics. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** again called out the false messaging against the bill, by referencing the bill's actual text. He also highlighted the focus of the bill on supporting parental involvement in a child's educational success and adding tools to increase transparency in official school district policy. After testimony, he faced hostile questioning from critics of the bill. His testimony can be seen below. The bill passed 12-8, with Republican Senator Jeff Brandes siding with committee Democrats in opposing the bill.

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View a video below of protests breaking out against this bill on Thursday.

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Status: Wednesday, the House passed SB 254 88-29 off the House floor; the Senate version passed the full Senate floor 31-3. Florida Family Policy Council was instrumental in suggesting additional language to further strengthen equal protections under the law for religious institutions. The bill now heads to the governor's desk!

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

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Status: Previously, HB 1557 passed the full House floor. The Senate passed HB 1557 12-8 in Senate Appropriations and is headed to the full Senate floor to be heard Monday with a final vote as soon as Tuesday.

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Ave, Suite C, Orlando, FL 32806
Info@FLfamily.org * Phone: 407-251-5130

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From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council <Info@FLfamily.org>
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2022 3:25 PM EST
To: Mayfield, Debbie <Mayfield.Debbie@flsenate.gov>
Subject: Week 8 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session



Florida Family Policy Council Insider's Report

Legislative Session
Week 8 of 9 - March 4, 2022

Dear Friend,

Week 8 is over and session is almost finished for the year! One more week to go. Here are some of the highlights from the week on our top priority bills!

Monday morning, the **Parental Rights in Education Act** was heard in the Appropriations Committee. Based on Senate rules and for efficiency, the Senate took up the House version **HB 1557** and skipped the final committee assignment stop, making Appropriations the final stop. Bill sponsor **Sen. Dennis Baxley** defended the rights of parents to be informed and involved in their children's educational progress, as well as the need for school districts to be transparent with parents when official policy changes occur in the care and treatment of the parents' children within those districts. **Baxley** also discussed the importance of parents being involved in overseeing discussions of sexuality with elementary students and keeping school district policy focused on academics. **Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro** again called out the false messaging against the bill, by referencing the bill's actual text. He also highlighted the focus of the bill on supporting parental involvement in a child's educational success and adding tools to increase transparency in official school district policy. After testimony, he faced hostile questioning from critics of the bill. His testimony can be seen below. The bill passed 12-8, with Republican Senator Jeff Brandes siding with committee Democrats in opposing the bill.

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From: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:35 PM EST
To: Chris Yates <cyates@flfamily.org>
Subject: You are invited...
Attachment(s): "2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf"

Good Afternoon,

You are invited to join us in Tallahassee for Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days next Monday and Tuesday - January 23rd and 24th.

If you are unable to attend the entire event, you may still attend our dinner and/or breakfast:

Dinner - Monday evening, 1/23/2022

Reception: 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm

\$50.00

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday evening, 1/24/2022

7:00 am - 8:45 am

\$19.50

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

Full Event- Begins at 3:00 pm on Monday 1/23/2022

and concludes at 3:00 pm on Tuesday 1/24/2022

\$100.00

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

I have attached a PDF with more details. Also, feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you for serving our great state of Florida!

Blessings,

Chris

Christopher Yates
Assistant to the President
Director of Development
Florida Family Policy Council
4853 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

PRO-Life PRO-Family Days AT THE CAPITOL

#LIFEWINS

Monday & Tuesday, January 24 & 25, 2022

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center | 505 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee

Featured Speakers



**Congresswoman
Kat Cammack**
Representing Florida's 3rd
District in the U.S. House



Abby Johnson
Pro-life Speaker, Author, and
Advocate



Two important days of:

Training
Briefing from Experts
Supreme Court Visit
Fellowship
Praise & Worship
Prayer Walks
Prayer Breakfast
Great Food
(Covid precautions taken)

SIGN UP TODAY: [FLfamily.org/profamilydays](https://flfamily.org/profamilydays)