

Subject: PRR #348 AO (Sprowls et al)
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 11:49:31 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Office of Open Government
To: AO Records
CC: Office of Open Government

EXTERNAL SENDER

In response to the request below, records that are maintained by the House were searched for public records that meet the criteria of the request. Those searches yielded a number of public records, which are being provided via the House's FTP due to file size. You can expect an email from the House's FTP site with the link to the records within minutes of receiving this email.

Please note that the link contained within the FTP email will expire in two weeks.

The House and Representatives considers this matter closed.

Kind regards,

Office of Open Government
Florida House of Representatives

Please Note: The Florida Constitution requires disclosure of public records unless a Florida Statute exempts the records from the disclosure requirement. Most emails to and from House members and staff that were sent or received in connection with the transaction of legislative business are public records that will be made available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, the contents of your email and your email address are subject to public disclosure unless a specific statute exempts them from the Constitution's disclosure requirements.

From: Office of Open Government <opengovernment@myfloridahouse.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 8:15 AM
To: 'AO Records' <records@americanoversight.org>; Office of Open Government <opengovernment@myfloridahouse.gov>
Subject: PRR #348 AO (Sprowls et al)

The Office of Open Government received the request below. Records maintained by the House on the House server will be searched for public records that meet the criteria of the request. Any such records will be provided to you in accordance with Article 1, Section 24(c) of the Florida Constitution; section 11.0431, Florida Statutes; and House Rules 14.1 and 14.2.

For your information, requests for public records that are maintained by a member, including text messages, social media posts, paper records, and emails to or from personal email accounts, must be submitted directly to the member.

Kind regards,

Office of Open Government
Florida House of Representatives

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From: AO Records <records@americanoversight.org>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 4:06 PM
To: Office of Open Government <opengovernment@myfloridahouse.gov>
Subject: Public Records Request (FL-REP-22-0499)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records laws.

Sincerely,

--

Marwah Adhoob
Pronouns: she/her
Paralegal
American Oversight
records@americanoversight.org
www.americanoversight.org | @weareoversight

PRR: FL-REP-22-0499

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:39 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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: [Aaron DiPietro](#)
To: [Castillo, Carolina](#)
Subject: Meeting Request HB 7
Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022 6:01:01 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-dwlr0dqw.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

January 13th, 2022

Hello Carolina,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council. I wanted to request a meeting with Rep. Avila on HB 7. 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](#)
www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57:42 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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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To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:49 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: You are invited...
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:36:08 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-34bz4x3y.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57:51 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
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For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Aaron DiPietro](#)
To: [Budko, Anna](#)
Subject: Re: Meeting Request HB 57
Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022 7:10:08 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Actually, he just called back and we had a helpful conversation. We plan to continue our dialogue over the next few weeks. Thank you for your help and I look forward to working with your office as I can.

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: Budko, Anna
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 7:01:55 PM
To: Aaron DiPietro
Subject: RE: Meeting Request HB 57
I will schedule the phone call for Monday, when he drives back



Thank you and have a Fine day,
Anna Budko
Legislative Aide
Florida House of Representatives, District 53
State Representative Randy Fine
anna.budko@myfloridahouse.gov
District Office:
2539 Palm Bay Rd NE
Suite 5
Palm Bay, FL 32905
(321) 409-2017
(321) 409-2018
Address in Tallahassee:
222, The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300
(850) 717-5053

From: Aaron DiPietro
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 6:57 PM
To: Budko, Anna
Subject: Re: Meeting Request HB 57

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Thank you for your help. I called but the mailbox was full. I can send him a text but assume he will not see it for some time. Whenever he is available to speak, I can be flexible. Thank you for your help 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: Thursday, January 13, 2022 6:48:15 PM
To: Budko, Anna <Anna.Budko@myfloridahouse.gov>
Subject: Re: Meeting Request HB 57
Thank you very much.

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

From: Budko, Anna <Anna.Budko@myfloridahouse.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 6:46:37 PM
To: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Subject: RE: Meeting Request HB 57
Can you call Rep. Fine now? He is driving for the next 2,5-3 hours, and it's convenient for him to talk.
His cell (321) 987-6101.



Thank you and have a Fine day,
Anna Budko
Legislative Aide
Florida House of Representatives, District 53
State Representative Randy Fine
anna.budko@myfloridahouse.gov
District Office:
2539 Palm Bay Rd NE
Suite 5
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(321) 409-2017
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Address in Tallahassee:

222, The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300
(850) 717-5053

From: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 6:04 PM
To: Budko, Anna <Anna.Budko@myfloridahouse.gov>
Subject: Meeting Request HB 57

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

January 13th, 2022

Hello Anna,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council. I wanted to request a meeting with Rep. Fine on HB 57. 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

www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:22 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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Reception: 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm

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\$50.00

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[Tickets](#)

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For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: randy voterandyfine.com <randy@voterandyfine.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 12:42 PM
To: Budko, Anna
Subject: FW: GI Procedure Bans for Minors
Attachments: SAFE Act - FRC Model.pdf; Help Not Harm LAWMAKER Messaging FINAL VERSION.pdf; HELP Not Harm Act - FPA Model.pdf

Importance: High

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From: randy voterandyfine.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 12:40 PM
To: Bernier, Nancy
Subject: FW: GI Procedure Bans for Minors
Importance: High

From: John Stemberger <johns@flfamily.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 4:47 PM
To: randy voterandyfine.com <randy@voterandyfine.com>
Cc: Aaron DiPietro <aarond@flfamily.org>
Subject: GI Procedure Bans for Minors
Importance: High

Rep Fine,

Arkansas and Arizona have passed versions of this type of a bill. Many others states came close and will refile.

Enclosed are the two model bills drafted by Family Research Council and Family Policy Alliance. Also enclosed are the recommended talking points from FPA.

One note, none of the three national organizations recommend criminal penalties and all of them recommend civil penalties instead for a number of reasons which we can discuss.

Thank you for your courage in taking a leadership role on this issue. Would be interested in your thoughts on who would be best to run this in the Senate. I think we should consider Danny Burgess.

Let me know how else we can help you and or the eventual House sponsor.

John

cc- Aaron DiPietro, Legislative Director

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SAVE ADOLESCENTS FROM EXPERIMENTATION (SAFE) ACT

BILL SUMMARY

Section 1 contains legislative findings. These include a review of the prevalence of individuals who do not identify with their biological sex, the type of medical procedures that are sometimes performed in the course of “gender transition,” and the fact that, according to current research, the risks of such procedures outweigh their benefits.

Section 2 contains definitions of terms. These include defining “sex” in biological terms in the context of reproductive potential or capacity and defining “gender transition procedures” to include the use of puberty-blocking drugs, cross-sex hormones, and non-genital and genital gender reassignment surgery.

Section 3 is a rule of construction specifying that the bill’s restrictions of gender transition procedures do not apply to treatment of biological disorders of sex development (sometimes known as “intersex” conditions), treatment of complications or problems arising because of previous gender transition procedures, or treatment necessary to save the life of an individual.

Section 4, a key provision of the bill, prohibits the provision of (or referral for) gender transition procedures upon persons under the age of 18.

Section 5, another key provision, prohibits public funding of gender transition procedures or of persons or entities that provide such procedures, regardless of the age of the patient.

Section 6 states that insurance companies are not required to provide coverage for gender transition procedures for patients of any age.

Section 7 prohibits health insurance coverage of gender transition procedures for those under the age of 18.

Section 8 provides for enforcement and a cause of action to bring claims in court for violations of this bill.

Section 9 provides for severability in the event that a section is struck down by a court.

SAVE ADOLESCENTS FROM EXPERIMENTATION (SAFE) ACT

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.

The legislature finds the following:

- 1) This state has a compelling government interest in protecting the health and safety of its citizens, especially vulnerable children.¹
- 2) Only a tiny percentage of the American population experiences distress at identifying with their biological sex. According to the American Psychiatric Association, “For natal adult males, prevalence ranges from 0.005% to 0.014%, and for natal females, from 0.002% to 0.003%.”²
- 3) For the tiny percentage of children who are gender non-conforming or experience distress at identifying with their biological sex, studies consistently demonstrate that the vast majority come to identify with their biological sex in adolescence or adulthood, thereby rendering most physiological interventions unnecessary.³
- 4) Furthermore, scientific studies show that individuals struggling with distress at identifying with their biological sex often have already experienced psychopathology, which indicates these individuals should be encouraged to seek mental health services to address co-morbidities and/or underlying causes of their distress before undertaking any hormonal or surgical intervention.⁴
- 5) Even among people who have undergone inpatient gender reassignment procedures, suicide rates, psychiatric morbidities, and mortality rates remain markedly elevated above the background population.⁵
- 6) Some health care providers are prescribing puberty-blocking drugs (such as gonadotropin releasing hormone analogues) in order to delay the onset or progression of normally-timed puberty in children who experience distress at identifying with their biological sex. This is being done despite the lack of any long-term longitudinal studies evaluating the

¹ *Jones v. Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline*, 318 P.3d 1078, 1085 n.3 (Nev. 2014).

² American Psychiatric Association, *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition* (Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Association, 2013) 454.

³ Thomas D. Steensma, et al., Desisting and Persisting Gender Dysphoria After Childhood: A Qualitative Follow-Up Study, 16 CLINICAL CHILD PSYCH. & PSYCHIATRY, 2010 at 499; *see also* Annelou L. C. de Vries et al., Clinical Management of Gender Dysphoria in Children and Adolescents: The Dutch Approach in Treating Transgender Children and Adolescents: An Interdisciplinary Discussion, 59 J. HOMOSEX.3, (2012) at 11-12; Jack Drescher et al., eds. (2014); Hembree, W., Cohen-Kettenis, et al., (2017) Endocrine treatment of gender-dysphoric/gender-incongruent persons: An Endocrine Society clinical practice guideline. J Clin Endocrinol Metab, 102:1–35; Ristori J, Steensma TD. Gender dysphoria in childhood. Int Rev Psychiatry. 2016;28(1):13-20.; DSM-5, p. 455.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Cecilia Dhejne, et. al, *Long-Term Follow-Up of Transsexual Persons Undergoing Sex Reassignment Surgery: Cohort Study in Sweden*, 4 SEX MED. 1, e60-e68, (2011) <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0016885>.

risks and benefits of using these drugs for the treatment of such distress or gender transition.⁶

- 7) Health care providers are also prescribing cross-sex hormones for children who experience distress at identifying with their biological sex, despite the fact that no randomized clinical trials have been conducted on the efficacy or safety of the use of cross-sex hormones in adults or children for the purpose of treating such distress or gender transition.⁷
- 8) The use of cross-sex hormones comes with serious known risks:
 - a) For biological females, some risks include erythrocytosis (increase in red blood cells), severe liver dysfunction, coronary artery disease (including heart attacks), cerebrovascular disease (including strokes), hypertension, increased risk of breast and uterine cancers, and irreversible infertility.⁸
 - b) For biological males, some risks include thromboembolic disease (including blood clots), cholelithiasis (gallstones), coronary artery disease (including heart attacks), macroprolactinoma (tumor of the pituitary gland), cerebrovascular disease (including strokes), hypertriglyceridemia (elevated levels of tryglycerides in the blood), breast cancer, and irreversible infertility.⁹
- 9) Genital and non-genital gender reassignment surgeries are generally not recommended for children, although evidence indicates referrals for children to have such surgeries are becoming more frequent.¹⁰
- 10) Genital gender reassignment surgery includes several irreversible invasive procedures for males and females and involves the alteration of biologically normal and functional body parts:
 - a) For biological males, surgery may involve genital reconstruction including penectomy (removal of the penis), orchiectomy (removal of the testicles), vaginoplasty (construction of a vaginal-like structure, typically through a penile

⁶ See World Professional Association for Transgender Health, *Standards of Care for the Health of Transsexual, Transgender, and Gender-Nonconforming People* (WPATH, 2012), p. 20 (explaining that bone development and height may be negatively affected by the use of GnRH analogues in children); Sarah Reardon, *Transgender Youth Study Kicks Off*, 531 NATURE 560, March 2016 (“But some scientists worry that putting off puberty in older children may disrupt bone and brain development, reducing bone density and leading to cognitive problems”); Richards C, Maxwell J, McCune N. Use of puberty blockers for gender dysphoria: a momentous step in the dark. *Archives of Disease in Childhood* 2019;104:611-612; Zucker, K. J. (2019), Debate: Different strokes for different folks. *Child Adolesc Ment Health*. doi:[10.1111/camh.12330](https://doi.org/10.1111/camh.12330).

⁷ Heneghan, Carl. “Gender-Affirming Hormone in Children and Adolescents.” *BMJ EBM Spotlight*, 21 May 2019, blogs.bmj.com/bmjebmspotlight/2019/02/25/gender-affirming-hormone-inchildren-and-adolescents-evidence-review/.

⁸ Wylie C Hembree, et al, Endocrine Treatment of Gender-Dysphoric/Gender-Incongruent Persons: An Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline, *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*, Volume 102, Issue 11, 1 November 2017, Pages 3869–3903, <https://doi.org/10.1210/jc.2017-01658>.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ Olson-Kennedy, et al., Health Considerations for Gender Non-Conforming Children and Transgender Adolescents, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR TRANSGENDER HEALTH, <http://transhealth.ucsf.edu/trans?page=guidelines-youth> (discussing the need for mental health care providers and support for transgender youth) (last visited Sept. 19, 2017) (“As youth are transitioning at increasingly younger ages, genital surgery is being performed on a case-by-case basis more frequently in minors....”).

inversion procedure), clitoroplasty (construction of a clitoral-like structure), and vulvoplasty (construction of a vulva-like structure).

- b) For biological females, surgery may involve a hysterectomy or oophorectomy, reconstruction of the urethra, genital reconstruction including metoidioplasty or phalloplasty (construction of a penis-like structure), vaginectomy (removal of the vagina), scrotoplasty (construction of a penis-like and scrotum-like structure), and implantation of erection and/or testicular prostheses.
- 11) The complications, risks, and long-term care concerns associated with genital gender reassignment surgery for both males and females are numerous and complex.¹¹
- 12) Non-genital gender reassignment surgery includes various invasive procedures for males and females and also involves the alteration or removal of biologically normal and functional body parts:
- a) For biological males, this surgery may involve augmentation mammoplasty, facial feminization surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, voice surgery, thyroid cartilage reduction, gluteal augmentation, hair reconstruction, and other aesthetic procedures.
 - b) For biological females, this surgery may involve a subcutaneous mastectomy, voice surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, pectoral implants, and other aesthetic procedures.¹²
- 13) It is an accepted principle of economics and public policy that when you subsidize or pay for a service or product, you increase demand for that service or product. Just between 2015 and 2016, gender reassignment surgeries increased by nearly 20 percent.¹³
- 14) It is of grave concern to this legislature that the medical community is allowing individuals who experience distress at identifying with their biological sex to be subjects of irreversible and drastic non-genital gender reassignment surgery and irreversible, permanently sterilizing genital gender reassignment surgery, despite the lack of studies showing that the benefits of such extreme interventions outweigh the risks.¹⁴
- 15) The risks of gender transition procedures far outweigh any benefit at this stage of clinical study on these procedures.

¹¹ Combaz N, Kuhn A. Long-Term Urogynecological Complications after Sex Reassignment Surgery in Transsexual Patients: a Retrospective Study of 44 Patients and Diagnostic Algorithm Proposal, *Am J Urol Res.* 2017;2(2): 038-043; Rossi Neto, R., Hintz, F., Krege, S., Rübber, H., & vom Dorp, F.. (2012). Gender reassignment surgery - a 13 year review of surgical outcomes. *International braz j urol*, 38(1), 97-107. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1590/S1677-55382012000100014>.

¹² *Id.* at 57-58, 62-64.

¹³ *Gender Confirmation Surgeries Rise 20% in First Ever Report*, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGEONS (May 22, 2017), <https://www.plasticsurgery.org/news/press-releases/gender-confirmation-surgeries-rise-20-percent-in-first-ever-report>.

¹⁴ Hayes, Inc., *Hormone Therapy for the Treatment of Gender Dysphoria*, Hayes Medical Technology Directory (2014); – June 19, 2019, Decision Memo for Gender Dysphoria and Gender Reassignment Surgery (CAG-00446N), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

- 1) “Sex,” “birth sex,” or “biological sex” all refer to the biological indication of male and female (understood in the context of reproductive potential or capacity), such as sex chromosomes, naturally occurring sex hormones, gonads, and nonambiguous internal and external genitalia present at birth, without regard to an individual’s psychological, chosen, or subjective experience of “gender.”
- 2) “Gender” means the psychological, behavioral, social, and cultural aspects of being male or female.
- 3) “Gender transition” means the process in which a person goes from identifying with and living as a gender that corresponds to his or her biological sex to identifying with and living as a gender different from his or her biological sex, and may involve social, legal, or physical changes.
- 4) “Gender transition procedures” means any medical or surgical service, including, but not limited to, physician’s services, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, or prescribed drugs related to gender transition, that seeks to alter or remove physical or anatomical characteristics or features that are typical for the individual’s biological sex, and/or to instill or create physiological or anatomical characteristics that resemble a sex different from the individual’s birth sex including, without limitation, medical services that provide: puberty-blocking drugs, cross-sex hormones, or other mechanisms, to promote the development of feminizing or masculinizing features (in the opposite sex), or genital or non-genital gender reassignment surgery performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition.
- 5) “Gender reassignment surgery” means any medical or surgical service that seeks to surgically alter or remove healthy physical or anatomical characteristics or features that are typical for the individual’s biological sex, in order to instill or create physiological or anatomical characteristics that resemble a sex different from the individual’s birth sex including, without limitation, genital or non-genital gender reassignment surgery performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition.
- 6) “Genital gender reassignment surgery” includes surgical procedures such as penectomy, orchiectomy, vaginoplasty, clitoroplasty, or vulvoplasty for biologically male patients or hysterectomy/ovariectomy, reconstruction of the fixed part of the urethra with or without a metoidioplasty or a phalloplasty, vaginectomy, scrotoplasty, or implantation of erection and/or testicular prostheses for biologically female patients when performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition.
- 7) “Non-genital gender reassignment surgery” includes surgical procedures such as augmentation mammoplasty, facial feminization surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, voice

surgery, thyroid cartilage reduction, gluteal augmentation (implants/lipofilling), hair reconstruction, or various aesthetic procedures for biologically male patients or subcutaneous mastectomy, voice surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, pectoral implants, or various aesthetic procedures for biologically female patients, when performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition.

- 8) “Puberty-blocking drugs” means Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) analogues or other synthetic drugs used in biological males to stop luteinizing hormone secretion and therefore testosterone secretion, or synthetic drugs used in biological females which stop the production of estrogens and progesterone, when used to delay or suppress pubertal development in children for the purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition.
- 9) “Cross-sex hormones” means testosterone or other androgens given to biological females at doses that are profoundly larger or more potent than would normally occur naturally in healthy biological females, or estrogen given to biological males at doses that are profoundly larger or more potent than would normally occur naturally in healthy biological males.
- 10) “Medical health care professional” includes but is not limited to nurses, physician assistants, psychiatrists, psychologists, pharmacists, and other professionals who provide medical or mental health care services.
- 11) “Physician” means a person who is licensed to practice medicine in this state.
- 12) “Public funds” include, but are not limited to: state, county, or local government monies, in addition to any department, agency, or instrumentality authorized or appropriated pursuant to state law or derived from any fund in which such moneys are deposited.

SECTION 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

- 1) “Gender transition procedures” *do not include* services to those born with a medically-verifiable disorder of sex development, including a person with external biological sex characteristics that are irresolvably ambiguous, such as those born with 46 XX chromosomes with virilization, 46 XY chromosomes with undervirilization, or having both ovarian and testicular tissue; or services provided when a physician has otherwise diagnosed a disorder of sexual development, in which the physician has determined through genetic or biochemical testing that the person does not have normal sex chromosome structure, sex steroid hormone production, or sex steroid hormone action for a biological male or biological female.
- 2) “Gender transition procedures” *do not include* the treatment of any infection, injury, disease, or disorder that has been caused by or exacerbated by the performance of gender transition procedures, whether or not the gender transition procedure was performed in accordance with state and federal law or whether not funding for the gender transition procedure is permissible under this section.

- 3) “Gender transition procedures” *do not include* any procedure undertaken because the individual suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness that would, as certified by a physician, place the individual in imminent danger of death or impairment of major bodily function unless surgery is performed.

SECTION 4. PROHIBITION OF GENDER TRANSITION PROCEDURES FOR MINORS.

- 1) A physician or other medical health care professional shall not provide gender transition procedures to any person under 18 years of age.
- 2) No physician, or other medical health care professional shall refer any person under 18 years of age to any medical health care professional for gender transition procedures.

SECTION 5. PROHIBITION OF PUBLIC FUNDING OF GENDER TRANSITION PROCEDURES.

- 1) Public funds shall not be directly or indirectly used, granted, paid, or distributed to any entity, organization, or individual that provides gender transition procedures to any individual.
- 2) Health care services furnished by or in a health care facility owned or operated by the state, or a county or local government entity, or by a physician or other individual employed by the state, or a county or local government entity, shall not include gender transition procedures.
- 3) Any amount paid by an individual or an entity during a taxable year for provision of gender transition procedures or as premiums for health care coverage that includes coverage for gender transition procedures is not tax-deductible under [relevant state code].
- 4) Medical assistance provided under [the state Medicaid plan] shall not include gender transition procedures.

SECTION 6. INSURANCE COVERAGE NOT REQUIRED.

A health insurance policy or other plan providing health care coverage is not required to provide coverage for gender transition procedures.

SECTION 7. INSURANCE COVERAGE OF GENDER TRANSITION PROCEDURES FOR MINORS PROHIBITED.

The benefit package for eligible children under any health insurance policy or other plan providing health care coverage in this state shall not include reimbursement for gender transition procedures for any person under 18 years of age.

SECTION 8. ENFORCEMENT.

- 1) Professional Discipline — Any referral for or provision of gender transition procedures to a person under the age of 18 shall be considered unprofessional conduct and shall be subject to discipline by the licensing entity or disciplinary review board with competent jurisdiction, pursuant to [relevant state code].
- 2) Cause of Action — A person may assert an actual or threatened violation of this Act as a claim or defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding and obtain compensatory damages, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, or any other appropriate relief.
- 3) Statute of Limitations — A person shall be required to bring a claim for a violation of this Act not later than two years after the day the cause of action accrues. Minors may bring an action throughout their minority through a parent or next friend, and may bring an action in their own name upon reaching majority at any time from that point until 20 years after.
- 4) Administrative Remedies Not Required — Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an action under this Act may be commenced, and relief may be granted, in a judicial proceeding without regard to whether the person commencing the action has sought or exhausted available administrative remedies.
- 5) Attorneys' Fees — In any action or proceeding to enforce a provision of this Act, a prevailing party who establishes a violation of this Act shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorneys' fees.
- 6) Authority of the State to Enforce This Act — The Attorney General may bring an action to enforce compliance with this Act. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to deny, impair, or otherwise affect any right or authority of the Attorney General, the State, or any agency, officer, or employee of the State, acting under any law other than this Act, to institute or intervene in any proceeding.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY.

Any provision of this Act held to be invalid or unenforceable by its terms, or as applied to any person or circumstance, shall be construed so as to give it the maximum effect permitted by law, unless such holding shall be one of utter invalidity or unenforceability, in which event such provision shall be deemed severable herefrom and shall not affect the remainder hereof or the application of such provision to other persons not similarly situated or to other, dissimilar circumstances.

Key Statement: Help Not Harm

FOR LAWMAKERS

Top Line Message: The “[STATE’S] Children Deserve Help Not Harm Act” helps kids struggling to embrace their biological sex by protecting them from harmful drugs and surgery.

Key Background Information: A small but growing number of children struggle to embrace their God-given sex, instead feeling that they were born in the wrong body and “are” the opposite sex. The majority of these children will come to reconcile with their biological sex. For those who are especially struggling or who suffer from related mental illnesses, talk therapy and other standard mental health interventions may be appropriate. However, in recent years, politicized medical organizations have pushed referring children for invasive, harmful forms of “treatment” that can include off-label use of puberty blockers, administration of cross-sex hormones above naturally occurring levels, and even – sometimes – surgery. The pressure is so great that in many states, medical professionals are legally barred from offering helpful talk therapy to children for this issue.

In 2021, Arkansas became the first state to legally protect children from these harmful interventions. The ACLU has [challenged](#) the law.

TALKING POINTS

- 1. Gender transition for minors violates the first duty of medicine: do no harm**
 - *Suggested line: “Giving kids puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and even transgender surgery violates the first duty of medicine: do no harm.”*
 - **Ethical concerns:**
 - Female genital mutilation – something that can be a part of some girls’ transition process – is unethical, and opposed by both the World Health Organization and the United Nations:
 - *The [World Health Organization](#) notes that this “involves the partial or total removal of external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons,” and states that the organization “is opposed to health care providers performing [female genital mutilation].”*

- *The [United Nations](#) also points to an “alarming trend in the medicalization of female genital mutilation.”*
 - *Yet transition can pose that very threat right here in America.*
 - Puberty blockers are being used off-label, and as used interfere with the normal progression of puberty in adolescent
 - *Puberty blockers are intended for young children with precocious puberty – say, a girl developing breasts as a small child – NOT to halt the healthy, age-appropriate progression of puberty in adolescents. (Credit: Abigail Shrier, Irreversible Damage, page 82)*
- **Long-term, [irreversible](#) harm of cross-sex hormones:**
 - **For those who go onto cross-sex hormones, side effects are related to changes in the body’s secondary sex characteristics. Once these effects begin, there is no reversing them.**
 - *Example:* For example, a girl taking testosterone will notice a deepening voice and increased hair growth after a few months. **These changes are permanent.**
 - The speed of change varies by person
 - Additional risks acknowledged by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health:
 - For biological females, some risks include:
 - Irreversible infertility;
 - Severe liver dysfunction;
 - Coronary artery disease, including heart attacks;
 - Cerebrovascular disease, including strokes;
 - Hypertension;
 - Erythrocytosis, which is an increase in red blood cells;
 - Sleep apnea;
 - Type 2 diabetes;
 - Destabilization of psychiatric disorders; and
 - For biological males, some risks include:
 - Irreversible infertility
 - Thromboembolic disease, including blood clots;
 - Cholelithiasis, including gallstones;

- Coronary artery disease, including heart attacks;
 - Type 2 diabetes;
 - Macroprolactinoma, which is a tumor of the pituitary gland;
 - Cerebrovascular disease, including strokes;
 - Hypertriglyceridemia, which is an elevated level of triglycerides in the blood;
 - **Long-term damage of puberty blockers:**
 - *Sterilization:* The combination of puberty blockers with cross-sex hormones will result in sterilization.
 - *Potential for decreased growth spurts:* There is preliminary evidence that delaying puberty may decrease the puberty-related growth spurt and thus limit the height the person would have otherwise achieved.
 - *Potentially increased risk for osteoporosis:* The time in our lives when the greatest concentration of calcium is put into our bones is during adolescence. Stopping puberty will stop that process and there is no evidence that the normal calcium deposition is regained once puberty is re-started.
2. **Minors cannot consent to these harmful interventions**
- *Suggested line: “If a minor is not old enough to get a tattoo or buy cough syrup over-the-counter, why would we permit dangerous hormones and drastic surgeries for them?”*
 - **Brain is not yet fully developed:** The prefrontal cortex – the part of the brain responsible for rational decision-making – may not be fully developed until about age 25. A 16-year-old teen who’s considering cross-sex hormones is still nearly a decade from that marker!
 - **Minors aren’t eligible to make other life-altering decisions, including ones far less significant than transitioning. They cannot:**
 - Get a tattoo
 - Buy cough syrup over-the-counter
 - Gamble
 - Drink alcohol
 - Purchase cigarettes
3. **Transition is not an effective form of treatment**
- *Suggested line: “Surgery and drugs won’t heal a hurting heart.”*

- **Underlying causes and comorbidities:** In many cases, people pursuing transition have underlying or co-occurring mental health disorders.
 - [In fact](#), “A [2014 study](#) found 62.7% of patients diagnosed with gender dysphoria had at least one co-occurring disorder, and 33% were found to have major depressive disorders, which are linked to suicide ideation.”
 - These may require help from a good counselor, familial support, and in some cases, appropriate psychotropic medication.
 - **Historical evidence: Transition offers false hope.**
 - In the 1970s, Johns Hopkins had an early “gender clinic” and studied the outcomes of those with sex change surgeries.
 - [According](#) to the chief psychiatrist at the time, even if patients didn’t regret their sex change operation, they “were little changed in their psychological condition. They had much the same problems with relationships, work, and emotions as before. The hope that they would emerge now from their emotional difficulties to flourish psychologically had not been fulfilled.”
 - **More studies confirm:** Since then, other studies have continued to back this up.
 - The Obama Administration (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) [summarized](#) in 2016 that “the four best designed and conducted studies that assessed quality of life before and after surgery using validated (albeit non-specific) psychometric studies did not demonstrate clinically significant changes or differences in psychometric test results after [gender reassignment surgery].”
 - [Suicide rates are very high after these surgeries:](#) In 2011, a study in Sweden explored 30-year outcomes for people with sex reassignment surgery. As Ryan Anderson [points](#) out, “ten to 15 years after surgical reassignment, the suicide rate of those who had undergone sex-reassignment surgery rose to 20 times that of comparable peers.” **So-called sex reassignment surgery does not solve the problem of suicidality. Meaningful therapy is needed to address that.**
4. “[State]’s Children Deserve Help Not Harm Act” ensures that minors can get real help when they need it.
- *Suggested line: “My bill ensures [State’s] children receive help not harm, treatment not transition, and protection not politics.”*

- **Most children outgrow dysphoria:** [80 to 95 percent](#) of children will outgrow gender dysphoria if untreated – so in many cases, for the dysphoria itself, good parenting and “watchful waiting” is all that’s required
 - Given that most children grow out of their gender dysphoria, then drastic and harmful interventions with lifelong consequences are even more concerning.
- **Bill allows for REAL help:** “[State]’s Children Deserve Help Not Harm Act” ensures that children can access real help, such as counseling
 - If a child is struggling (whether from gender dysphoria or other mental illness), real help and treatment could include:
 - Individual play therapy for the child
 - Counseling and guidance for parents
 - Appropriate psychotropic medications (for other psychiatric struggles)

(Adapted from Ryan Anderson, When Harry Became Sally, page 140)

QUICK ANSWERS TO TOUGH QUESTIONS

MEDICAL QUESTIONS

1. **“Transition is the medically recommended treatment for gender dysphoria. Why do you disagree?”**
Response: Transition violates the first duty of medicine: do no harm.
 - It’s a **politicized** recommendation that often **ignores underlying issues** or related emotional or mental health struggles, instead using drugs and surgeries as futile attempts to heal wounds of the heart.
 - **There has not been adequate research on the use of puberty blockers and cross sex hormones.** And, what we do know reveals that there may be **long-term, even potentially irreversible consequences** to which children are not *ready or able* to meaningfully provide consent.
2. **“Puberty blockers are just like ‘pressing the pause button’ on puberty. Why not buy kids time to decide what they want?”**
Response: This isn’t about buying time for kids, it’s about putting them on a one-way road to transition.
 - **Puberty blockers are being used off-label:** designed for precocious puberty in young children, NOT for stopping the healthy progression of puberty in adolescents

- **One-way street:** In at least one study, [nearly 100%](#) of children who started puberty blockers with the possibility of cross-sex hormones *actually went on cross-sex hormones*.
- **Long-term damage of puberty blockers:** potential for decreased growth spurts and increased risk for osteoporosis, and sterilization (when combined with cross-sex hormones)
- **Long-term, irreversible damage of cross-sex hormones:** For those who go onto cross-sex hormones, side effects are related to changes in the body's secondary sex characteristics (such as voice change and hair growth). **Once these effects begin, there is no reversing them.**

(Credits: Abigail Shrier, Irreversible Damage, page 82, and communication with the Christian Medical and Dental Associations)

3. “Minors can’t even get transgender surgeries. Why are you banning something that’s non-existent?”

Response: A simple Google search reveals that some U.S. clinics ARE willing to put kids under the knife in certain circumstances. Even if this is not happening in our state right now, we should stop the problem before it begins. No minor should be subjected to this kind of intervention, especially when they are not yet ready to make such a long-term, life-altering decision.

- **Examples of clinics willing to do “top surgery” under age 18:**
 - **Seattle Children’s Hospital** has a top surgery [information](#) sheet that includes a mention of guardian consent for surgery under age 18
 - **The Gender Confirmation Center** in San Francisco [assures](#) minors that “Dr. Mosser has performed FTM/N top surgery on many patients under 18 who were able to secure their surgery using insurance.”
 - **The University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics** website also [suggests](#) patients under 18 may be considered with permission from their legal guardians and mental health professional.

Note: While rare, we recommend researching whether any clinics in your state allow surgeries for minors. Be sure to reference that if you do have such an example.

4. “If transgender kids don’t transition, they’ll commit suicide. Do you really want to give these kids a death sentence?”

Response: I want to provide real help, instead of harmful interventions that don’t solve the underlying problem.

- **Studies:** Multiple [studies](#) have found little change in mental health outcomes for those who went through sex reassignment surgery – the ultimate change. And one study found that those who had undergone that surgery had long-term suicide rates as great as nearly 20 [times](#) that of the general population.
- **What transition doesn't do:** This tragedy is no surprise: transition doesn't address the underlying and coexisting mental health challenges faced by so many people with gender dysphoria.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BILL

5. “Won't this law hurt intersex kids?”

Response: No. This law ensures that intersex kids can receive the medical treatment they need.

- **Intersex vs. Transgender:** Intersex disorders – which are exceedingly rare – differ from a person identifying as transgender in that intersex disorders are medically verifiable by tests, whereas identifying as transgender is something that's simply self-asserted. (*Credit: communication with the Christian Medical and Dental Associations*)
- **The bill's provision:** This bill protects kids from the harmful use of physical interventions for treatment of gender dysphoria. However, it allows doctors to appropriately treat someone with an intersex disorder which affects an individual's secondary sex characteristics.

6. “Why can't we at least grandfather in kids who are already on hormones and puberty blockers?”

Response: Under this bill, children are protected from puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones. That includes minors who have already used them. That is a good thing: no minor should be subjected to this as a form of “treatment.”

- **Sufficient “weaning” time:** However, the bill does allow doctors to help patients slowly wean off cross-sex hormones to lessen mood swings that could accompany that change.

7. “Policymakers and legislators should not be involved in this decision-making.”

Response: This is a health and safety issue.

- Most everyone would agree that [State] has a compelling interest in protecting its citizens from harm, particularly children. This is why child welfare laws, child labor laws, and worker health and safety codes exist.

- This is a child safety issue, and it's our duty to protect this at-risk population of children from harmful interventions.

GENDER IDENTITY QUESTIONS

8. “A very young child may already know that they identify as the opposite sex. Shouldn't we acknowledge that and help the child feel comfortable?”

Response: Children cannot even consent to a tattoo or buy cough syrup over-the-counter. Why on earth would we enable young children to make such life-altering decisions as altering their natural growth and development or sterilizing themselves?

- **Just developing sex differentiation:** Very young children are still just beginning to grasp the difference between male and female. We should not impose adult thinking patterns about “identity” on them.
- **Most children outgrow their gender dysphoria:** At least [80 to 95 percent](#) will outgrow gender dysphoria.
- **Not able to meaningfully consent:** Not only are children not ready to make major life decisions, but they're not ready or able to provide meaningful informed consent, either.
 - *Example:* When a youth pursues the course of transition, there is the possibility that he or she will end up unable to feel pleasure during sex. That's something that a minor may not be aware of, or even if they are aware of, may not be able to grasp the significance of until it is too late.
 - *For more on this, see Irreversible Damage, chapter 9, and When Harry Became Sally, chapter 5.*

9. “Brain scans show that some people really *are* transgender. You can't argue with science. Why try to force people to be something they're not?”

Response: Someone may have something in common with a “typical” member of the opposite sex – that does not mean that they are the opposite sex. Every brain is unique, and there is no credible study showing that a CAT scan, MRI, or PET scan of the brain can verify that someone is transgender.

For further reading or a citation on this, we recommend Ryan Anderson's book When Harry Became Sally, pages 106-108.

“HOSTILE” QUESTIONS

10. “Why are you denying the existence of transgender kids?”

Response: We believe that ALL people are made in God’s image and have incredible dignity. This is why we believe that children struggling with gender dysphoria deserve REAL help – not the harm of transition.

11. “So you just want kids to go through conversion therapy? That’s like torture!”

Response: No, that is a misnomer and does not exist among legitimate professionals.

- We believe that kids and their parents should have the option of basic talk therapy – counseling – and other ordinary, effective means of legitimate help.
- Yet sadly, a number of states have banned even that.
- In other contexts, our world is “body-positive,” helping people embrace their God-given bodies instead of trying to alter them. So when the only form of counseling available is one that leads children to ALTER their bodies, this is a clear sign that political agendas are being given priority over protection and help for children.

12. “Have you even talked to someone who’s transgender or who works with transgender people? Do you even care or understand their situation?”

Response: The heartache that many people who identify as transgender have gone through is actually a motivation for me to protect them from further harm.

- They DO need loving help, and that’s something that harmful drugs and surgery simply won’t offer.
- The harm is only magnified when the individual is a young child.

Sample Social Media: #HelpNotHarm

- **Treatment Not Transition theme:** When children are struggling to embrace their biological sex, our first instinct should be compassionate care and helping them embrace their God-given body. Instead, kids are given dangerous hormones and surgery. Let’s change that. #HelpNotHarm familypolicyalliance.com/help-not-harm
- **Do No Harm theme:** Kids struggling to embrace their God-given bodies need real care. Yet activists have so politicized medicine that instead of treatment, kids receive harmful hormones & surgeries. Reminder: the first duty of medicine is “do no harm.” #HelpNotHarm familypolicyalliance.com/help-not-harm

- **Stop the Experiment theme:** Kids are not experiments. When a child is struggling to embrace their biological sex, they need compassionate care – not harmful hormones and surgery. Stand with me in the fight for #HelpNotHarm. Our kids deserve better. familypolicyalliance.com/help-not-harm
- **Dangerous Side Effects theme:** Just a few of the possible side effects of transitioning: sterilization, permanent voice changes, cardiovascular problems. Let's offer our kids compassionate #HelpNotHarm. Learn more: familypolicyalliance.com/help-not-harm
- **Protection Not Politics theme:** The #HelpNotHarm Act ensures that [State's] children receive help not harm, treatment not transition, and protection not politics. Stand with us: familypolicyalliance.com/help-not-harm

**More facts, resources, and sample social media at
familypolicyalliance.com/help-not-harm**

Additional resources:

- [Sex Reassignment Doesn't Work: Here's the Evidence](#)
- [Transgender Interventions Harm Children](#)
- [Christian Medical and Dental Associations Ethics Statement](#)
- [American College of Pediatricians Position Statement](#)
- [PragerU: Why Girls Become Boys](#)
- [When Harry Became Sally](#)
- [Irreversible Damage](#)

Have questions? Need witness suggestions? Want to know if there are experts or other national groups who can lend support? Need help adapting model bill language for your state or other resources? Contact the Family Policy Alliance team.

Endorsed by



INTRODUCTION

Gender transition services are permanent, life-changing choices. A person under the age of 18 does not have the sufficient maturity or capacity to choose the harmful, permanently sterilizing and irreversible consequences of changing their biological bodies through gender transition services. Furthermore, puberty-blocking hormones are being used on children off-label in an entirely experimental way.

States already take action to protect children from making potentially harmful decisions that they do not have the maturity or capacity to make in other areas of law and of life. For example, no child is legally permitted to consume alcohol in any state. They cannot get tattoos, smoke cigarettes, or, in some states, even buy cough syrup over the counter.

How much more then do the states have a compelling interest in protecting children from life-altering decisions about “transitioning their gender” before they even reach the age of 18?

Our children are not experiments. When they are struggling, they need compassionate care—not experimental hormones and surgery.

MODEL LANGUAGE

Key

Text [in brackets] needs to be modified for each state.

Text in blue is a drafter’s note and not actual bill language.

[State Code insert relevant portion of your state’s code governing health services and facilities is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:]

SECTION 1. Title

This act shall be known as the “[State]’s Children Deserve Help Not Harm Act.”

SECTION 2. Legislative Findings & Purpose

The Legislature finds that:

1. [State] has a compelling government interest protecting the health and safety of its citizens, especially vulnerable children;¹
2. Only a small percentage of the American population experiences distress identifying with their biological sex;²
3. For the small percentage of children who are gender nonconforming or experience distress identifying with their biological sex, studies consistently demonstrate that the majority come to embrace their biological sex in adolescence or adulthood, thereby rendering most medical physiological interventions unnecessary;³
4. Scientific studies show that individuals experiencing distress identifying with their biological sex have often experienced severe psychopathology preceding their gender dysphoria, which indicates these individuals could benefit greatly from access to mental healthcare services;⁴
5. Even among individuals who have undergone inpatient gender reassignment procedures, suicide rates, psychiatric morbidities, and mortality rates remain markedly elevated above the background population;⁵

¹ *Jones v. Nev. Comm'n on Jud. Discipline*, 318 P.3d 1078, 1085 n.3 (Nev. 2014).

² See, e.g., Gary J. Gates, Williams Distinguished Scholar, *How Many People are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender?* 1 THE WILLIAMS INSTITUTE (April 2011)

³ Thomas D. Steensma, et al., “Desisting and Persisting Gender Dysphoria After Childhood: A Qualitative Follow-Up Study,” 16 CLINICAL CHILD PSYCH. AND PSYCHIATRY (2010) 499-516; Annelou L. C. de Vries and Peggy T. Cohen-Kettenis, “Clinical Management of Gender Dysphoria in Children and Adolescents: The Dutch Approach” in *Treating Transgender Children and Adolescents: An Interdisciplinary Discussion 11-12*, Jack Drescher and William Byne, ed’s., (2014).; See World Prof’l Ass’n for Trans. Health, *Standards of Care for the Health of Transsexual, Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming People*, v. 7 at 11, available at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/amo_hub_content/Association140/files/Standards%20of%20Care%20V7%20-%202011%20WPATH%20\(2\)\(1\).pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/amo_hub_content/Association140/files/Standards%20of%20Care%20V7%20-%202011%20WPATH%20(2)(1).pdf).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Ryan T. Anderson, Ph.D., “Transitioning” Procedures Don’t Help Mental Health, Largest Dataset Shows, THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION (August 2020) (commenting on the letter of correction issued by the American Journal of Psychiatry to their paper titled “Reduction in Mental Health Treatment Utilization Among Transgender Individuals After Gender-Affirming Surgeries: A Total Population Study”); ⁵ Dhejne C. et al., *Long-term Follow-up of Transsexual Persons Undergoing Sex Reassignment Surgery: Cohort Study in*

6. Some healthcare providers are prescribing puberty-blocking drugs, such as gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogues, in order to delay the natural onset or progression of puberty in children who experience distress identifying with their biological sex.
 - a. Puberty-blocking drugs are being prescribed, despite the lack of any long-term longitudinal studies evaluating the risks and benefits of using these drugs for the treatment of such distress or gender transition gender dysphoria;⁶
 - b. Puberty-blocking drugs are being described in an off-label and experimental manner on children.
7. Some healthcare providers are also prescribing cross-sex hormones for children who are experiencing distress identifying with their biological sex, despite the fact no randomized clinical trials have been conducted on the efficacy or safety of the use of cross-sex hormones in adults or children for the purpose of gender transition;⁷
8. The use of cross-sex hormones comes with serious known risks:
 - a. For biological females, some risks may include:⁸
 - i. Irreversible infertility;
 - ii. Severe liver dysfunction;
 - iii. Coronary artery disease, including heart attacks;
 - iv. Increased risk of breast, cervical, and uterine cancers;
 - v. Cerebrovascular disease, including strokes;
 - vi. Hypertension;
 - vii. Erythrocytosis, which is an increase in red blood cells;
 - viii. Sleep apnea;
 - ix. Type 2 diabetes;

Sweden, 6 PLOS ONE. 2 (2011); Cecilia Dhejne, et. al, *Long-Term Follow-Up of Transsexual Persons Undergoing Sex Reassignment Surgery: Cohort Study in Sweden*, 4 SEX MED. 1, e60-e68, (2011) <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0016885>.

⁶ World Prof'l Ass'n for Trans. Health, *Standards of Care for the Health of Transsexual, Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming People*, v. 7 at 20, available at [https://s3.amazonaws.com/amo_hub_content/Association140/files/Standards%20of%20Care%20V7%20-%202011%20WPATH%20\(2\)\(1\).pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/amo_hub_content/Association140/files/Standards%20of%20Care%20V7%20-%202011%20WPATH%20(2)(1).pdf)); Sarah Reardon, *Transgender Youth Study Kicks Off*, 531 NATURE 560, March 2016 (“But some scientists worry that putting off puberty in older children may disrupt bone and brain development, reducing bone density and leading to cognitive problems”).

⁷ *Supra* note 6, World Prof'l Ass'n for Transgender Health at 47 (“To date, no controlled clinical trials of any feminizing/masculinizing hormone regimen have been conducted to evaluate safety or efficacy in producing physical transition. As a result, wide variation in doses and types of hormones have been published in the medical literature. . .”).

⁸ World Prof'l Ass'n for Transgender Health at 37-40, 50, 97-104 (includes a more comprehensive list of side effects and risks than what is included here).

- x. Loss of bone density;
- xi. Destabilization of psychiatric disorders; and
- b. For biological males, some risks may include:⁹
 - i. Irreversible infertility
 - ii. Thromboembolic disease, including blood clots;
 - iii. Cholelithiasis, including gallstones;
 - iv. Coronary artery disease, including heart attacks;
 - v. Type 2 diabetes;
 - vi. Breast cancer;
 - vii. Macroprolactinoma, which is a tumor of the pituitary gland;
 - viii. Cerebrovascular disease, including strokes;
 - ix. Hypertriglyceridemia, which is an elevated level of triglycerides in the blood;
- 9. Genital and nongenital gender reassignment surgeries are generally not recommended for children, although evidence indicates referrals for children to have such surgeries are becoming more frequent;¹⁰
- 10. Genital gender reassignment surgery includes several irreversible invasive procedures for males and females and involves the alteration of biologically healthy and functional body parts; These procedures are generally irreversible;
 - i. For biological males, surgery may involve:
 - i. Genital reconstruction, including a penectomy, which is the removal of the penis;
 - ii. Orchiectomy, which is the removal of the testicles;
 - iii. Vaginoplasty, which is the construction of a vagina-like structure, typically through a penile inversion procedure;
 - iv. Clitoroplasty, which is the construction of a clitoris-like structure;
 - v. Vulvoplasty, which is the construction of a vulva-like structure; and

⁹ Id.

¹⁰Olson-Kennedy, et al., *Health Considerations for Gender Non-Conforming Children and Transgender Adolescents*, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR TRANSGENDER HEALTH, <http://transhealth.ucsf.edu/trans?page=guidelines-youth>. (discussing the need for mental health care providers and support for transgender youth) (last visited Sept. 19, 2017)(“As youth are transitioning at increasingly younger ages, genital surgery is being performed on a case-by-case basis more frequently in minors....”).

- ii. For biological females, surgery may involve:
 - i. Hysterectomy or oophorectomy;
 - ii. Reconstruction of the urethra;
 - iii. Genital reconstruction including metoidioplasty or phalloplasty, which is the construction of a penis-like structure;
 - iv. Vaginectomy, which is the removal of the vagina;
 - v. Scrotoplasty, which is the construction of a penis-like and scrotum-like structure;
 - vi. Implantation of erection and/or testicular prostheses;
- f. The complications, risks, and long-term care concerns associated with genital sex reassignment surgery for both males and females are numerous and complex;
- g. Non-genital sex reassignment surgery includes various invasive procedures for males and females and also involves the alteration or removal of biologically healthy and functional body parts:
 - i. For biological males, this surgery may involve:
 - a. Augmentation mammoplasty;
 - b. Facial feminization surgery;
 - c. Liposuction;
 - d. Lipofilling;
 - e. Voice feminization surgery;
 - f. Thyroid cartilage reduction;
 - g. Gluteal augmentation;
 - h. Hair reconstruction;
 - i. Other aesthetic procedures;
 - ii. For biological females, this surgery may involve:
 - a. Subcutaneous mastectomy;
 - b. Voice masculinization surgery;
 - c. Liposuction;
 - d. Lipofilling;
 - e. Pectoral implants;
 - f. Other aesthetic procedures;¹¹
- h. It is an accepted principle of economics and public policy that when a service or product is subsidized or reimbursed, demand for that

¹¹ Cecilia Dhejne, et. al, *Long-Term Follow-Up of Transsexual Persons Undergoing Sex Reassignment Surgery: Cohort Study in Sweden*, 4 *SEX MED.* 57-58, 62-64.

service or product increases. Between 2015-2016, gender reassignment surgeries increased by nearly twenty percent in the United States;

- i. It is of grave concern to this Legislature that the medical community is allowing individuals who experience distress identifying with their biological sex to be subjects of irreversible and drastic non-genital gender reassignment surgery and irreversible, permanently sterilizing genital gender reassignment surgeries, despite the lack of studies showing such extreme intervention outweighs the risks of cure and may actually increase the risk of suicide.

SECTION 3. Definitions

1. **“Biological sex”** means the biological indication of male and female in the context of reproductive potential or capacity, such as sex chromosomes, naturally occurring sex hormones, gonads, and nonambiguous internal and external genitalia present at birth, without regard to an individual’s psychological, chosen, or subjective experience of gender;
2. **“Cross-sex hormones”** means:
 - a. Testosterone or other androgens given to biological females in amounts that are larger or more potent than would normally occur naturally in healthy biological females; and
 - b. Estrogen given to biological males in amounts that are larger or more potent than would normally occur naturally in healthy biological males;
3. **“Gender”** means the psychological, behavioral, social, and cultural aspects of being male or female;
4. **“Gender reassignment surgery”** means any medical or surgical service that seeks to surgically alter or remove healthy physical or anatomical characteristics or features that are typical for the individual’s biological sex in order to instill or create physiological or anatomical characteristics that resemble a sex different from the individual’s biological sex, including without limitation, genital or nongenital gender reassignment surgery performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition;

5. **“Gender transition”** means the process in which a person goes from identifying with and living as a gender that corresponds to his or her biological sex to identifying with and living as a gender different from his or her biological sex, and may involve social, legal, or physical changes;
6. **“Gender transition procedures”** means any medical or surgical service provided or performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a physical gender transition:
 - a. Gender transition procedures include without limitation physician’s services, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, puberty-blocking drugs, cross-sex hormones, or genital or nongenital gender reassignment surgery;
 - b. Gender transition procedures do not include:
 - i. Services to persons born with a medically verifiable disorder of sex development, including a person with external biological sex characteristics that are irresolvably ambiguous, such as those born with 46 XX chromosomes with virilization, 46 XY chromosomes with undervirilization, or having both ovarian and testicular tissue;
 - ii. Services provided when a physician has otherwise diagnosed a disorder of sexual development that the physician has determined through genetic or biochemical testing that the person does not have normal sex chromosome structure, sex steroid production, or sex steroid hormone action;
 - iii. The acute and chronic treatment of any infection, injury, disease, or disorder that has been caused by or exacerbated by the performance of gender transition procedures, whether or not the gender transition procedure was performed in accordance with state and federal law or whether or not funding for the gender transition procedure is permissible under this subchapter; or
 - iv. Any procedure undertaken because the individual suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness that would, as certified by a physician, place the individual in imminent danger of death or impairment of major bodily function unless surgery is performed;

- c. **“Genital gender reassignment surgery”** means a medical procedure performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a physical gender transition, including without limitation:
 - i. Surgical procedures such as a penectomy, orchiectomy, vaginoplasty, clitoroplasty, or vulvoplasty for biologically male patients;
 - ii. Surgical procedures such as hysterectomy, oophorectomy, reconstruction of the urethra, metoidioplasty or phalloplasty, vaginectomy, scrotoplasty, or implantation of erection and/or testicular prostheses for biologically female patients;

- 7. **“Healthcare professional”** means a person who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized by the laws of this state to administer healthcare in the ordinary course of the practice of his or her profession; (may also define this by referring to your state’s code section where this is defined)

- 8. **“Nongenital gender reassignment surgery”** means medical procedures performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a physical gender transition, including without limitation:
 - a. Surgical procedures for biologically male patients, such as augmentation mammoplasty, facial feminization surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, voice feminization surgery, thyroid cartilage reduction, gluteal augmentation, hair reconstruction, or various aesthetic procedures; or
 - b. Surgical procedures for biologically female patients, such as subcutaneous mastectomy, voice masculinization surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, pectoral implants, or various aesthetic procedures;

- 9. **“Physician”** means a person who is licensed to practice medicine in this state; (may also define this by referring to your state’s code section where this is defined)

- 10. **“Puberty-blocking drugs”** means gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogues or other synthetic drugs used in biological males to stop luteinizing hormone secretion and therefore testosterone secretion, or synthetic drugs used in biological females which stop the production of estrogen and progesterone, when used to delay or suppress pubertal development in children for the purpose of assisting an individual with a

gender transition;

11. **“Public funds”** means state, county, or local government monies, in addition to any department, agency, or instrumentality authorized or appropriated under state law or derived from any fund in which monies are deposited.

SECTION 4. Gender Transition Procedures on Minors Banned
(insert in relevant state code sub-section)

1. A physician or other healthcare professional shall not provide gender transition procedures to any individual under eighteen (18) years of age.
2. A physician or other healthcare professional shall not refer any individual under eighteen (18) years of age to any healthcare professional for gender transition procedures.

SECTION 5. Prohibition on Use of Public Funds for Gender Transition Procedures on Minors

1. Public funds shall not be directly or indirectly used, granted, paid, or distributed to any entity, organization, or individual that provides gender transition procedures to an individual under eighteen (18) years of age.
2. Healthcare services furnished in the following situations shall not include gender transition procedures to an individual under eighteen (18) years of age:
 - a. By or in a facility owned by the state or a county or local government; or
 - b. By a physician or other healthcare professional employed by the state or a county or local government.
3. Any amount paid by an individual or an entity during a taxable year for provision of gender transition procedures or as premiums for healthcare coverage that includes coverage for gender transition procedures is not tax-deductible.
4. The [State] Medicaid program shall not reimburse or provide coverage for gender transition procedures to an individual under eighteen (18) years of age.

SECTION 6. Gender Transition Procedures on Minors Constitute Unprofessional and Reckless Conduct

1. Any referral for or provision of gender transition procedures to an individual under eighteen (18) years of age is unprofessional conduct [and is subject to discipline by the appropriate licensing entity or disciplinary review board with competent jurisdiction in this state.]

(May cite to corresponding state code that governs licensing of healthcare professionals and disciplinary action to be taken in the event of unprofessional conduct in this section to replace the language in brackets [].)

2. Any referral for or provision of gender transition procedures to an individual under eighteen (18) years of age shall be deemed reckless conduct for purposes of tort claims in [State].

SECTION 7. Enforcement and Actions for Recovery of Damages Suffered as a Result of Gender Transition Procedures on Minors

1. Statute of limitations:
 - a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an individual under the age of eighteen (18) years of age may bring an action throughout their minority through a parent or next friend, and may bring an action in their own name upon reaching majority at any time from that point until thirty (30) years after reaching the age of majority;
Drafter's note: This statute of limitations is very long, perhaps one of the longest in existence. This is intentional. A biological woman may not discover infertility (due to gender transition procedures) until into her forties. A biological man may not discover this side effect until much later in life. The long statute of limitations provides more time for aggrieved adults to discover an unknown injury inflicted upon them as a minor.
 - b. Exceptions:
 - i. If at the time the person abused attains the age of eighteen (18) years he or she is under other legal disability, the limitation period under subsection (a) does not begin to run until the removal of the disability;

- ii. The limitation period in subsection (a) does not run during a time period when the individual is subject to threats, intimidation, manipulation, fraudulent concealment, or fraud perpetrated by the physician or other healthcare professional who prescribed or otherwise provided gender transition procedures or by any person acting in the interest of the physician or other healthcare professional;
 2. A person may assert an actual or threatened violation of this subchapter as a claim or defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding;
 - a. The following damages may be awarded to the claimant:
 - i. Compensatory damages, including but not limited to:
 1. Pain and suffering;
 2. Loss of reputation;
 3. Loss of income; and
 4. Loss of consortium, including but not limited to the loss of expectation of sharing parenthood;
 - ii. Injunctive relief;
 - iii. Declaratory relief;
 - iv. Punitive damages; and
 - v. Any other appropriate relief;
 - b. A prevailing party who establishes a violation of this subchapter shall recover reasonable attorneys' fees;
 - c. (This provision is only applicable in states where tort reform efforts have resulted in damage caps or other maximum limits on tort recovery.) Section [insert state code section governing tort damage caps] does not apply to actions for damages under this subchapter;
3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an action under this subchapter may be commenced, and relief may be granted, in a judicial proceeding without regard to whether the person commencing the action has sought or exhausted available administrative remedies;
4. The Attorney General may bring an action to enforce compliance with this subchapter;

5. This subchapter does not deny, impair, or otherwise affect any right or authority of the Attorney General, the state of [State], or any agency, officer, or employee of the state, acting under any law other than this subchapter, to institute or intervene in any proceeding.
6. (UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR VERSION 3.0 – exploring creating third-party liability for any person/entity funding gender transition procedures on minors, creating a possible nexus of liability for insurance providers.)

SECTION 8. Insurance Coverage for Gender Transition Procedures for Minors Prohibited

(Insert in relevant state code governing insurance.)

7. As used in this section, “gender transition procedures” shall have the same meaning as [insert appropriate state code section as used in Sections 1-6 of this model].
8. A health benefit plan under an insurance policy or other plan providing healthcare coverage in this state shall not include reimbursement for gender transitions procedures for a person under eighteen (18) years of age.
9. A health benefit plan under an insurance policy or other plan providing healthcare coverage in this state is not required to provide coverage for gender transition procedures.

SECTION 9. Right of Intervention

The Legislature, by joint resolution, may appoint one or more of its members, who sponsored or cosponsored this Act in his or her official capacity, to intervene or defend the Act as a matter of right in any case in which the constitutionality or enforceability of this Act, any portion thereof, or any [rule or regulation] adopted pursuant hereto is challenged.

SECTION 10. Severability

Any provision of this Act held to be invalid or unenforceable by its terms, or as applied to

any person or circumstance, shall be construed so as to give it the maximum effect permitted by law, unless such holding shall be one of utter invalidity or unenforceability, in which event such provision shall be deemed severable herefrom and shall not affect the remainder hereof or the application of such provision to other persons not similarly situated to or to other, dissimilar circumstances.

FUTURE SECTION 11. Applicability

(UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR VERSION 3.0 – exploring an attempt to create a right to recover damages for minors who have undergone gender transition procedures *before* this Act goes into effect under similar legal theories as those that ultimately allowed plaintiffs to recover in the cases against Big Tobacco.)

SECTION 11. Effective Date

This Act shall take effect six (6) months after becoming law so that minors in this state currently using puberty-blocking drugs or cross-sex hormones have time for appropriate medication tapering and discontinuation under the care of their physician or other healthcare professional.

Drafter's note: Pediatric endocrinologists note that six months should be enough time for tapering off and discontinuing the use of cross-sex hormones in order to avoid possible emotional swings. There is no need for a tapering period when discontinuing puberty-blockers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This model legislation would not be possible without the heart for protecting the vulnerable—especially children—vision, and legal expertise of attorney and former Family Policy Alliance team member Stephanie Curry. Her expertise and passion for policy that puts children and families first birthed this original legislation during the 2017/2018 legislative cycle.

Family Policy Alliance is also deeply grateful for the quick and expert reviews of this legislation, and original contributions to it, by the medical experts at the Christian Medical & Dental Associations (CMDA). In both their character and

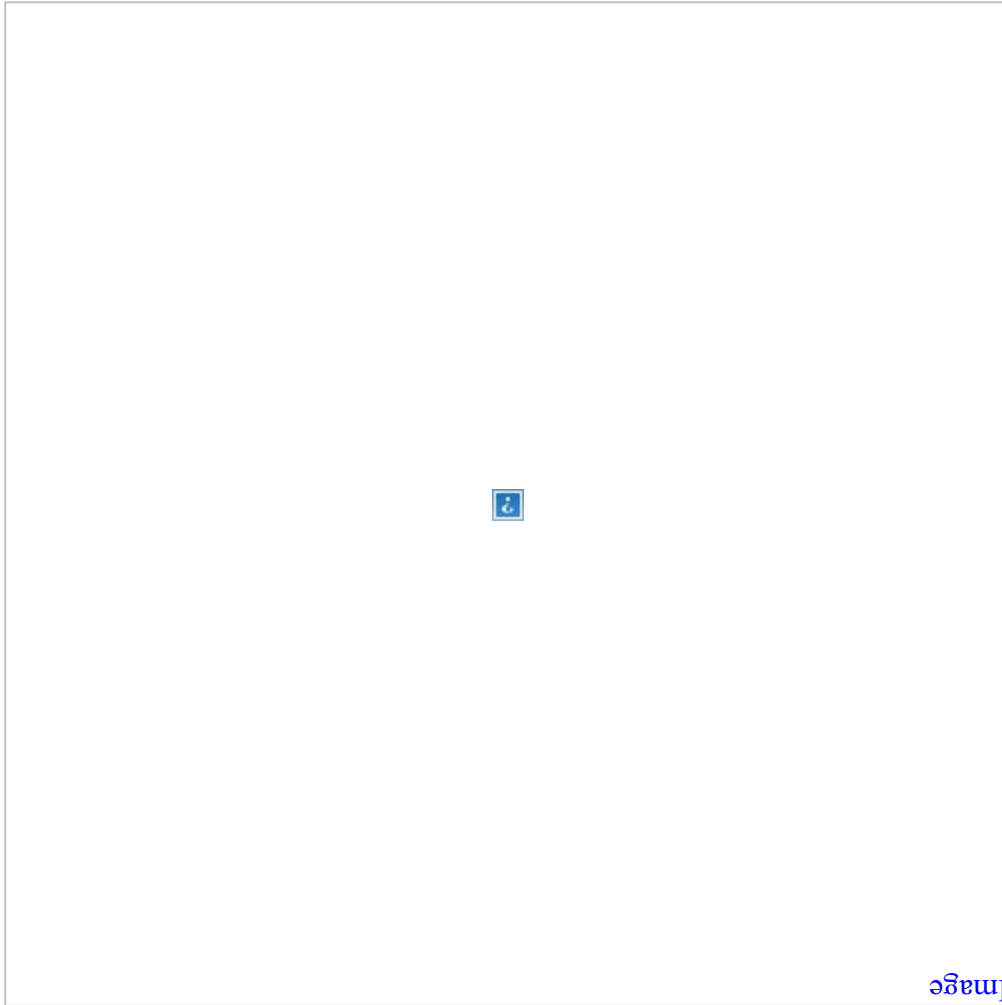
their practice, they demonstrate boldness and leadership in a field whose professional organizations are otherwise lacking in both. While many of their professional colleagues have chosen politics over patients, our friends at CMDA light a different path forward.

Jared Harpt, an outstanding law student at the University of Kansas School of Law, contributed in-depth research, bill language, and keen ideas to increase minor victims' rights to recover damages for, in many cases, the lifelong damage done to them by trusted professionals. Thank you, Jared!

(Tallahassee, FL) This morning, Senator Kelli Stargel and Representative Erin Grall filed bills [HB 5](#) and [SB 146](#) on "Reducing Fetal and Infant Mortality." The bills create enhanced measures to defend the lives of unborn children. If these bills pass, the new law would be the strongest protection for unborn children in Florida's history to date. In light of the *Dobbs* decision currently before the U.S. Supreme Court,

PRO-LIFE BILLS INTRODUCED WOULD GRANT THE MOST ROBUST PROTECTION FOR UNBORN IN FLORIDA'S HISTORY

BREAKING NEWS:
Tuesday, January 4, 2022



EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council
To: [Grall, Erin](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: PRO-LIFE BILLS INTRODUCED WOULD GRANT THE MOST ROBUST PROTECTION FOR UNBORN IN FLORIDA'S HISTORY
Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 3:17:53 PM

all eyes are on the legislative session in Tallahassee this year. If the *Dobbs* case upholds Mississippi's 15-week ban, it sets the stage for implementing a similar law here in Florida.

John Stemberger, President of the Florida Family Policy Council, released the following statement on the newly introduced pro-life legislation:

This bill is a unique and comprehensive approach to protecting unborn children. If the bill passes it would provide the most robust protection for unborn babies in Florida's post-*Roe* history. The bill protects unborn children after 15 weeks of pregnancy which is almost identical to the Mississippi law in the *Dobbs* case which is now before the U.S. Supreme Court to be decided in June of 2022 where many expect *Roe vs. Wade* could be overturned. The bill also addresses and fixes the late-term abortion problem we have in Florida, since many pregnant mothers travel to Florida for the express purpose of receiving a later term abortion which is not allowed in other states. The bill increases reporting requirements, including the reporting of chemical abortions which are becoming more and more prevalent. The Senate and House bills are well-thought out and almost mirror each other which increases the bill's likelihood of passage. This bill is a major step in the right direction.

Today, Tuesday January 11, 2022, is the first day of Tallahassee's legislative session. If passed, the bill would go into effect on July 1st 2022.

For media inquiries or for more information, contact Melissa Woodford, FFPC Communications Director, at MelissaW@fffamily.org or call 407-251-5130.

###

Florida Family Policy Council

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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Grall, Erin](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 2 of 9
Date: Saturday, January 22, 2022 2:05:19 PM

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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 DiCegile, 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.

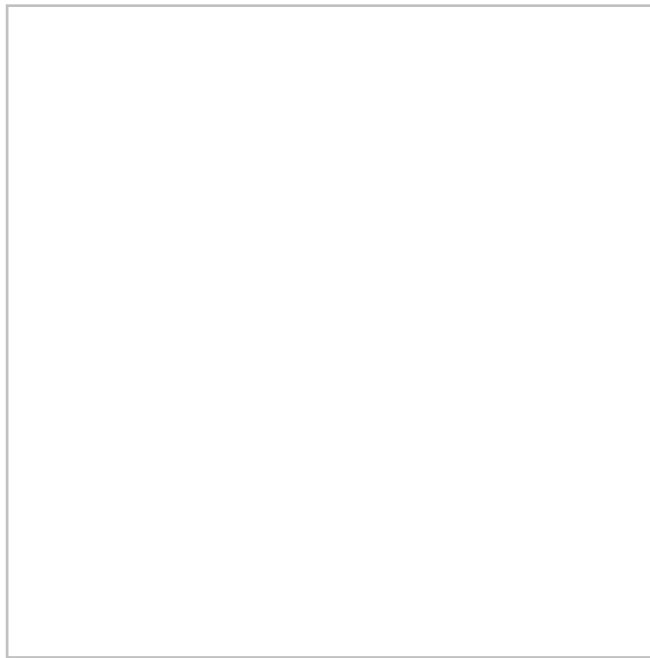
Below is a list of some of the top good and bad bills FFPC is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

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.

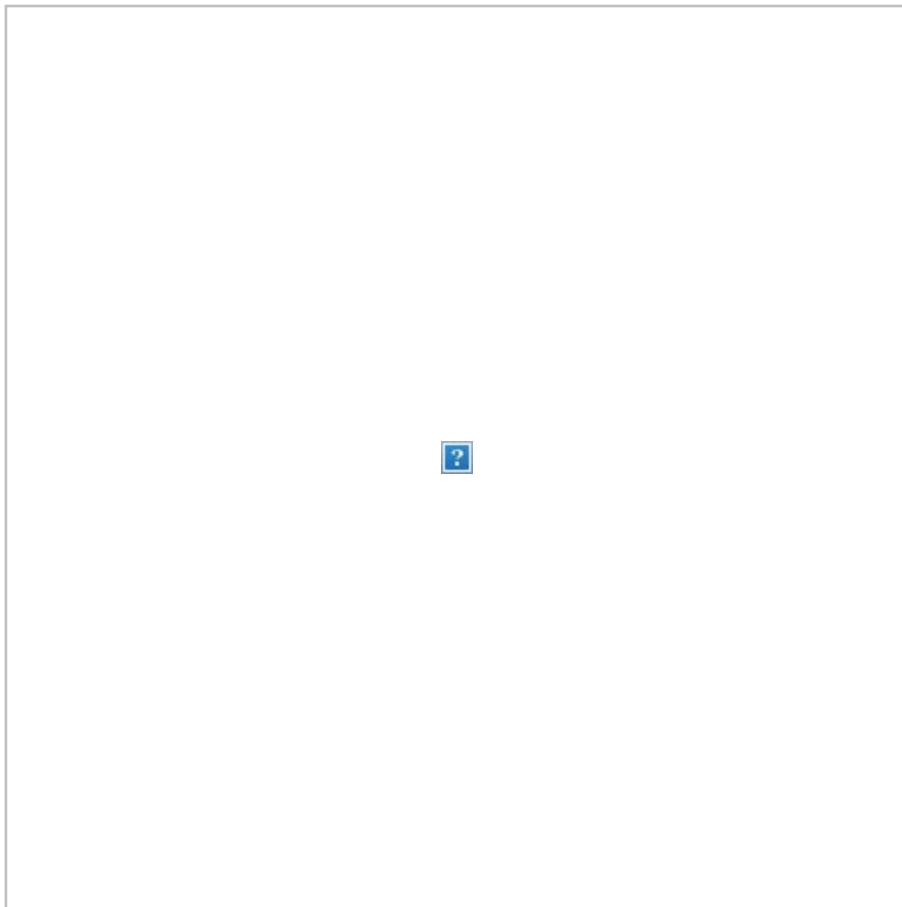
We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

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 Professions and Public Health Committee, on Tuesday the 25th at 9am.

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.

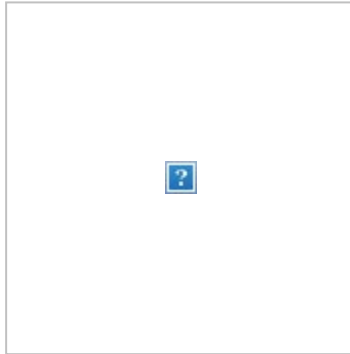
Status: No movement.

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.

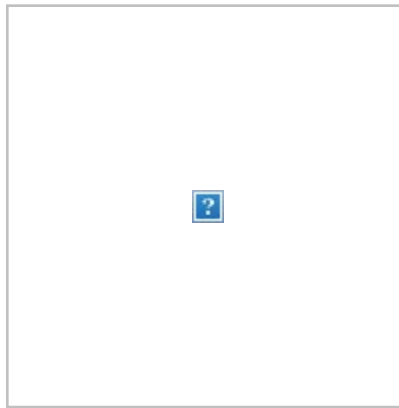
Status: No movement.

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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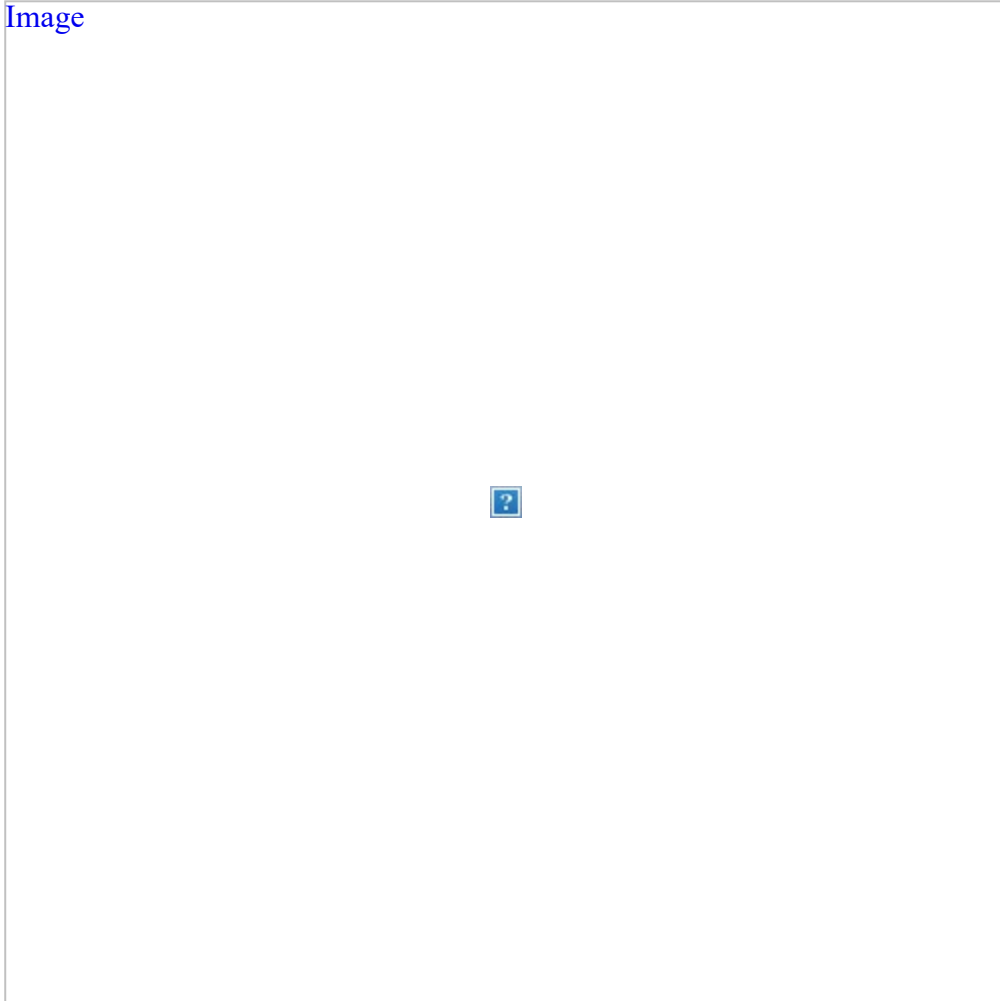
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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Barenborg, Edward](#)
Subject: Open Letter to Disney: Put Parents & Children Before Politics
Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 1:58:13 PM

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**Open Letter to Disney: Put Parents & Children
Before Politics**

*Open letter encourages Disney to reverse its stance on
Florida's pro-family HB 1557*

Today, Disney employees are staging an all-day walkout in protest of Florida HB 1557, a bill that protects parents and children. The problem? Those are among Disney's key consumers.

In response, Family Policy Alliance and Florida Family Policy Council have posted an open letter to Disney. The letter begins:

As a company whose primary consumers are parents and their children, turning against Disney's own audience for supposed political gain seems nonsensical. Yet, in opposing Florida's HB 1557 bill supporting parents and protecting children from sexualization, that is exactly what Disney has done. We, the undersigned, urge Disney to reconsider its opposition to Florida's parental rights bill, HB 1557, and any others like it around the country.

Quote from Craig DeRoche, CEO and President of Family Policy Alliance:

"Disney has long been a household name, and has tried for decades to paint itself as a family-friendly entertainment company. A decision that's bad for parents is a decision that's bad for Disney. Yet, in one fell swoop, Disney has managed to oppose both good parents and good policy."

Quote from John Stemberger, President of Florida Family Policy Council:

"The Disney CEO is being played like a fiddle and manipulated like a playdough cartoon. Even though 67% of Americans oppose what they are doing, Disney is more concerned with the screaming mob of woke employees who are literally bullying the company by abandoning paying guests at theme parks. Both Walt Disney and Roy Disney must be both rolling around in their graves. Disney has long lost its neutral status as a unifying nonpolitical element of our culture. Instead, they have now become political leftists and enemy number one to their primary base of customers-- parents with small children."

As the letter articulates, HB 1557 "supports the rights of parents to have access to critical information about their child's academics, health and wellbeing. The bill also protects very young children, ages nine and younger, from being exposed to sexual themes and ideas."

[The two pro-family organizations invite members of the public to sign their own names to the letter here.](#)

#

Media Contact:

Robert Noland, (719) 308-2822, Media@FamilyPolicyAlliance.com

Family Policy Alliance advances biblical citizenship and promotes public policy that protects religious freedom, families, and life.

For more information, contact Melissa Woodford, FFPC Communications Director, at MelissaW@flfamily.org or call 407-251-5130.

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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Grall, Erin](#)
Subject: Student Scholarship deadline is May 6th for Southeast Regional Patriot Academy!
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 2:03:08 PM

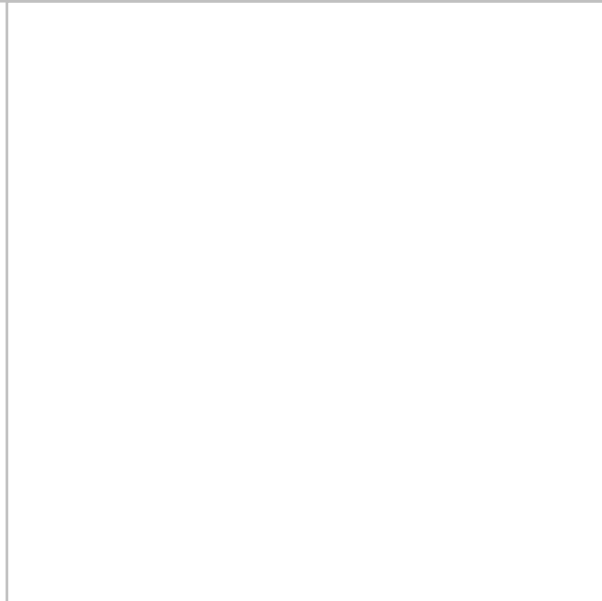
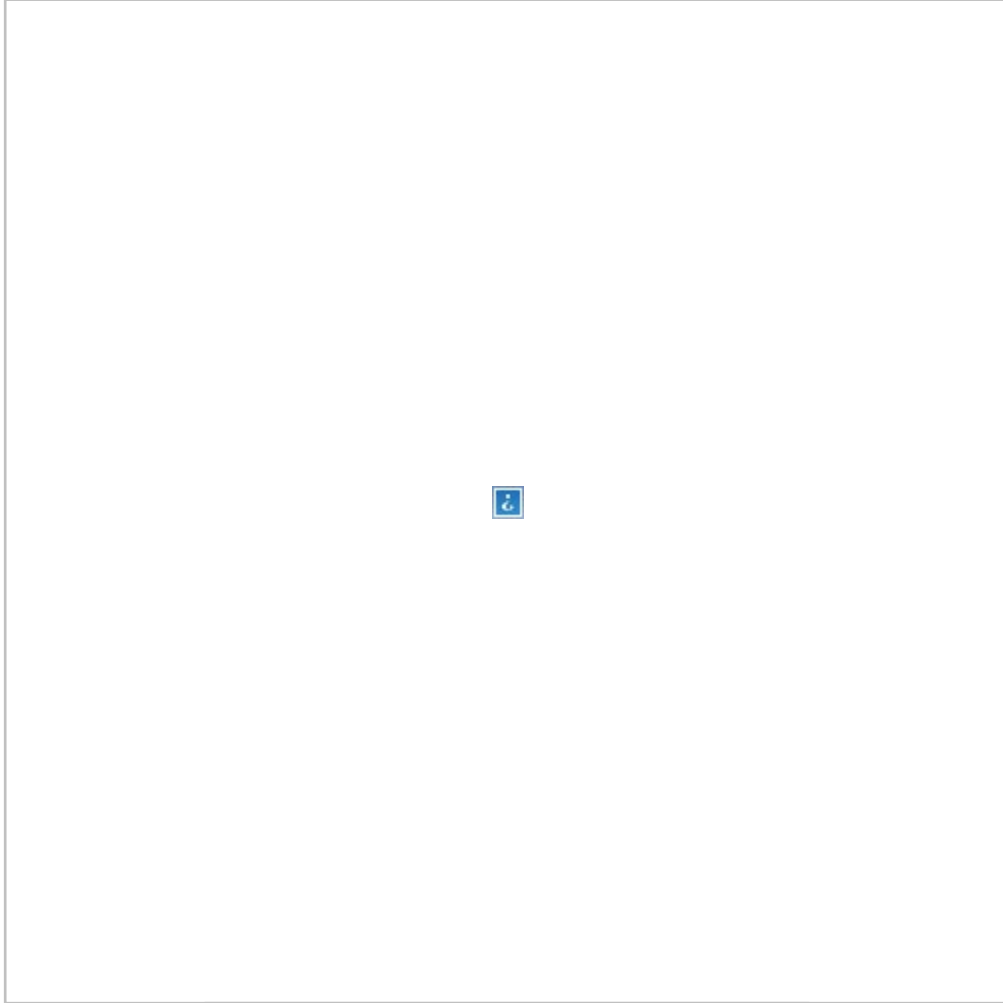
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**Student Scholarship deadline is May 6th for
Southeast Regional Patriot Academy!**

Dear Friend,
We are inviting students to join us this summer for our [Florida Patriot Academy Capitol Boot Camp](#), a fun, entertaining, educational, and inspirational leadership camp. Every Patriot Academy (PA) Capitol Boot Camp is world-class leadership training specializing in applied



civics with a Biblical, historical, and Constitutional foundation. PA students develop leadership skills with an emphasis on character, courage, life-purpose, and personal skills, underpinned by a founding fathers' philosophy of governance. PA is the premier political leadership training ground in the nation, with the most realistic simulated-legislative session available. This year, [our Florida camp](#) will be held at the state Capitol in Tallahassee from Wednesday, June 29th through Friday, July 1st. Students will stay at a nearby hotel and will be shuttled to the capitol each day and back to the hotel at night.

Students applying for our full scholarship must submit applications by May 6th, and they will be notified by May 15th. If they do not qualify for our scholarship and they have also submitted their academy application by then, we will honor the Early Bird Rate.

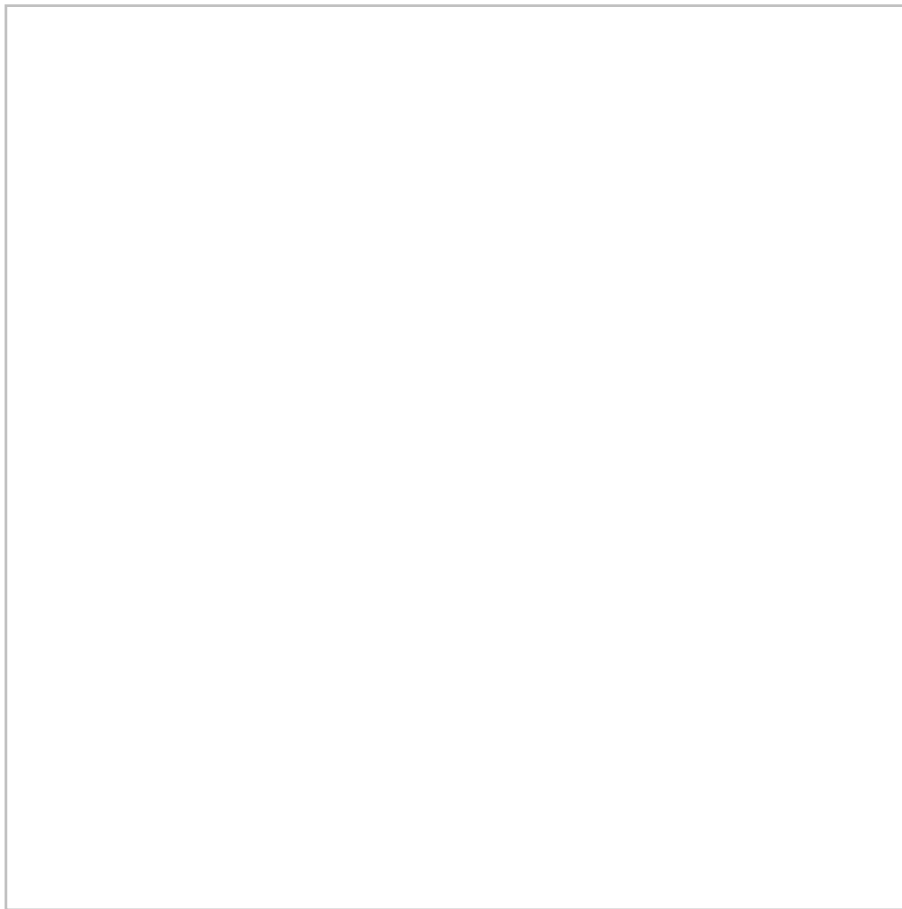
The Regional Florida Patriot Academy online application is now open, and every PA Capitol Boot Camp has extremely limited availability, [so you should apply early](#) to increase the likelihood of acceptance.

- Early Bird Rate: \$397 by April 15th
- Regular Rate: \$477 by June 15th
- Late Rate: \$527 after June 15th

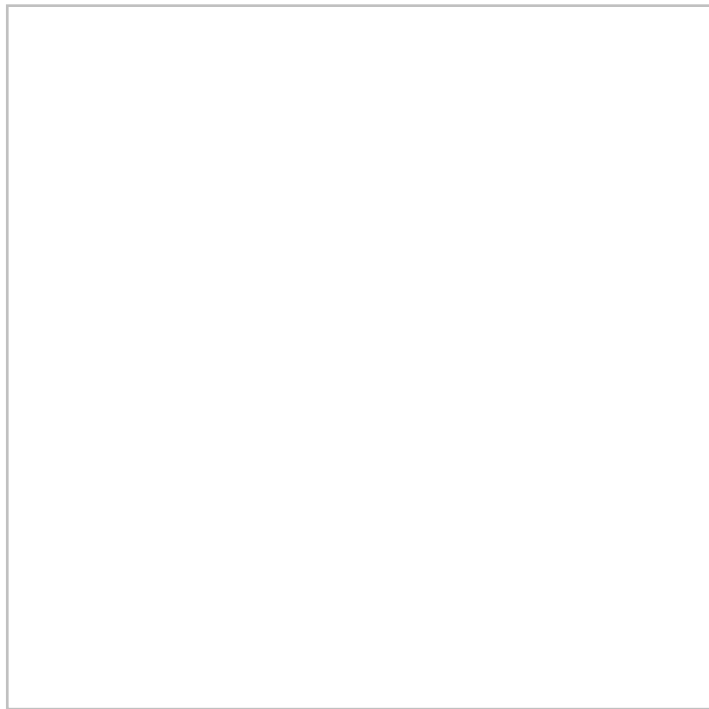
*Tuition-in-full must be postmarked or paid online by the date indicated.

*Tuition rates listed include the \$97 deposit fee.

*To apply for a scholarship, type an online essay between 300-500 words on what you believe the greatest threat to America is today and send us a video of any type at least 60 seconds about "Why I am a Christian." [Click this link to apply for the scholarship.](#) ****PLEASE NOTE: This is not the same as the academy application. You will need to apply for both separately.****



Patriot Academy's purpose is to inspire, educate, train, and equip young leaders who share the stated mission of The Torch of Freedom Foundation to restore America's Constitutional Republic by renewing our Biblical principles of liberty upon which the nation was built. Applicants must demonstrate a mindset in line with this mission, a willingness to learn more about accomplishing such a mission; and a strong work ethic through preparation, fundraising, and service. PA is fantastic for young men and women who want to lead their generation and the nation alike. Students are challenged to analyze legislation in light of the timeless principles that have made America exceptional. It exposes students to outstanding speakers who instill the highest standards of character and leadership while participating in one of the most realistic simulated legislative sessions in the nation. You don't want to miss it! [Apply online here.](#)



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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Grall, Erin](#)
Subject: Week 7 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session
Date: Friday, February 25, 2022 5:31:49 PM

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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.

The week began Monday afternoon with **HB 5**, the late-term abortion ban protecting the unborn after 15 weeks, which passed the final Senate committee stop. The Senate, to help the bill proceed quickly, had tabled their version, and took up the House version that passed the full House floor last week. Pro-life champion and bill sponsor **Sen. Kelli Stargel** once again introduced the bill, listing the advances in science showing

the development of a child between 15-24 weeks and mounting evidence showing the ability for the baby in utero to feel pain. Public testimony included a post-abortive woman who shared her emotional and mental trauma from her abortions and the importance of passing HB 5 to defend life. Another speaker shared the story of his mother, a victim of human trafficking, who was very close to being aborted. He emphasized the reality that all lives are precious, regardless of the circumstances of conception.

FFPC Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro testified in support of the bill, highlighting the issue of the late-term abortion problem in Florida and the bill's concrete and immediate protections provided to the unborn. During the committee debate that followed, **Sen. Kathleen Passidomo's** comments stood out vividly. She laid out the science and reasoning again for supporting **HB 5**. **Sen Stargel** also argued against adding exceptions in the bill for rape and incest and argued for defending the lives of all babies. The bill passed the committee immediately after and has one final vote at the Senate floor before the governor's desk. Tuesday afternoon, **HB 7 – The Individual Freedom Act**, which restricts CRT in public schools and other places, was heard on the full House floor. **Rep. Bryan Avila**, the bill sponsor, defended the bill for over an hour. He argued for setting clear standards on the teaching of history and keeping racist ideologies out of the classroom. Opponents on the floor accused **Avila** of seeking to revise history and grilled him on accusations of censorship. **Avila** passionately argued the opposite, that the bill was seeking to ensure true history was taught. The supporting legislators spent another hour or more defeating opposing amendments. Immediately afterward, the House floor finally heard **HB 1557 – The Parental Rights in Education Act**, the now nationally infamous bill facing attacks all the way up to the White House. Under incredible pressure and facing very hostile questioning for nearly an hour, bill sponsor **Rep. Joe Harding** passionately defended parental rights and refuted opposition. Retaining stellar poise, he masterfully stayed focused on the text of the bill. He emphasized the need to empower parents, give them rights, and provide them tools to hold schools accountable. He advocated for parents to be informed on critical decisions regarding their children's emotional, mental, and physical health and well-being. 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.

Thursday afternoon, the full House floor took up both HB 7 and HB 1557 for final debate and final vote, with **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** again present. First up was HB 7. It faced two hours of contentious debate, mostly consisting of inaccurate accusations by opponents. Among the accusations was that the bill forces censorship of history, and supporters countered that the bill protects the teaching of history from political propaganda. Bill sponsor **Rep. Bryan Avila** and **Rep. Randy Fine** gave the strongest defenses of the bill by describing what the bill actually does, namely prohibiting the forced teaching of the following ideas:

1. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
2. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
3. An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
4. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
5. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
7. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.

The bill passed shortly after, 74-41 on a party line vote.

Immediately following, the House took up HB 1557, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, falsely labeled the "Don't Say Gay Bill" which we in turn have named the "Don't turn my son into a daughter" bill. Over the hour-and-a-half debate, bill opponents railed against the bill, saying a vote for the bill would be a direct attack on select children and make one an opponent of the LGBT-identifying groups. They also falsely claimed that the bill banned certain words through bureaucracy, based on fear rather than fact. Tensions were high, and sharp comments were directed at the bill sponsor, **Rep. Joe Harding**. Supporters, by contrast, continued to go back to the bill's fundamental purpose outlined in the bill text: defending parental rights in education.

Highlights in debate in support of the bill included **Rep. Jenna Persons-Mulicka** appealing to parental love and care for their own children being one of the most powerful forces for good, a force that government had a duty to protect; **Reps. Juan Fernandez-Barquin** and **Kaylee Tuck** affirming that such issues over sexuality and identity did not belong in K-3rd grades and criticizing the war on parental rights being conducted against parental rights by Florida school districts; **Rep. Erin Grall**

passionately listing specific examples of attacks on parental rights in Florida schools; and **Rep. Randy Fine** closing debate by calling on his fellow reps to protect parents from opposing school districts, rather than allowing school districts to "protect" children from their own loving parents to further the school's agendas.

In closing, **Rep. Joe Harding** asked his fellow members to peel away the alternate reality of media hit pieces, click bait internet stories, and Twitter ramblings, and return in the real world centered on the actual text of the actual bill before them. Empowered and engaged parents, regardless of backgrounds and beliefs, lead to better education opportunities for their children and overall a better quality of life for all children, he asserted in closing.

The bill passed 69-47 on a mostly party line vote with several exceptions. Democrat **Rep. James Bush** joined with most Republicans in defense of parental rights, while 7 Republicans joined with the anti-parental rights Democrats in opposition to the bill. These opposition votes included **Reps. Vance Aloupis, Demi Busatta Cabrera, Chip LaMarca, Amber Mariano, James Mooney, Rene "Coach P" Plasencia, and Will Robinson.**

Florida Family Policy Council resoundingly praises House leadership for taking the lead on these critical issues and ignoring the misleading media narratives and vicious false attacks. By passing these bills, House leadership under Speaker Chris Sprows, Speaker Designate Paul Renner, and Speaker Pro Tem Bryan Avila have established Florida as a leader on protecting children by empowering parents to be engaged in their children's educations and holding school districts accountable to respect parental rights.

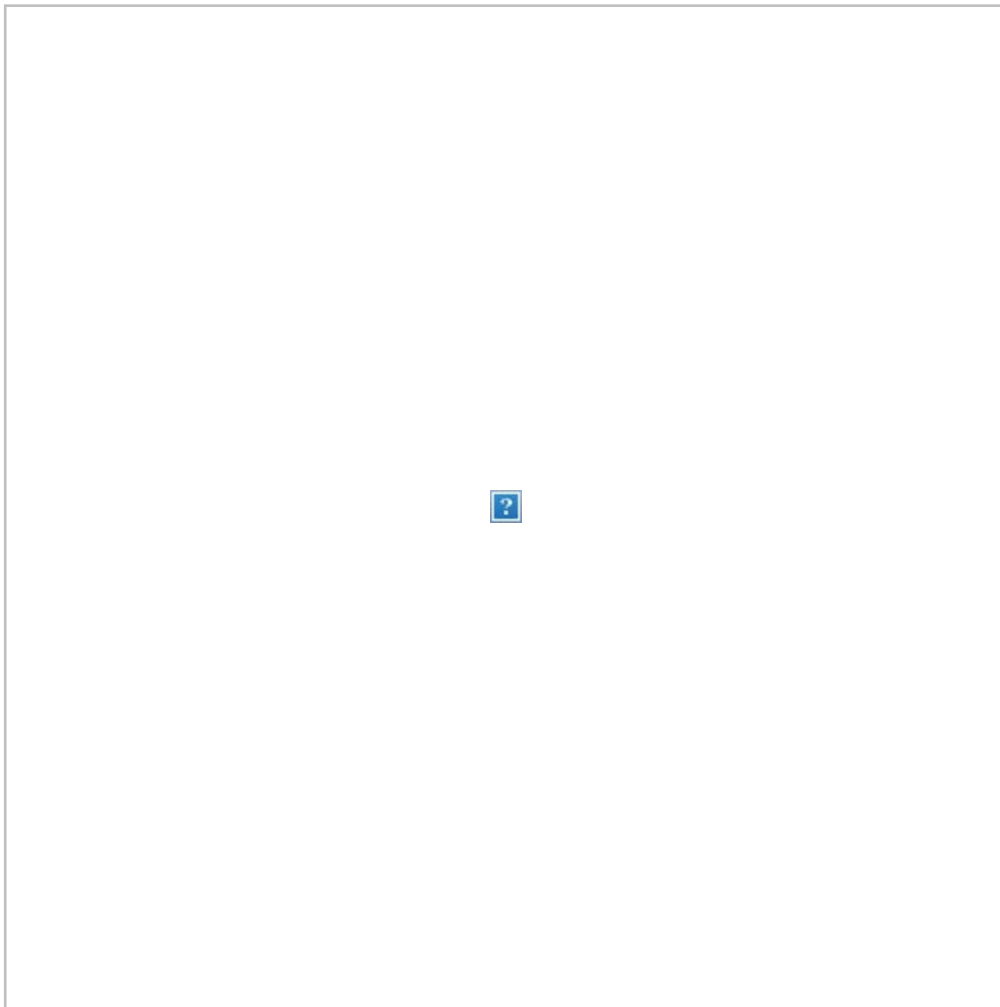
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** 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. We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,



John Stemberger



Rep. Joe Harding on the House floor debating HB 1557

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 the full House floor. On the Senate side, HB 5 passed the final Senate committee, Appropriations on Monday 13-6 and now heads to the Senate floor for a final vote, before heading to the governor's desk.

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) 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.

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

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



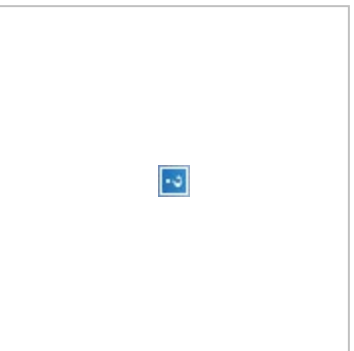
SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and

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. On Thursday, the House version (HB 7) passed the full House 74-41.

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: On Thursday, HB 1557 passed the full House floor 69-47. The Senate is taking up HB 1557, the House version, and sending it to one final Senate stop, the Appropriations Committee.

ACTION ALERT: HB 1557 will be heard in its final Senate committee meeting, Appropriations, on Monday, February 28th (the committee begins at 10:30 am) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Ave, Suite C, Orlando, FL 32806
Info@FLfamily.org * Phone: 407-251-5130
[Unsubscribe](#)

Donate



From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57:43 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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Dinner - Monday evening, 1/24/2022

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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

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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
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: [Browne, Jim](#)
To: ["Aaron DiPietro"](#)
Subject: RE: Meeting Request with Rep. Grant
Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 2:15:21 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hello Aaron,
Hope you are doing well. I just tried calling you, but it went to voicemail. Please call me on my cell phone to schedule this meeting. Thanks!

Jim Browne
Legislative Assistant to
Majority Leader Michael Grant
State Representative, District 75
"What Can Browne Do for You?"
(727) 278-5432 cell
DISTRICT OFFICE
4355 Pinnacle Street, Suite C
Port Charlotte, FL 33980-2902
(941) 613-0914 District Office
CAPITOL OFFICE
322 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 717-5075 Capitol Office

From: Aaron DiPietro
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 4:01 PM
To: Browne, Jim
Subject: Re: Meeting Request with Rep. Grant

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Jim,
Thank you for the reply. I was unable to directly edit the document, so I have included the information below

Week requested: Week beginning on 2/14/22

Applicable preferences: N/A

Bills to be discussed: HB 1557; HB 747; HB 687

Position: Supporting bills above

Name of Lobbyist attending: Aaron DiPietro

Disclosure has been filed for topics discussed

Contact information: Aaron DiPietro
aarond@flfamily.org
(904) 608-4471

Contact info for day of: See above
Aaron DiPietro
 Legislative Affairs Director
 Florida Family Policy Council
 4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
aarond@flfamily.org

[Redacted]

From: Browne, Jim
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 3:31:48 PM
To: Aaron DiPietro
Subject: RE: Meeting Request with Rep. Grant

Hello Aaron,
 Hopefully all is going well. Your appointment request is greatly appreciated. Once your completed form is received, I will be in contact regarding your request.

APPOINTMENT REQUEST FORM	
<i>In order to best assist you with your appointment request, please supply the following information.</i>	
Please select "Reply" to this email, then type your responses into the form.	
<i>Handwritten and/or scanned copies may cause an error while attempting to schedule your request.</i>	
Please specify desired day or week of request	
Meeting Type (in-person, Zoom, telephone)	
Applicable preferences (e.g. After 2 PM, Prior to Committee A, etc.)	
TOPIC: Bill(s) / Amendment(s) / Appropriation(s) / Other	
Position(s) on topic(s) listed above (i.e. Support / Oppose / Inform)	
Name(s) of non-lobbyist attendee(s)	
Per House Rule 17.1, House legislative members and staff may not meet or discuss matters with a lobbyist not registered with the Florida House of Representatives Public Integrity & Ethics Committee HERE	
Name(s) of lobbyist attendee(s)	
Has the House Lobbyist Disclosure been completed for topic(s)?	
Contact information to coordinate appointment request	Name Email Phone
Contact for day of appointment (In case of changes in schedule)	Name Email Phone
Optional additional notes	

NOTE: Short-notice requests are subject to availability of the pre-existing calendar. If the appointment request includes a lobbyist, any answer other than "Yes" for the completed disclosure question may cause a delay or denial of the request until the disclosure is completed.

Your cooperation and understanding are appreciated. Thank you!

Jim Browne
Legislative Assistant to
Majority Leader Michael Grant
State Representative, District 75
"What Can Browne Do for You?"
(727) 278-5432 cell

DISTRICT OFFICE

4355 Pinnacle Street, Suite C
Port Charlotte, FL 33980-2902
(941) 613-0914 District Office

CAPITOL OFFICE

322 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 717-5075 Capitol Office

From: Aaron DiPietro

Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 11:16 AM

To: Beckett, Cynthia

Cc: Browne, Jim

Subject: Meeting Request with Rep. Grant

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

February 10th, 2022

Hello Cynthia,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council. I wanted to request a meeting with Rep. Grant to discuss his stances on several of our priority bills, including HD 1557, among others. Please let me know what works best for your office. Thank you for your help and I look forward to working with you and the Representative.

Sincere regards,

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director
Florida Family Policy Council
(904) 608-4471

aarond@flfamily.org

4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:20 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:49 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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

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[Tickets](#)

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Chris

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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: Chris Yates
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM
To: Chris Yates
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Update! My mistake, please see the correct dates and times as listed below...

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\$100.00

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: You are invited...
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:36:05 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-34bz4x3y.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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\$50.00

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505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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\$19.50

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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\$100.00

Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

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[Tickets](#)

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Blessings,
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407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:39 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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: [Aaron DiPietro](#)
To: [Starnes, Kennedy](#)
Cc: [Austin, Haylee](#)
Subject: Discussion Meeting Request on 1557
Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 5:39:32 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2rix2d1y.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Kennedy,

I hope all is going well. I wanted to touch base on setting up a meeting with Rep. Harding on strategy for 1557. Several of our allies from the Alliance Defending Freedom (one of whom you met last week) are coming in for some other meetings and wanted to see if we could schedule a meeting with Rep. Harding maybe sometime between 12 pm and 3 pm on Tuesday, Feb. 8th (I'm not sure if 1557 is potentially slated for Judiciary that day or not) or the next morning, Wednesday, Feb 9th, between 8 am and 1 pm. We would be available to help with testimony prep, amendment discussion, or talking points, along with anything else he may need. Please let us know what works best for your office. Thank you very much.

Sincere regards,

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director
Florida Family Policy Council
(904) 608-4471
aarond@flfamily.org
[4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806](#)
www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [JP Duffy](#)
To: [Harding, Joe](#)
Subject: Invite for Tony Perkins program
Date: Tuesday, February 22, 2022 12:46:57 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Rep. Harding,

I'm the VP for Communications at Family Research Council. Our president, Tony Perkins, hosts a program that airs on Direct TV Channel 378, NRBTN Network, and 800 Christian radio stations. He asked me to invite you to join his program today at 5:30 PM Eastern Time for a live, 7 minute interview to discuss your Parental Rights in Education bill. We would send you a zoom link to connect with. Are you available?

Station listing:

Tonyperkins.com/stations

Thanks,

JP Duffy

Vice President of Communications

Family Research Council

202-679-6800

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:58:01 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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[Tickets](#)

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Blessings,
Chris

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407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Tracie Baird](#)
To: [Starnes, Kennedy](#)
Cc: [Harding, Joe](#)
Subject: Re: Appointment w/Representative for Tuesday, Jan 25 9:45am-12:15pm
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:55:30 AM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Yes, that would be great. Thank you for getting back to me so promptly!

Have a great weekend!!

Tracie

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Starnes, Kennedy
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:53:58 AM
To: Tracie Baird
Cc: Harding, Joe
Subject: RE: Appointment w/Representative for Tuesday, Jan 25 9:45am-12:15pm

Hi Tracie,

Thanks for reaching out! Rep. Harding would welcome the opportunity to meet with constituents.

Might they be free for a meeting at 11:45 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25th? The meeting would take place in Rep. Harding's office (1101 The Capitol).

Best,

Kennedy

From: Tracie Baird
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:52 AM
To: Starnes, Kennedy
Cc: Harding, Joe
Subject: Appointment w/Representative for Tuesday, Jan 25 9:45am-12:15pm

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Kennedy,

Jan 23-25 the Florida Family Policy Council is hosting their annual PRO-FAMILY DAYS in Tallahassee. There will be people attending from all over the state of Florida. Several of those are constituents of Rep. Harding.

I was contacting you to see if we could get these constituents an appointment with the Representative for approx. 15 minutes between 9:30am - 12:15 pm on Tuesday, Jan 25.

If you could please let me know if this is possible today I would surely appreciate it.

Tracie M Baird

Florida Family Policy Council

(843)367-0381

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:15 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:49 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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

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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[Tickets](#)

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Blessings,
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4853 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: Chris Yates
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM
To: Chris Yates
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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: You are invited...
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:36:12 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-34bz4x3y.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Your details for FFPC Tallahassee Dinner - 1/23/2022
Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 12:42:12 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Friends,

We look forward to having you as our guest this Sunday night for dinner with our board members, special guests, and our speaker, State Representative Joe Harding.

Here are the details:

Date: Sunday, January 23, 2022

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Location:

Mom & Dad's Italian Restaurant

Located in: Bannerman Crossings Shopping Center

Address: 3421 Bannerman Rd

Suite #104, Tallahassee, FL 32312

Dress:

Dressy casual/Business casual

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

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: [JP Duffy](#)
To: [Harding, Joe](#)
Subject: Zoom link for Tony Perkins program
Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 1:03:43 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Rep. Harding,

We look forward to having you join Tony Perkins program today at 5:20 PM Eastern Time. This will be a live, 7 minute interview. Below is the zoom link for you to connect with a few minutes ahead of time.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84660721875?pwd=RHNpL3lpZldWMTZtMWhINTZUMINxQT09>

Meeting ID: 846 6072 1875

Passcode: 615499

Thanks,

JP Duffy

Family Research Council

202-679-6800

From: [JP Duffy](#)
To: [Harding, Joe](#)
Subject: Zoom link for your 5:40 PM Eastern Time interview with Tony Perkins today
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 3:23:02 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Rep. Harding,

Tony Perkins looks forward to having you join his program today at 5:40 PM Eastern Time. If you can connect a few minutes ahead of time using the below zoom link that would be great.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84952101105?pwd=VUIRYmkxNEtpbTNGVHp3WjM0NUY3UT09>

Meeting ID: 849 5210 1105

Passcode: 097023

Thanks,

JP Duffy

Family Research Council

202-679-6800

From: [Tracie Baird](#)
To: [Gregory, Amy](#)
Subject: Appt on Tuesday 1/25
Date: Thursday, January 20, 2022 3:52:32 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Amy,

My name is Tracie Baird and I work with the Florida Family Policy Council. Next week we are having our annual Pro-Family Days in Tallahassee. Some of our attendees are from Rep Latvala's district.

I am requesting an appointment for approx 15 min between 9:45am - 12:15pm on Tuesday, 1/25.

Please let me know if this is possible. I know these folks would so appreciate it.

Tracie M. Baird
Deputy Director
Florida Capitol Project/FFPC
Jacksonville, FL
(843) 367-0381

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:40 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Latvala, Chris](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 1 of 9
Date: Saturday, January 15, 2022 8:00:20 AM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

[Image](#)



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.

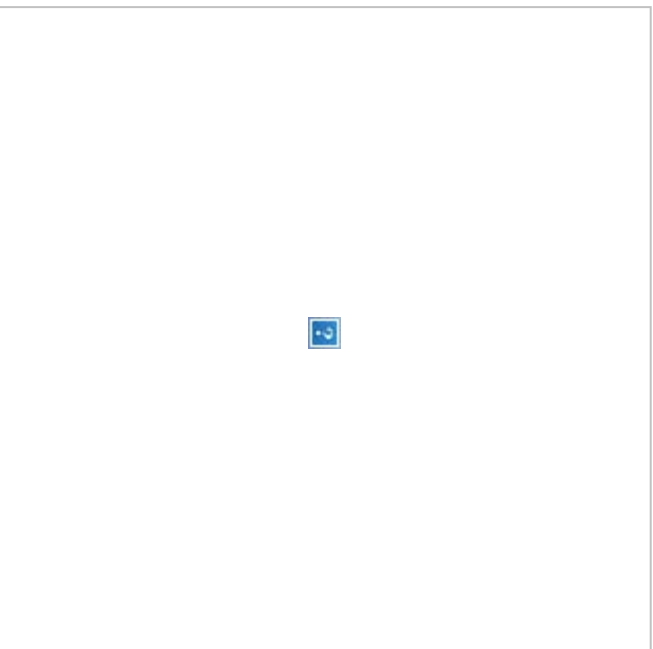
We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

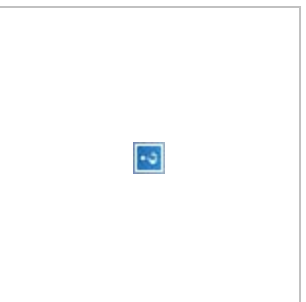
PS- Hope to see you on January 24-25 at our Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days in Tallahassee, an amazing citizen issue training

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.”

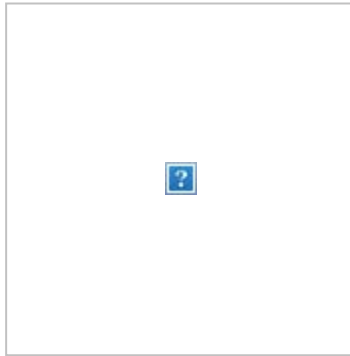
OPPOSE 3. [HB 6065/SB 0212](#) Unfairness in Women's Sports Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Farmer, Jr.)

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](#)
To: [Latvala, Chris](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 2 of 9
Date: Saturday, January 22, 2022 2:08:16 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

[Image](#)



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 DiCegile, 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.

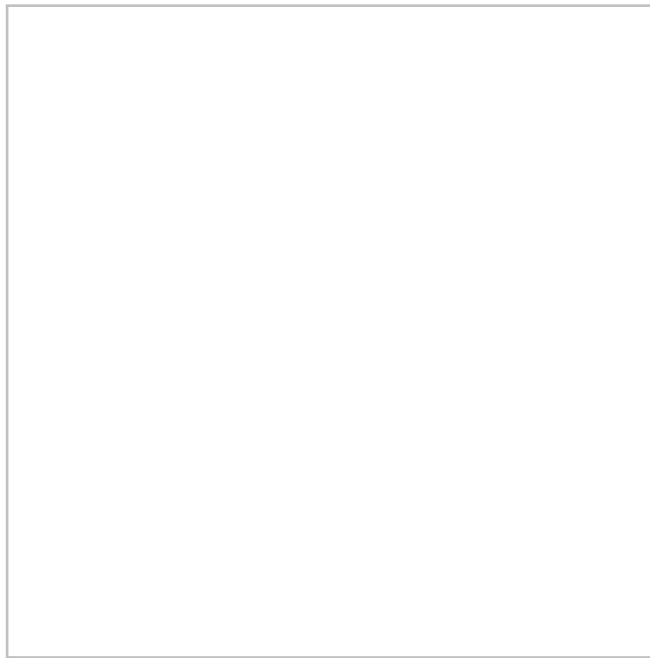
Below is a list of some of the top good and bad bills FFPC is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

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.

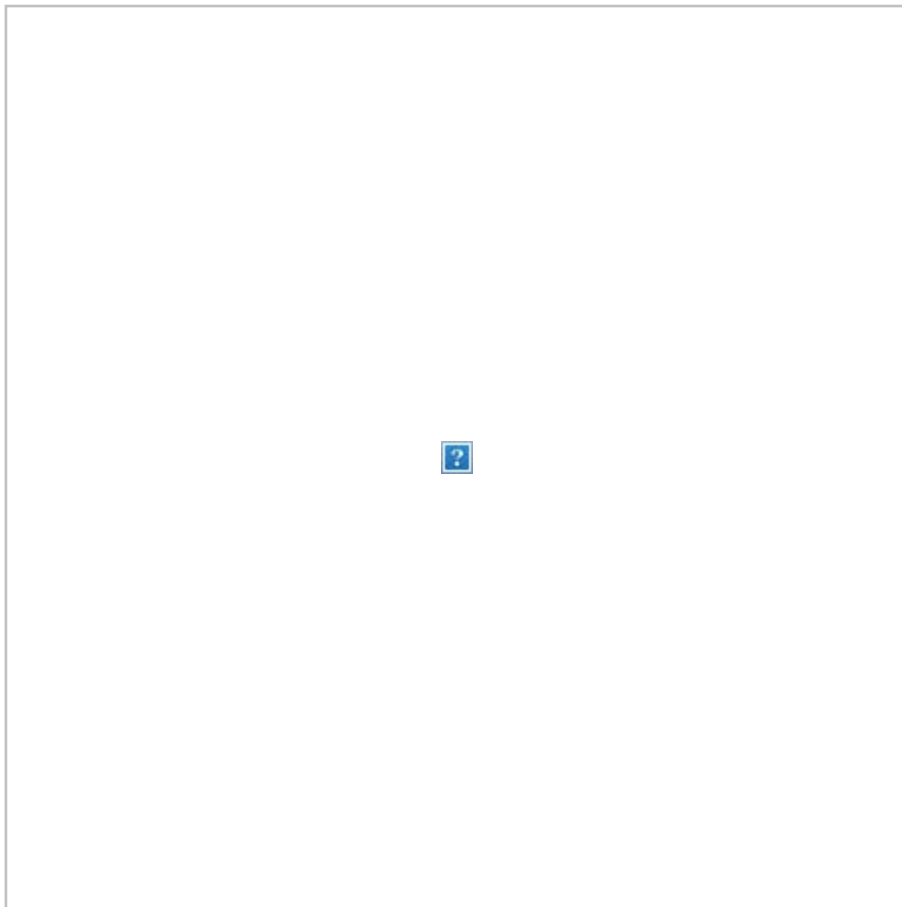
We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

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 Professions and Public Health Committee, on Tuesday the 25th at 9am.

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.

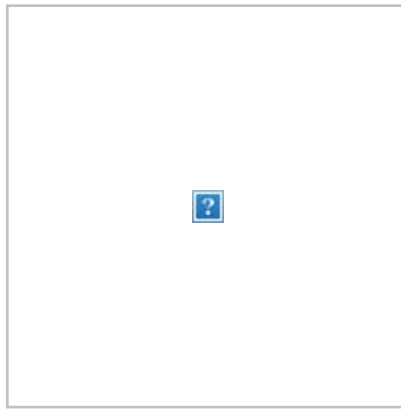
Status: No movement.

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.

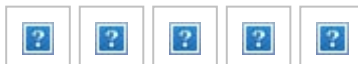
Florida Family Policy Council

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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Latvala, Chris](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 3 of 9
Date: Friday, January 28, 2022 3:21:53 PM

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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 Trubusly** 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 Trubusly** 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.

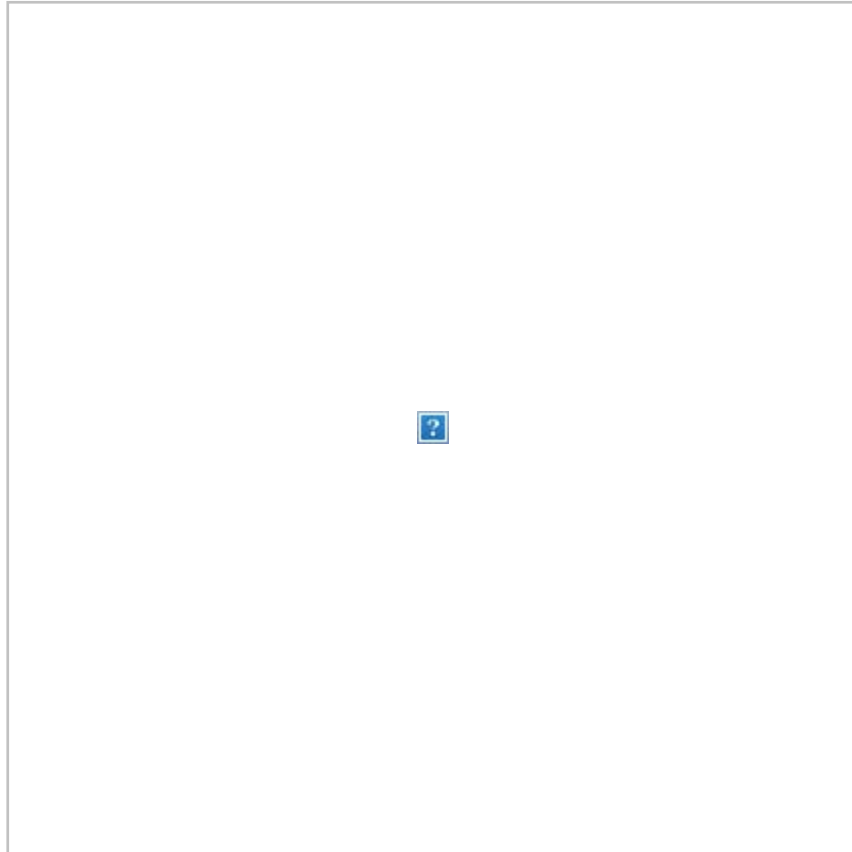
This year, we're being represented by our new Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro who is our eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

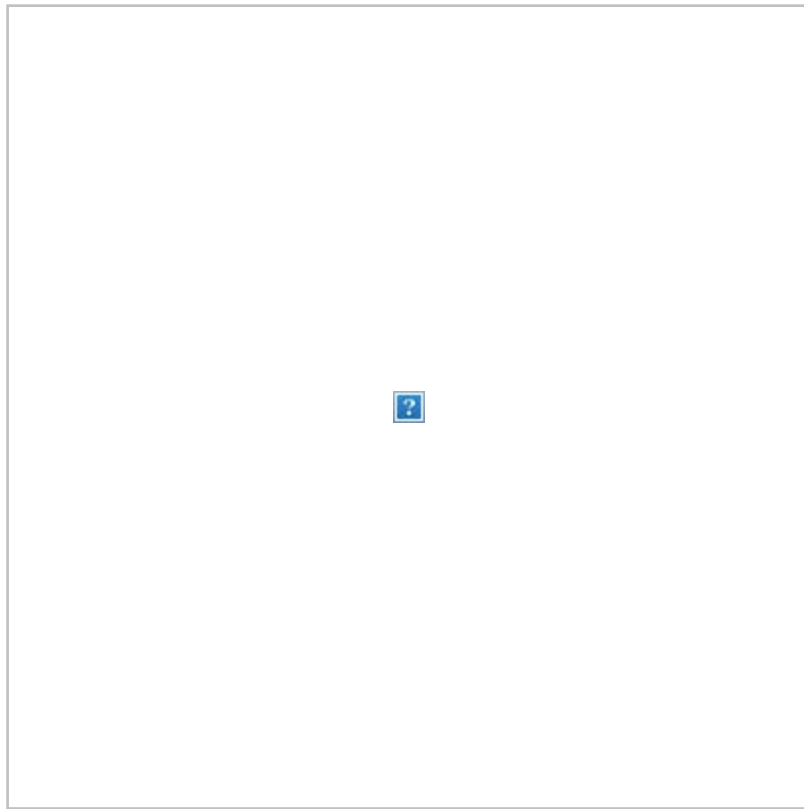
Sincerely,



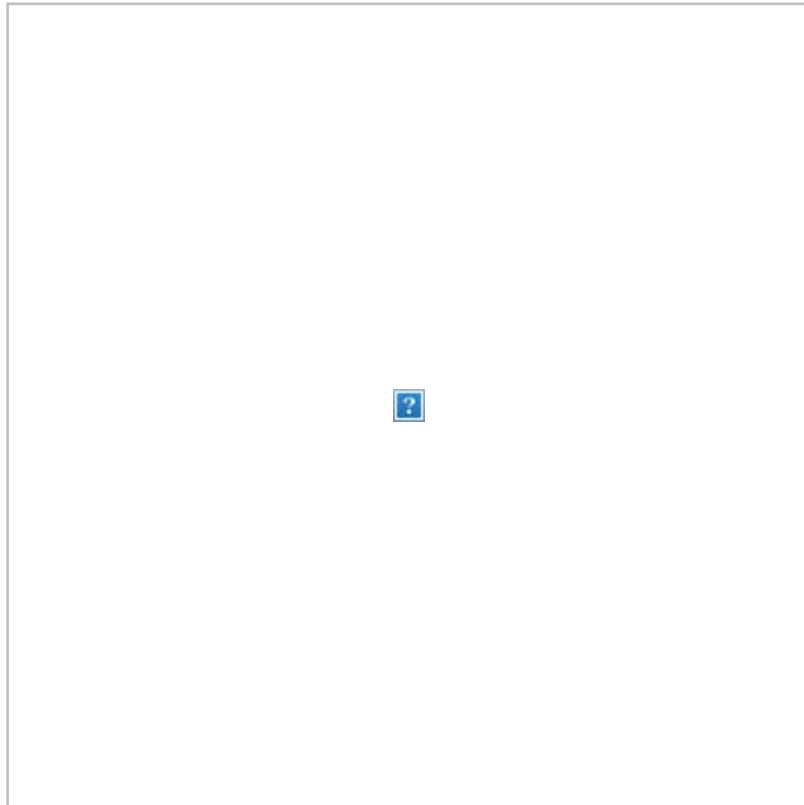
John Stemberger



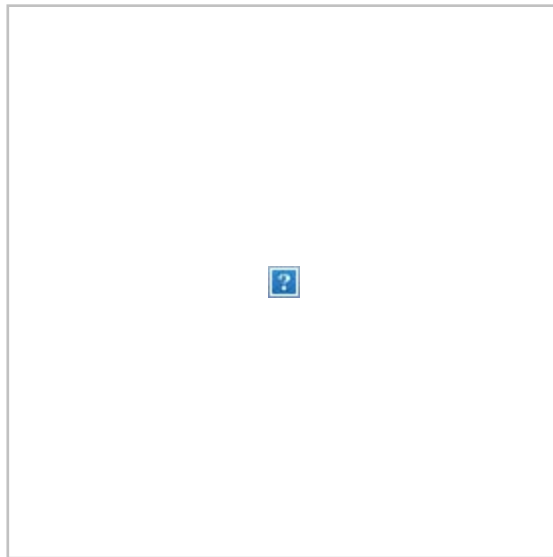
John Stemberger hosts interview with Abby Johnson and Kat Cammack at Pro Family Days Event



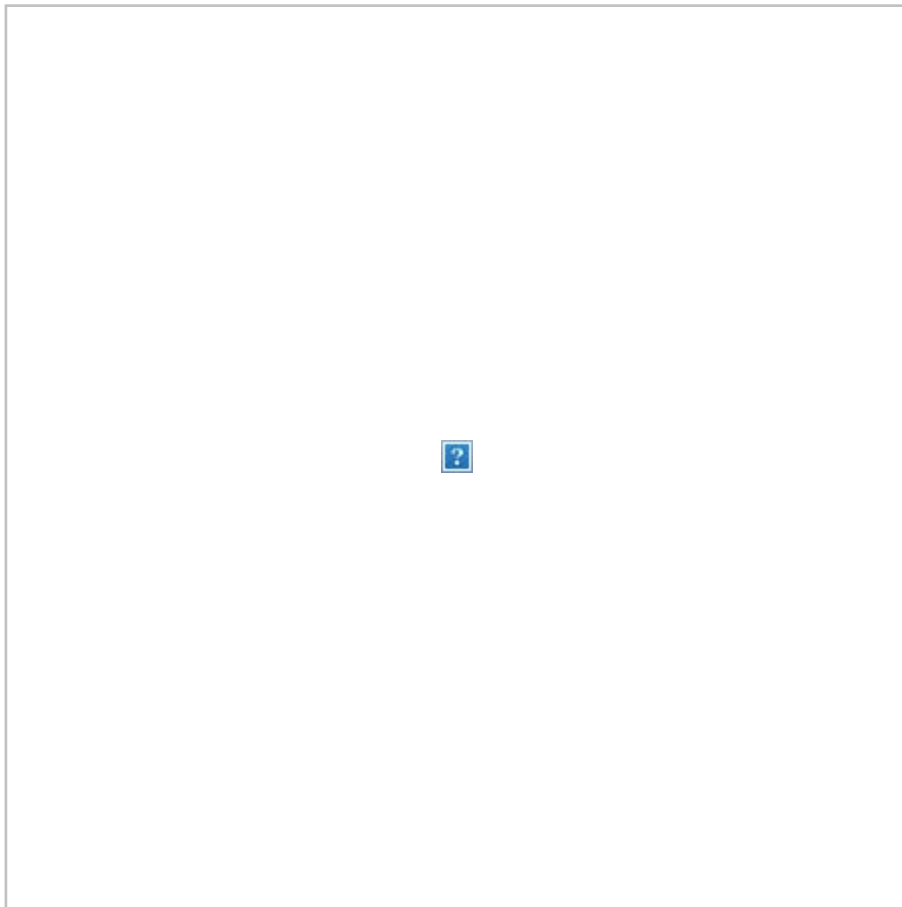
Florida Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission President Bill Bunkley presenting on "How to Lobby: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."



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



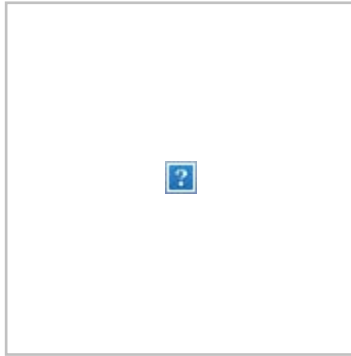
SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

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.

Florida Family Policy Council

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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
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Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 4 of 9 - February 4, 2022

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.

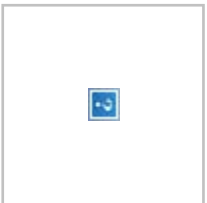
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of our legislative agenda on our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

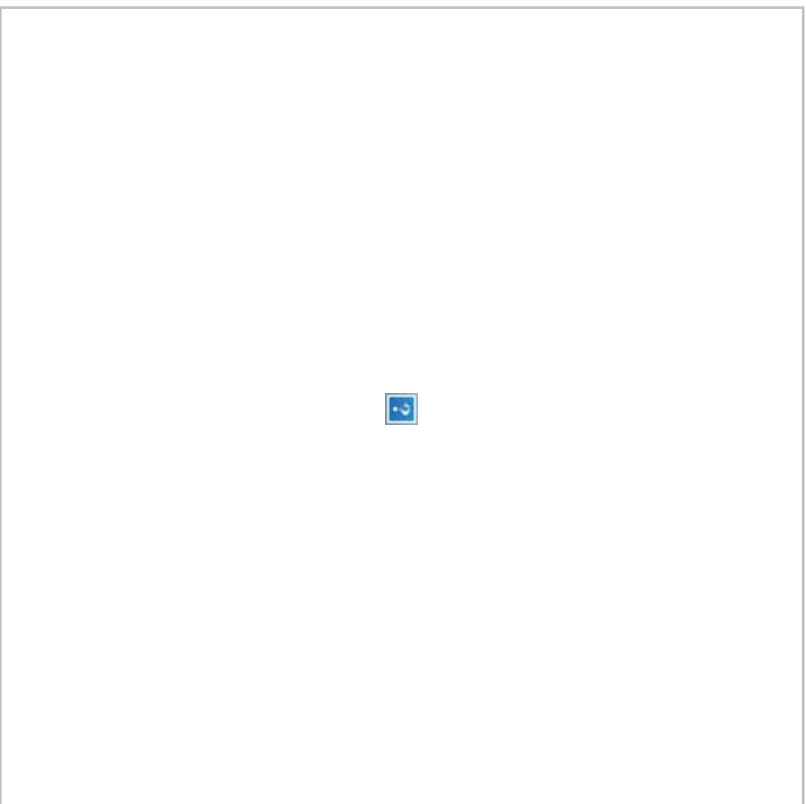
Our legislative affairs director Aaron DiPietro is doing a great job as our primary eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,



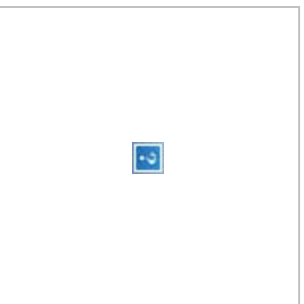
John Stemberger



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.

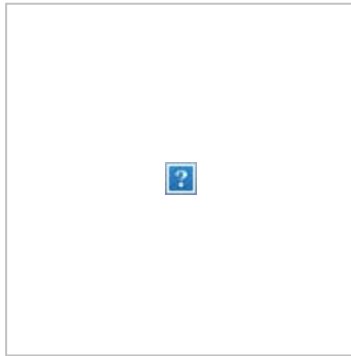
ACTION ALERT: SB 1184 will be heard in its second committee meeting, Judiciary, on Monday, February 7th (the committee meets from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

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



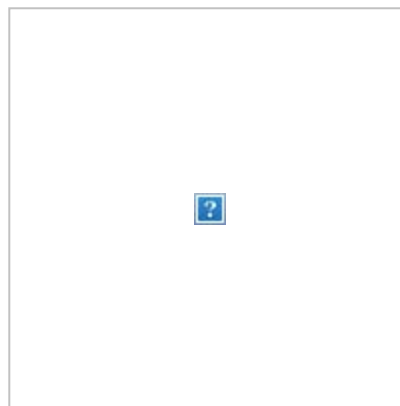
SUPPORT 1. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

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



From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57:51 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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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

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:28 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:56 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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

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Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM
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Orlando, FL 32806

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407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Latvala, Chris](#)
Subject: Victory Report: Week 9 of 9 of Legislative Session
Date: Friday, March 11, 2022 5:54:47 PM

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Image



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!

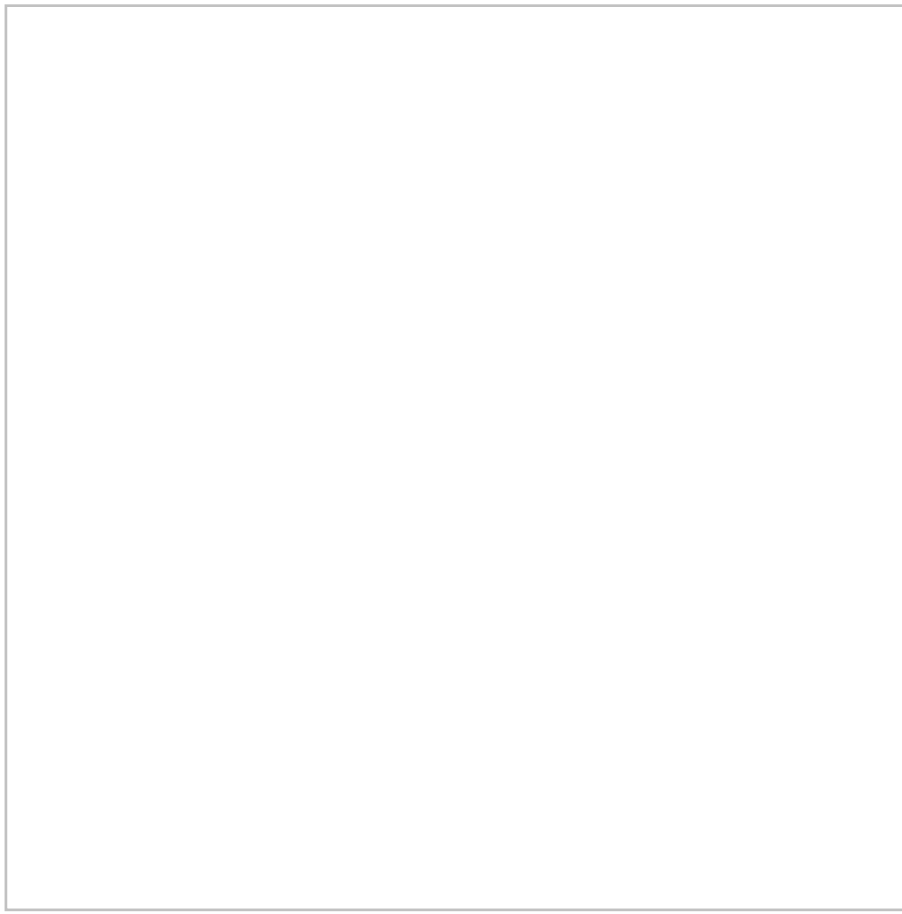
Monday afternoon, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, (aka the so-called "Don't Say Gay" bill) (HB 1557) was heard on the full Senate floor. After nearly two hours of amendments filed by Democrat senators

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.

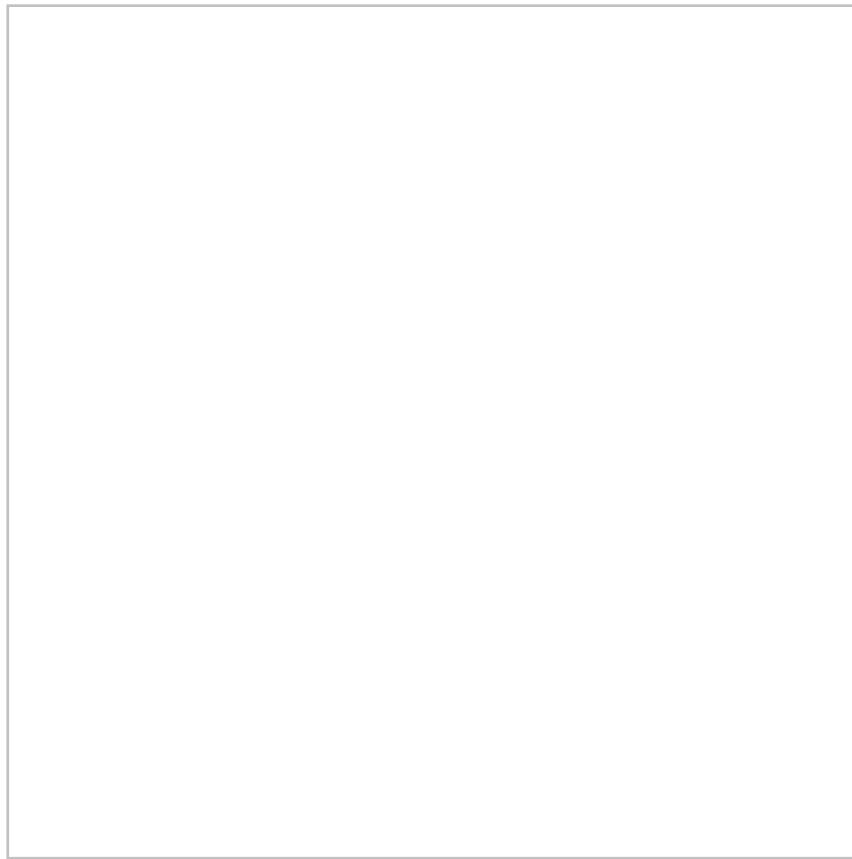
Tuesday morning, the Senate again took up **HB 1557** for final debate and a final vote. Opponents strongly criticized the bill as an attack on LGBT identifying youth, completely ignoring the actual text of the bill. Senators standing firm in debate for parental rights included **Sens. Ileana Garcia, 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.](#)



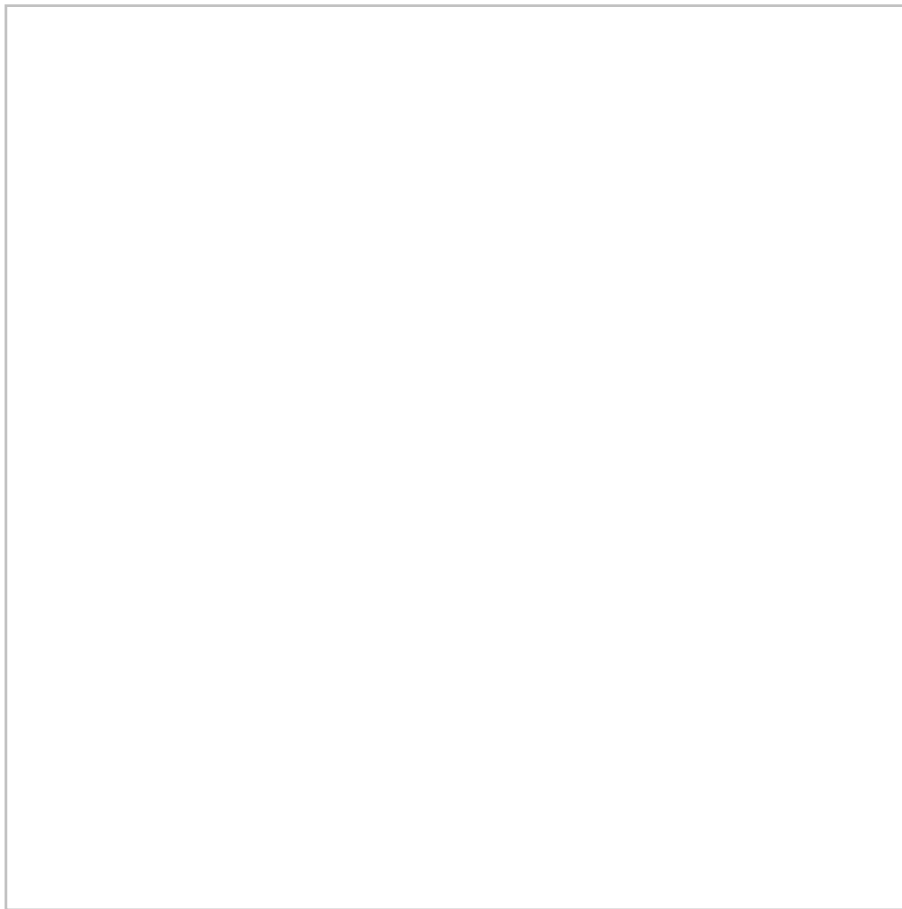
LGBTQ activists did everything they could to try to stop this commonsense bill, but they all failed. They staged massive protests at the capital. They had a school “walk out” over the bill. They even ran TV ads across Florida asking people to call DISNEY WORLD because the Disney Corporation had not spoken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



Disney finally responded by bowing down to the golden calf, saying they would recommit themselves to LGBTQ issues but ironically never actually came out against the bill.

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 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 than 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.

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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To: [Latvala, Chris](#)
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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.

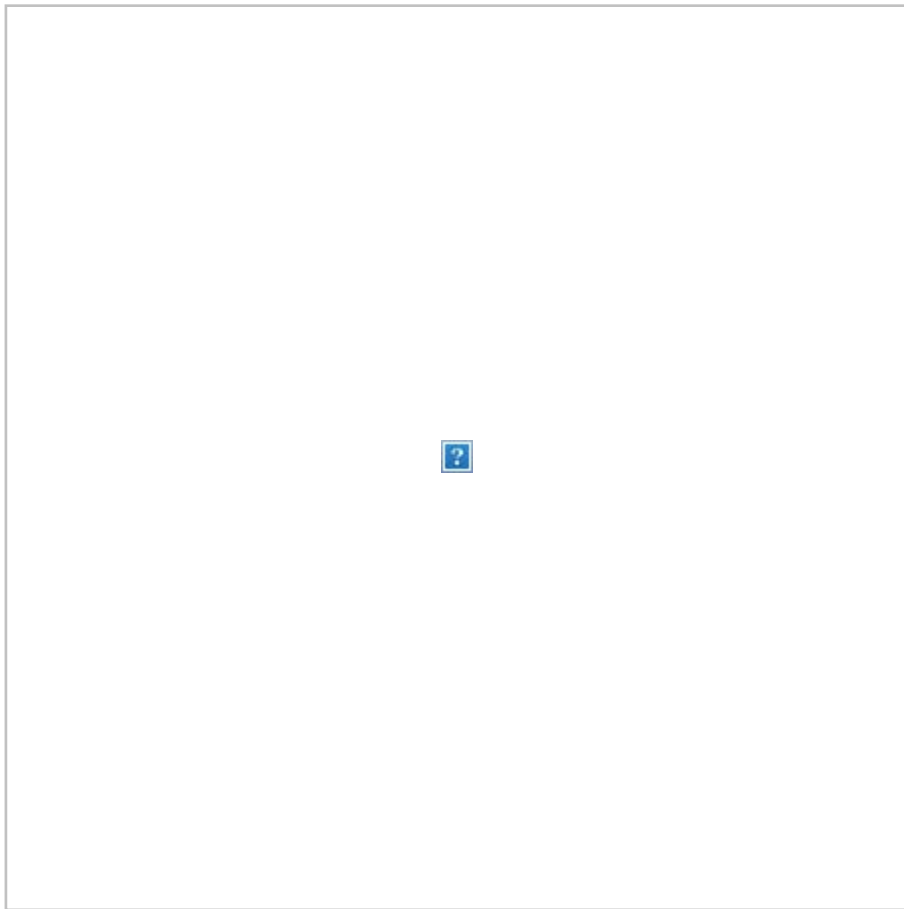
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills we are tracking in this session, and some include an **ACTION ALERT in Red**, signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills. Next week is shaping up to be an action-packed week for some of our key, top priority bills!

Stay tuned for our weekly updates throughout the session.

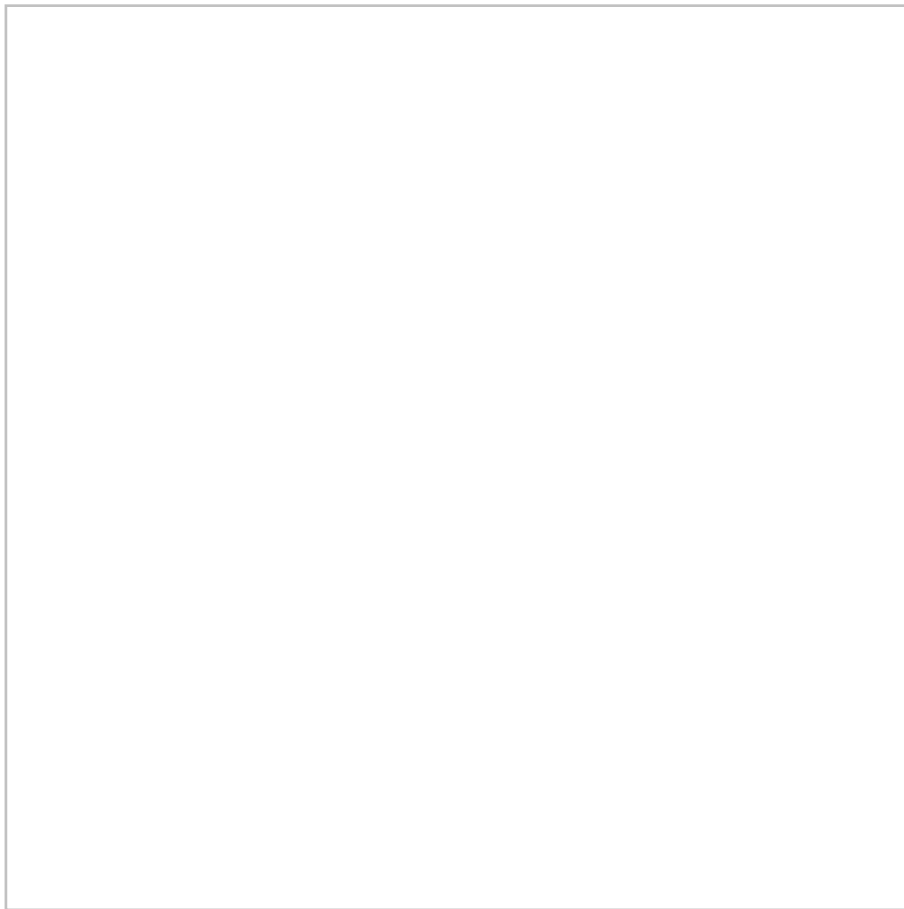
Sincerely,



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 \(The Epoch Times\)](#)

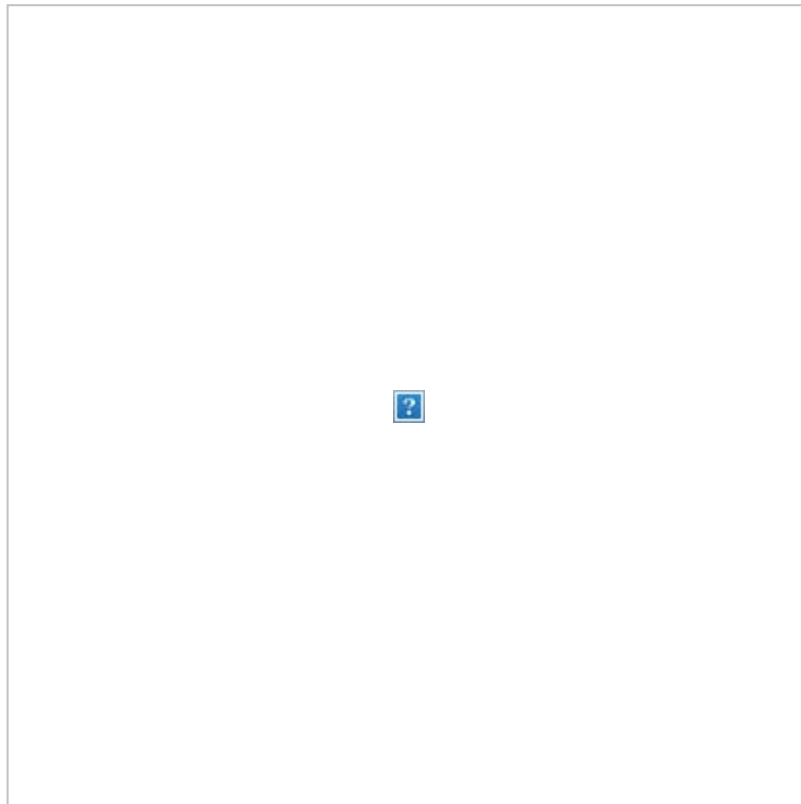
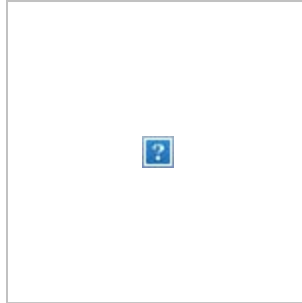


PHOTO ONLY: Aaron DiPietro's Testimony in Favor of [HB 1557/SB 1834](#), the Parental Rights in Education Act, on Miami News 7

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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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.

The week began Monday afternoon with **HB 5**, the late-term abortion ban protecting the unborn after 15 weeks, which passed the final Senate committee stop. The Senate, to help the bill proceed quickly, had tabled their version, and took up the House version that passed the full House floor last week. Pro-life champion and bill sponsor **Sen. Kelli Stargel** once again introduced the bill, listing the advances in science showing

the development of a child between 15-24 weeks and mounting evidence showing the ability for the baby in utero to feel pain. Public testimony included a post-abortive woman who shared her emotional and mental trauma from her abortions and the importance of passing HB 5 to defend life. Another speaker shared the story of his mother, a victim of human trafficking, who was very close to being aborted. He emphasized the reality that all lives are precious, regardless of the circumstances of conception.

FFPC Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro testified in support of the bill, highlighting the issue of the late-term abortion problem in Florida and the bill's concrete and immediate protections provided to the unborn.

During the committee debate that followed, **Sen. Kathleen Passidomo's** comments stood out vividly. She laid out the science and reasoning again for supporting **HB 5**. **Sen Stargel** also argued against adding exceptions in the bill for rape and incest and argued for defending the lives of all babies. The bill passed the committee immediately after and has one final vote at the Senate floor before the governor's desk.

Tuesday afternoon, **HB 7 – The Individual Freedom Act**, which restricts CRT in public schools and other places, was heard on the full House floor. **Rep. Bryan Avila**, the bill sponsor, defended the bill for over an hour. He argued for setting clear standards on the teaching of history and keeping racist ideologies out of the classroom. Opponents on the floor accused **Avila** of seeking to revise history and grilled him on accusations of censorship. **Avila** passionately argued the opposite, that the bill was seeking to ensure true history was taught. The supporting legislators spent another hour or more defeating opposing amendments. Immediately afterward, the House floor finally heard **HB 1557 – The Parental Rights in Education Act**, the now nationally infamous bill facing attacks all the way up to the White House. Under incredible pressure and facing very hostile questioning for nearly an hour, bill sponsor **Rep. Joe Harding** passionately defended parental rights and refuted opposition. Retaining stellar poise, he masterfully stayed focused on the text of the bill. He emphasized the need to empower parents, give them rights, and provide them tools to hold schools accountable. He advocated for parents to be informed on critical decisions regarding their children's emotional, mental, and physical health and well-being.

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.

Thursday afternoon, the full House floor took up both HB 7 and HB 1557 for final debate and final vote, with **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** again present. First up was HB 7. It faced two hours of contentious debate, mostly consisting of inaccurate accusations by opponents. Among the accusations was that the bill forces censorship of history, and supporters countered that the bill protects the teaching of history from political propaganda. Bill sponsor **Rep. Bryan Avila** and **Rep. Randy Fine** gave the strongest defenses of the bill by describing what the bill actually does, namely prohibiting the forced teaching of the following ideas:

1. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
2. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
3. An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
4. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
5. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
7. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.

The bill passed shortly after, 74-41 on a party line vote.

Immediately following, the House took up HB 1557, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, falsely labeled the "Don't Say Gay Bill" which we in turn have named the "Don't turn my son into a daughter" bill. Over the hour-and-a-half debate, bill opponents railed against the bill, saying a vote for the bill would be a direct attack on select children and make one an opponent of the LGBT-identifying groups. They also falsely claimed that the bill banned certain words through bureaucracy, based on fear rather than fact. Tensions were high, and sharp comments were directed at the bill sponsor, **Rep. Joe Harding**. Supporters, by contrast, continued to go back to the bill's fundamental purpose outlined in the bill text: defending parental rights in education.

Highlights in debate in support of the bill included **Rep. Jenna Persons-Mulicka** appealing to parental love and care for their own children being one of the most powerful forces for good, a force that government had a duty to protect; **Reps. Juan Fernandez-Barquin** and **Kaylee Tuck** affirming that such issues over sexuality and identity did not belong in K-3rd grades and criticizing the war on parental rights being conducted against parental rights by Florida school districts; **Rep. Erin Grall**

passionately listing specific examples of attacks on parental rights in Florida schools; and **Rep. Randy Fine** closing debate by calling on his fellow reps to protect parents from opposing school districts, rather than allowing school districts to “protect” children from their own loving parents to further the school’s agendas.

In closing, **Rep. Joe Harding** asked his fellow members to peel away the alternate reality of media hit pieces, click bait internet stories, and Twitter ramblings, and return in the real world centered on the actual text of the actual bill before them. Empowered and engaged parents, regardless of backgrounds and beliefs, lead to better education opportunities for their children and overall a better quality of life for all children, he asserted in closing.

The bill passed 69-47 on a mostly party line vote with several exceptions. Democrat **Rep. James Bush** joined with most Republicans in defense of parental rights, while 7 Republicans joined with the anti-parental rights Democrats in opposition to the bill. These opposition votes included **Reps. Vance Aloupis, Demi Busatta Cabrera, Chip LaMarca, Amber Mariano, James Mooney, Rene “Coach P” Plasencia, and Will Robinson.**

Florida Family Policy Council resoundingly praises House leadership for taking the lead on these critical issues and ignoring the misleading media narratives and vicious false attacks. By passing these bills, House leadership under Speaker Chris Sprowls, Speaker Designate Paul Renner, and Speaker Pro Tem Bryan Avila have established Florida as a leader on protecting children by empowering parents to be engaged in their children’s educations and holding school districts accountable to respect parental rights.

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.

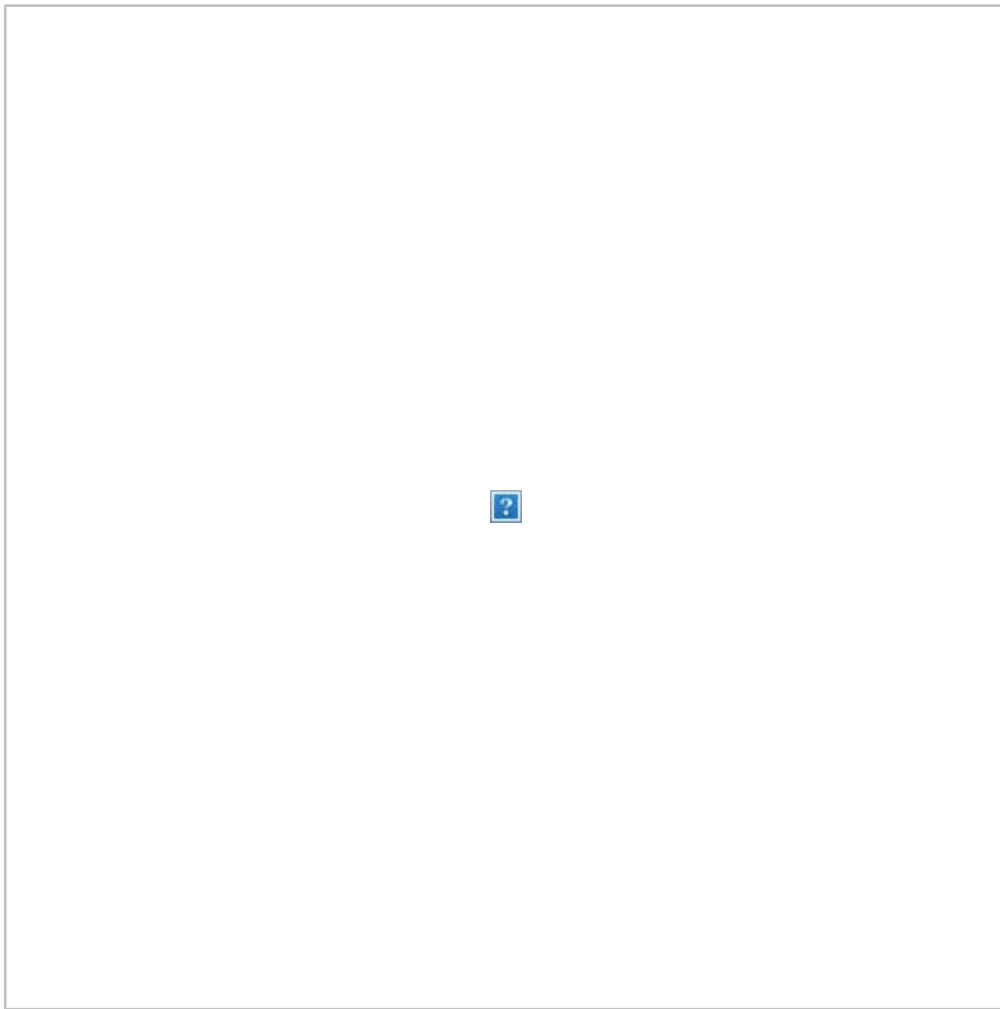
Also, below some of the bills is an Action Alert in Red, signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills.

We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,



John Stemberger



Rep. Joe Harding on the House floor debating HB 1557

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 the full House floor. On the Senate side, HB 5 passed the final Senate committee, Appropriations on Monday 13-6 and now heads to the Senate floor for a final vote, before heading to the governor's desk.

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) 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.

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

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

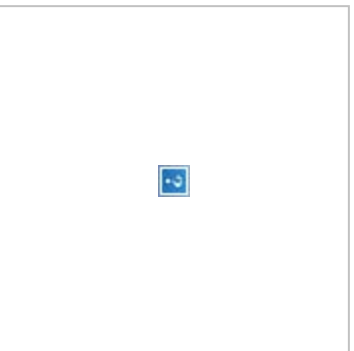


SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

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. On Thursday, the House version (HB 7) passed the full House 74-41.

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: On Thursday, HB 1557 passed the full House floor 69-47. The Senate is taking up HB 1557, the House version, and sending it to one final Senate stop, the Appropriations Committee.

ACTION ALERT: HB 1557 will be heard in its final Senate committee meeting, Appropriations, on Monday, February 28th (the committee begins at 10:30 am) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

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Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 7 of 9 - February 25, 2022

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FFPC Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro testified in support of the bill, highlighting the issue of the late-term abortion problem in Florida and the bill's concrete and immediate protections provided to the unborn. During the committee debate that followed, **Sen. Kathleen Passidomo's** comments stood out vividly. She laid out the science and reasoning again for supporting **HB 5**. **Sen Stargel** also argued against adding exceptions in the bill for rape and incest and argued for defending the lives of all babies. The bill passed the committee immediately after and has one final vote at the Senate floor before the governor's desk. Tuesday afternoon, **HB 7 – The Individual Freedom Act**, which restricts CRT in public schools and other places, was heard on the full House floor. **Rep. Bryan Avila**, the bill sponsor, defended the bill for over an hour. He argued for setting clear standards on the teaching of history and keeping racist ideologies out of the classroom. Opponents on the floor accused **Avila** of seeking to revise history and grilled him on accusations of censorship. **Avila** passionately argued the opposite, that the bill was seeking to ensure true history was taught. The supporting legislators spent another hour or more defeating opposing amendments. Immediately afterward, the House floor finally heard **HB 1557 – The Parental Rights in Education Act**, the now nationally infamous bill facing attacks all the way up to the White House. Under incredible pressure and facing very hostile questioning for nearly an hour, bill sponsor **Rep. Joe Harding** passionately defended parental rights and refuted opposition. Retaining stellar poise, he masterfully stayed focused on the text of the bill. He emphasized the need to empower parents, give them rights, and provide them tools to hold schools accountable. He advocated for parents to be informed on critical decisions regarding their children's emotional, mental, and physical health and well-being. 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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3. An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
4. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
5. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
7. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.

The bill passed shortly after, 74-41 on a party line vote.

Immediately following, the House took up HB 1557, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, falsely labeled the "Don't Say Gay Bill" which we in turn have named the "Don't turn my son into a daughter" bill. Over the hour-and-a-half debate, bill opponents railed against the bill, saying a vote for the bill would be a direct attack on select children and make one an opponent of the LGBT-identifying groups. They also falsely claimed that the bill banned certain words through bureaucracy, based on fear rather than fact. Tensions were high, and sharp comments were directed at the bill sponsor, **Rep. Joe Harding**. Supporters, by contrast, continued to go back to the bill's fundamental purpose outlined in the bill text: defending parental rights in education.

Highlights in debate in support of the bill included **Rep. Jenna Persons-Mulicka** appealing to parental love and care for their own children being one of the most powerful forces for good, a force that government had a duty to protect; **Reps. Juan Fernandez-Barquin** and **Kaylee Tuck** affirming that such issues over sexuality and identity did not belong in K-3rd grades and criticizing the war on parental rights being conducted against parental rights by Florida school districts; **Rep. Erin Grall**

passionately listing specific examples of attacks on parental rights in Florida schools; and **Rep. Randy Fine** closing debate by calling on his fellow reps to protect parents from opposing school districts, rather than allowing school districts to “protect” children from their own loving parents to further the school’s agendas.

In closing, **Rep. Joe Harding** asked his fellow members to peel away the alternate reality of media hit pieces, click bait internet stories, and Twitter ramblings, and return in the real world centered on the actual text of the actual bill before them. Empowered and engaged parents, regardless of backgrounds and beliefs, lead to better education opportunities for their children and overall a better quality of life for all children, he asserted in closing.

The bill passed 69-47 on a mostly party line vote with several exceptions. Democrat **Rep. James Bush** joined with most Republicans in defense of parental rights, while 7 Republicans joined with the anti-parental rights Democrats in opposition to the bill. These opposition votes included **Reps. Vance Aloupis, Demi Busatta Cabrera, Chip LaMarca, Amber Mariano, James Mooney, Rene “Coach P” Plasencia, and Will Robinson.**

Florida Family Policy Council resoundingly praises House leadership for taking the lead on these critical issues and ignoring the misleading media narratives and vicious false attacks. By passing these bills, House leadership under Speaker Chris Sprowls, Speaker Designate Paul Renner, and Speaker Pro Tem Bryan Avila have established Florida as a leader on protecting children by empowering parents to be engaged in their children’s educations and holding school districts accountable to respect parental rights.

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.

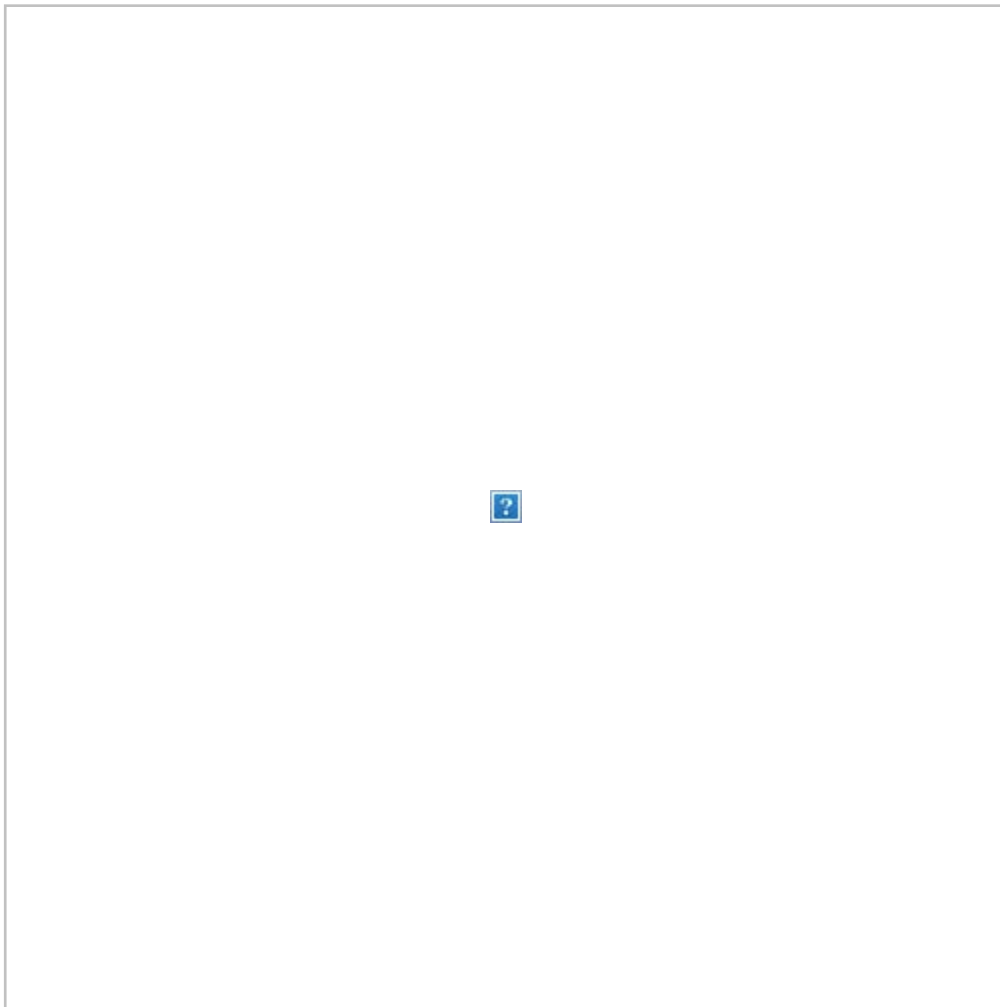
Also, below some of the bills is an Action Alert in Red, signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills.

We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,



John Stemberger



Rep. Joe Harding on the House floor debating HB 1557

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 the full House floor. On the Senate side, HB 5 passed the final Senate committee, Appropriations on Monday 13-6 and now heads to the Senate floor for a final vote, before heading to the governor's desk.

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) 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.

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

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

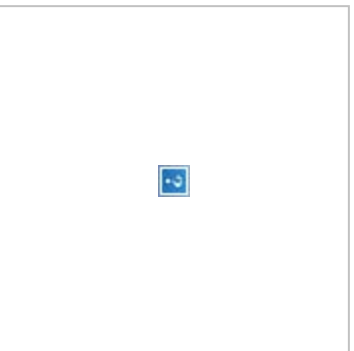


SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

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. On Thursday, the House version (HB 7) passed the full House 74-41.

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: On Thursday, HB 1557 passed the full House floor 69-47. The Senate is taking up HB 1557, the House version, and sending it to one final Senate stop, the Appropriations Committee.

ACTION ALERT: HB 1557 will be heard in its final Senate committee meeting, Appropriations, on Monday, February 28th (the committee begins at 10:30 am) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

Florida Family Policy Council

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



From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Latvala, Chris](#)
Subject: Week 8 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session
Date: Friday, March 4, 2022 3:24:55 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Image



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.

Tuesday evening, **HB 7 – The Individual Freedom Act**, the bill restricting CRT in public schools and other places, was heard on the full House floor. **Sen. Manny Diaz**, the bill sponsor, defended the bill for over an hour, dodging attacks on the bill, answering opponents' hypotheticals, and defending the principles within the bill.

View a video below of protests breaking out against this bill on Thursday. Public testimony followed with **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** again testifying in favor. In testimony, he specifically quoted the ideas prohibited in the bill, from the text of the bill itself, asking if the opponents really wanted to teach the following bad ideas in public schools as they appear in the bill:

1. "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
2. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
3. An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
4. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
5. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
7. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were

created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin."

The bill passed later, 12-5 on a party line vote.

Wednesday, the House floor heard **HB 215 - the Religious Institutions Act**, the bill seeking to place protections for churches and religious institutions from discriminatory government mandates during emergency declarations. Over very limited and even somewhat contradictory opposition in debate, **Rep. Mike Beltran** laid out the legal case for the law, pointing out that the bill simply was stating that churches are to be given equal treatment under the law. Bill sponsor **Rep. Nick DiCeglie** gave a powerful close, listing cases of religious freedom violations in Florida, declaring that government orders targeting religious institutions are unconstitutional, and calling upon his colleagues to join him in defending religious freedom for all Floridians. The bill passed on a uniquely bipartisan vote, 88-29. The bill has passed the Senate, and thus will be heading to the governor's desk.

Starting later Wednesday, the Senate took up **HB 5**, the late-term abortion ban protecting the unborn after 15 weeks in the state of Florida.

Members went straight into debating amendments, all of which were designed to undermine or eliminate key portions. Debate on just the amendments alone lasted for over 3 hours, with much of the effort spent trying to running out the clock by the opposition.

The next day, after a full day of proceedings, the Senate at last moved to final debate on **HB 5**. Surprisingly, debate began shortly before 8:30 pm and ended in less than 2 hours later. Though debate tone was passionate and intense, it remained calm and controlled. Opponents of the bill continually brought up the lack of exceptions for rape and incest and the threat of back alley abortions that would occur if the bill were passed.

A pro-life highlight from debate was when **Sen. Ileana Garcia** called out the hypocrisy of the death penalty argument. If people oppose the death penalty on the basis of defending human dignity and life, they cannot deny that same reasoning to the unborn. Additionally, **Sen. Danny Burgess** gave a dynamic defense of the unborn, arguing that conflating the language of abortion with that of reproductive justice only distorts the truth. He reasoned that if the dismemberment of a child in the womb of his mother was a form of justice, he shuttered to think of what injustice was. Unborn children have no voice and he must be that voice, declaring that he would rather lose his next election than be wrong on this issue.

Sen. Ed Hooper, in a rare moment of participating in debate, shared his personal experiences with abortion. First, as an operating room technician assigned to a hospital surgeon performing abortions, he described being assigned to remove the fetal remains and dispose of them, which he said were clearly not just clumps of cells. He then went on to share the story of his daughter, who upon becoming pregnant at age 16 refused his advice to get an abortion, to his great relief later on. He recounted his whole worldview on abortion changing once he was able to hold his new grandchild.

Sen. Jason Brodeur, challenging the accusation of voting in favor for

political reasons, shared about his experience of being given up for adoption at birth in the shadow of the legalization of abortion. He then went on to share his hope that there would be a kid whose life would be saved as a result of the bill, and as he closed, he said, "I'm doing this because that kid was me."

Bill sponsor **Sen. Kelli Stargel** again closed debate by calling on each of her fellow members to defend the lives of unborn babies. After 18 years in the legislature fighting for the unborn and their mothers, her emotion at the historic moment was clearly evident. She pointed to two of her daughters, both unplanned pregnancies, and her little granddaughter in the gallery as a testimony to life. "We are telling young women that they have to lay down their child's life to succeed--I was told that," she said. "I never dreamed I would be able to save the lives of babies past 15 weeks' gestation."

The bill passed 24-15 immediately after.

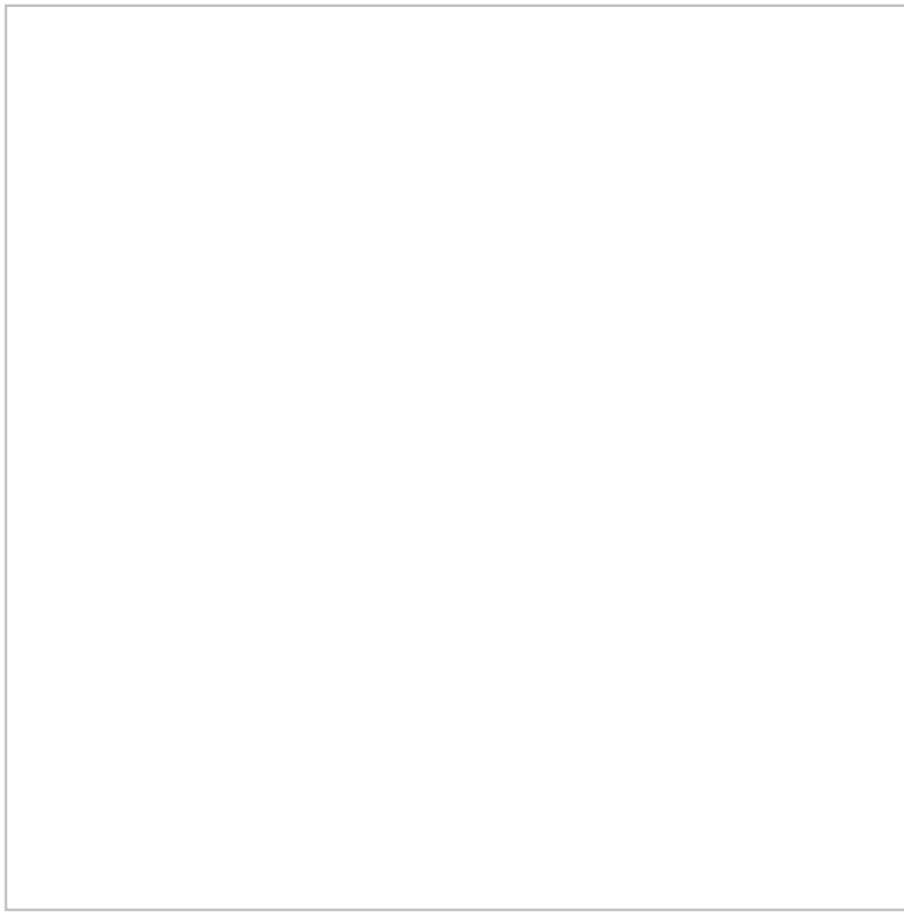
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad**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

We will continue to provide updates as session closes out next week.

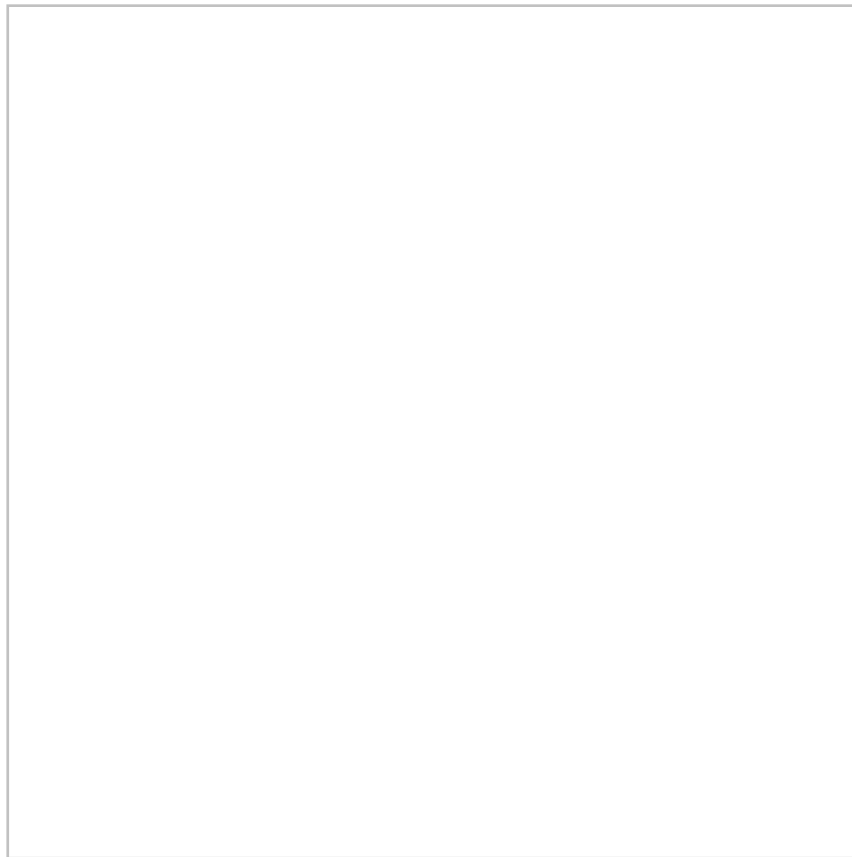
Sincerely,



John Stemberger



[VIDEO: Aaron DiPietro Defends the Parental Rights in Education Act](#)



[VIDEO: Protesters Break Out Thursday Against Parental Rights in Education Bill](#)

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 the full House floor. On the Senate side, HB 5 passed the full Senate floor Thursday 24-15 and now heads to the

governor's desk!

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: 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



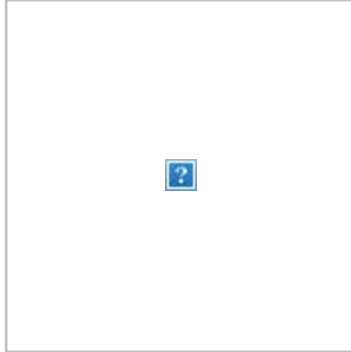
SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

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: Tuesday, HB 7 passed the Senate Rules committee 12-5 and now heads to the full Senate floor. The House version (HB 7) previously passed the full House 74-41.

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: 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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Donate



From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: You are invited...
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:36:17 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-34bz4x3y.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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...

From: [Aron DiPietro](#)
To: [McClain, Stan](#)
Subject: Accepted: Aaron DiPietro - Florida Family Policy Council

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:40 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [McClain, Stan](#)
Subject: Fw: FFPC Tallahassee Dinner Invitation...
Date: Monday, January 17, 2022 7:48:42 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-dgrvkb2t.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: Chris Yates
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 3:25 PM
To: stan.mcclain@myfloridahouse.gov
Subject: FFPC Tallahassee Dinner Invitation...
Hi Stan,

On behalf of John Stemberger and the Florida Family Policy Council Board of Directors, I would like to invite you to be our guest at a VIP dinner on Sunday Evening, January 23rd at 6:30 pm.

It will be held at Mom and Dad's Italian Restaurant - 3421 Bannerman Rd Suite #104, Tallahassee, FL 32312

You will enjoy a delicious meal, a great time of fellowship, and hearing from a guest speaker.

We have a limited amount of seating available, so please RSVP on or before Monday, 1/17/2022 at 4:00 pm.

Feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

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: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57:56 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [McClain, Stan](#)
Subject: Re: FFPC Tallahassee Dinner Invitation...
Date: Monday, January 17, 2022 4:26:50 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-dgrvkb2t.png](#)
[Outlook-djx0ibal.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Great, you have been added to the guest list. I will follow up with another email later this week with a few details.

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: McClain, Stan
Sent: Monday, January 17, 2022 4:20 PM
To: Chris Yates
Subject: RE: FFPC Tallahassee Dinner Invitation...
Chris,
I would like to attend.
Thanks,
Stan

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10.

----- Original message -----

From: Chris Yates
Date: 1/17/22 7:48 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "McClain, Stan"
Subject: Fw: FFPC Tallahassee Dinner Invitation...

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: Chris Yates
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 3:25 PM
To: stan.mcclain@myfloridahouse.gov
Subject: FFPC Tallahassee Dinner Invitation...
Hi Stan,

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We have a limited amount of seating available, so please RSVP on or before Monday, 1/17/2022 at 4:00 pm.

Feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

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: [Aron DiPietro](#)
To: [Treiber, Jennifer](#)
Cc: [Thomas, Ryan](#)
Subject: Re: Meeting request
Date: Monday, January 31, 2022 2:02:38 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

That works well. Thank you

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: Treiber, Jennifer
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 11:45:32 AM
To: Aaron DiPietro
Cc: Thomas, Ryan
Subject: RE: Meeting request

Good Morning Aaron,

Rep. McClain will have an 8:25-8:40am appointment available on Wednesday, February 2nd. Please let me know if this can work for you. Thanks!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Treiber, *District Aide*

-to-

Stan McClain, *State Representative*
House District 23: Part of Marion County



Marion Office:
315 SE 25th Avenue
Ocala, Florida 34471
(352) 732-1313



Capitol Office:
308 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 717-5023

From: Aaron DiPietro
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 11:09 AM
To: Treiber, Jennifer
Cc: Thomas, Ryan
Subject: Meeting request

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Jennifer,

I wanted to schedule a meeting with Rep. McClain on HB 1305. Please let me know what time works best for your office. Thank you very much.

Sincere regards,

Aaron DiPietro

Legislative Affairs Director

Florida Family Policy Council

4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806

www.FLfamily.org

aarond@flfamily.org



From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:29 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:07:00 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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

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

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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



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: Chris Yates

Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM

To: Chris Yates

Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION

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Donald Tucker Civic Center

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[Tickets](#)

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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...

From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [McClain, Stan](#)
Subject: Week 6 of 9: Insider's Report: Legislative Session
Date: Friday, February 18, 2022 5:34:59 PM

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[Image](#)



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

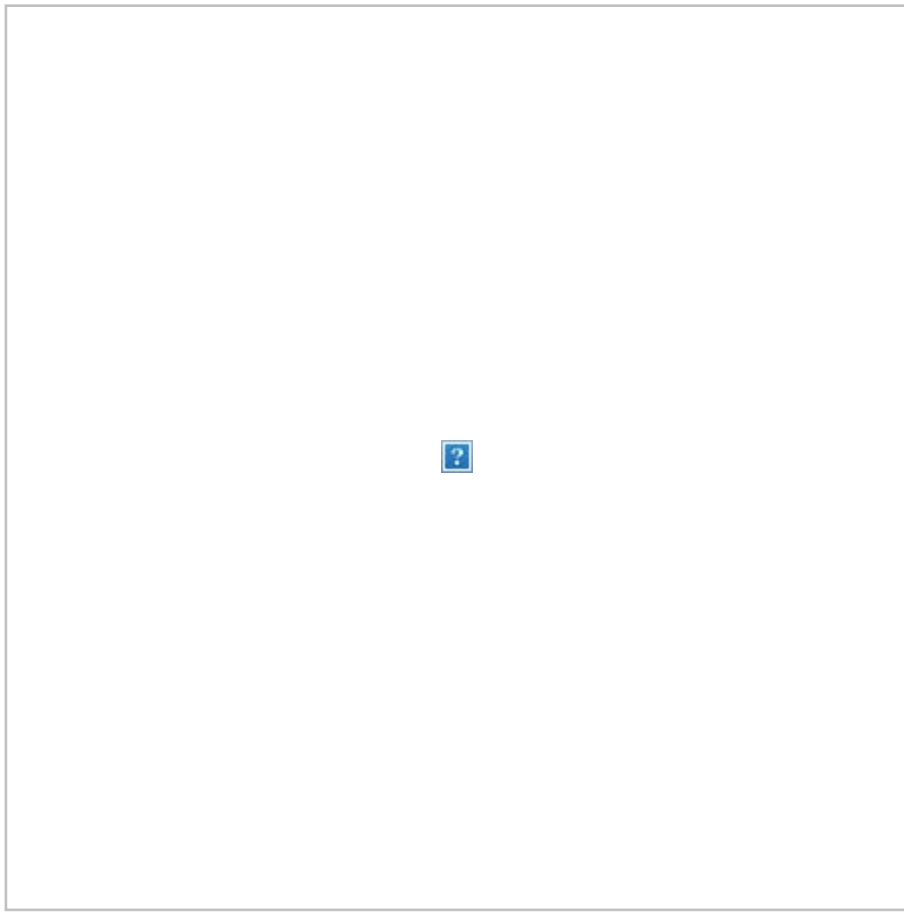
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad**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

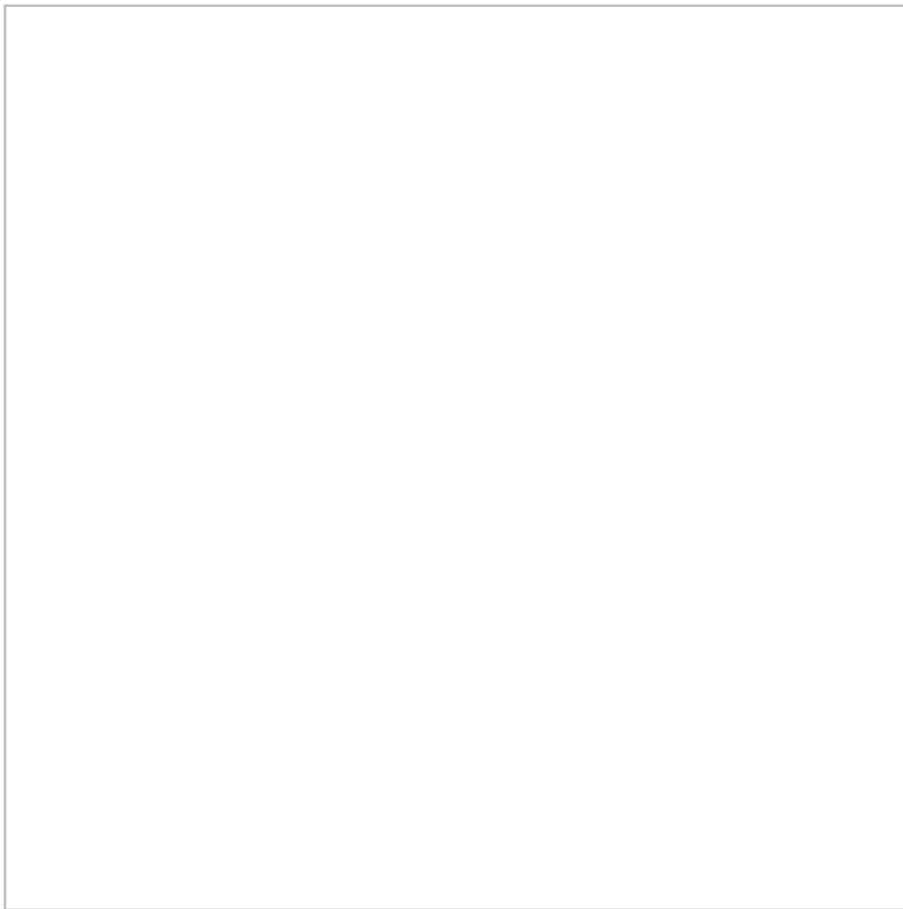
We will provide updates weekly throughout session.
Sincerely,



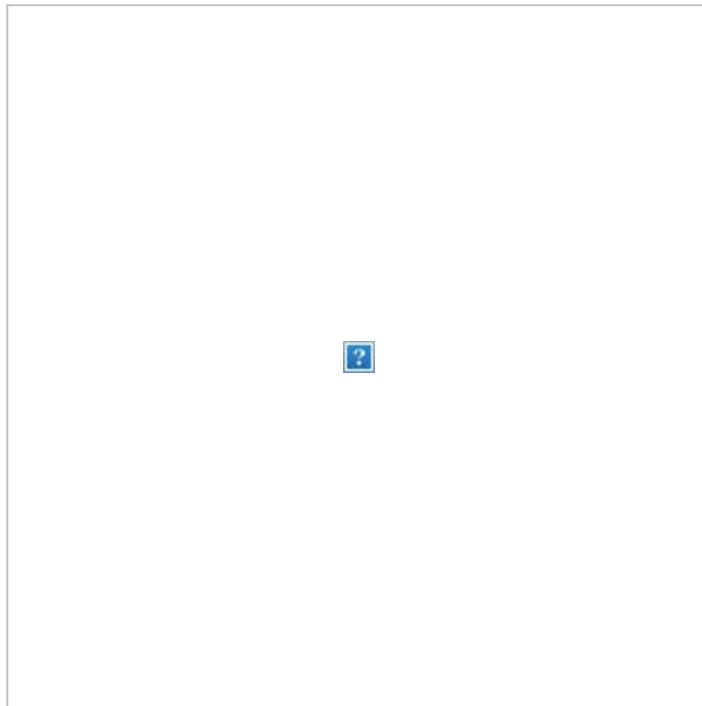
John Stemberger



[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](#)

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 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

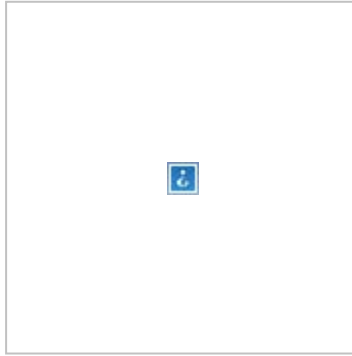
organizations.) Thankfully, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has not pushed such policies, but future administrations could reverse course. This bill proactively protects religious institutions by requiring equal treatment under the law during state emergencies. Status: The House version (215) is now waiting for a final House floor vote; 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.

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: 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.

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 all its committees and is scheduled to be heard and possibly voted on by the full House floor on Tuesday, February 22nd. The Senate version, SB 1834, is in Senate Appropriations, the second of three stops.

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](#)
To: [McClain, Stan](#)
Subject: Week 7 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session
Date: Friday, February 25, 2022 5:13:51 PM

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[Image](#)



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.

The week began Monday afternoon with **HB 5**, the late-term abortion ban protecting the unborn after 15 weeks, which passed the final Senate committee stop. The Senate, to help the bill proceed quickly, had tabled their version, and took up the House version that passed the full House floor last week. Pro-life champion and bill sponsor **Sen. Kelli Stargel** once again introduced the bill, listing the advances in science showing

the development of a child between 15-24 weeks and mounting evidence showing the ability for the baby in utero to feel pain. Public testimony included a post-abortive woman who shared her emotional and mental trauma from her abortions and the importance of passing HB 5 to defend life. Another speaker shared the story of his mother, a victim of human trafficking, who was very close to being aborted. He emphasized the reality that all lives are precious, regardless of the circumstances of conception.

FFPC Legislative Director Aaron DiPietro testified in support of the bill, highlighting the issue of the late-term abortion problem in Florida and the bill's concrete and immediate protections provided to the unborn.

During the committee debate that followed, **Sen. Kathleen**

Passidomo's comments stood out vividly. She laid out the science and reasoning again for supporting **HB 5**. **Sen Stargel** also argued against adding exceptions in the bill for rape and incest and argued for defending the lives of all babies. The bill passed the committee immediately after and has one final vote at the Senate floor before the governor's desk.

Tuesday afternoon, **HB 7 – The Individual Freedom Act**, which restricts CRT in public schools and other places, was heard on the full House floor.

Rep. Bryan Avila, the bill sponsor, defended the bill for over an hour. He argued for setting clear standards on the teaching of history and keeping racist ideologies out of the classroom. Opponents on the floor accused **Avila** of seeking to revise history and grilled him on accusations of censorship.

Avila passionately argued the opposite, that the bill was seeking to ensure true history was taught. The supporting legislators spent another hour or more defeating opposing amendments. Immediately afterward, the House floor finally heard **HB 1557 – The Parental Rights in Education Act**, the now nationally infamous bill facing attacks all the way up to the White House. Under incredible pressure and facing very hostile questioning for nearly an hour, bill sponsor **Rep. Joe Harding** passionately defended parental rights and refuted opposition. Retaining stellar poise, he masterfully stayed focused on the text of the bill. He emphasized the need to empower parents, give them rights, and provide them tools to hold schools accountable. He advocated for parents to be informed on critical decisions regarding their children's emotional, mental, and physical health and well-being.

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.

Thursday afternoon, the full House floor took up both HB 7 and HB 1557 for final debate and final vote, with **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** again present. First up was HB 7. It faced two hours of contentious debate, mostly consisting of inaccurate accusations by opponents. Among the accusations was that the bill forces censorship of history, and supporters countered that the bill protects the teaching of history from political propaganda. Bill sponsor **Rep. Bryan Avila** and **Rep. Randy Fine** gave the strongest defenses of the bill by describing what the bill actually does, namely prohibiting the forced teaching of the following ideas:

1. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
2. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
3. An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
4. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
5. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
7. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.

The bill passed shortly after, 74-41 on a party line vote.

Immediately following, the House took up HB 1557, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, falsely labeled the "Don't Say Gay Bill" which we in turn have named the "Don't turn my son into a daughter" bill. Over the hour-and-a-half debate, bill opponents railed against the bill, saying a vote for the bill would be a direct attack on select children and make one an opponent of the LGBT-identifying groups. They also falsely claimed that the bill banned certain words through bureaucracy, based on fear rather than fact. Tensions were high, and sharp comments were directed at the bill sponsor, **Rep. Joe Harding**. Supporters, by contrast, continued to go back to the bill's fundamental purpose outlined in the bill text: defending parental rights in education.

Highlights in debate in support of the bill included **Rep. Jenna Persons-Mulicka** appealing to parental love and care for their own children being one of the most powerful forces for good, a force that government had a duty to protect; **Reps. Juan Fernandez-Barquin** and **Kaylee Tuck** affirming that such issues over sexuality and identity did not belong in K-3rd grades and criticizing the war on parental rights being conducted against parental rights by Florida school districts; **Rep. Erin Grall**

passionately listing specific examples of attacks on parental rights in Florida schools; and **Rep. Randy Fine** closing debate by calling on his fellow reps to protect parents from opposing school districts, rather than allowing school districts to “protect” children from their own loving parents to further the school’s agendas.

In closing, **Rep. Joe Harding** asked his fellow members to peel away the alternate reality of media hit pieces, click bait internet stories, and Twitter ramblings, and return in the real world centered on the actual text of the actual bill before them. Empowered and engaged parents, regardless of backgrounds and beliefs, lead to better education opportunities for their children and overall a better quality of life for all children, he asserted in closing.

The bill passed 69-47 on a mostly party line vote with several exceptions. Democrat **Rep. James Bush** joined with most Republicans in defense of parental rights, while 7 Republicans joined with the anti-parental rights Democrats in opposition to the bill. These opposition votes included **Reps. Vance Aloupis, Demi Busatta Cabrera, Chip LaMarca, Amber Mariano, James Mooney, Rene “Coach P” Plasencia, and Will Robinson.**

Florida Family Policy Council resoundingly praises House leadership for taking the lead on these critical issues and ignoring the misleading media narratives and vicious false attacks. By passing these bills, House leadership under Speaker Chris Sprowls, Speaker Designate Paul Renner, and Speaker Pro Tem Bryan Avila have established Florida as a leader on protecting children by empowering parents to be engaged in their children’s educations and holding school districts accountable to respect parental rights.

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.

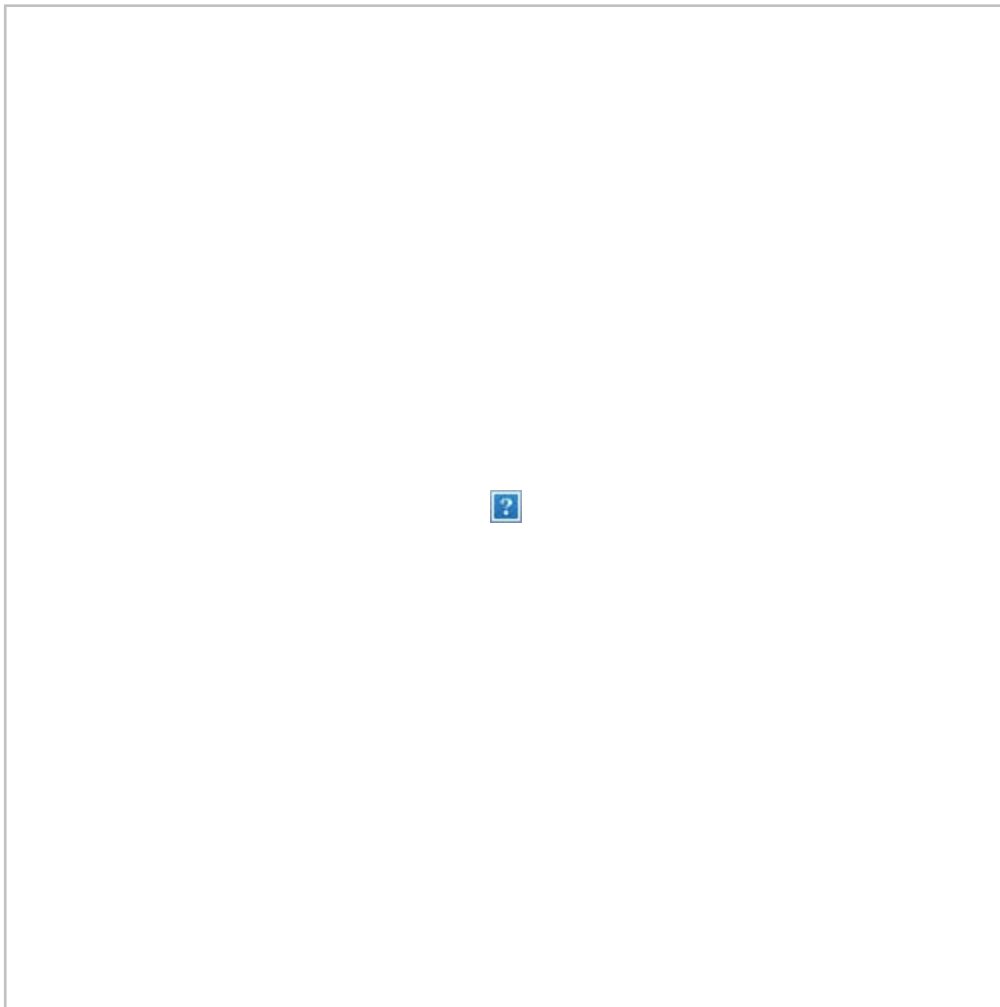
Also, below some of the bills is an Action Alert in Red, signifying upcoming bills that will be heard this week, providing opportunities for supporters to attend and show support for those bills.

We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,



John Stemberger



Rep. Joe Harding on the House floor debating HB 1557

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 the full House floor. On the Senate side, HB 5 passed the final Senate committee, Appropriations on Monday 13-6 and now heads to the Senate floor for a final vote, before heading to the governor's desk.

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

Education/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



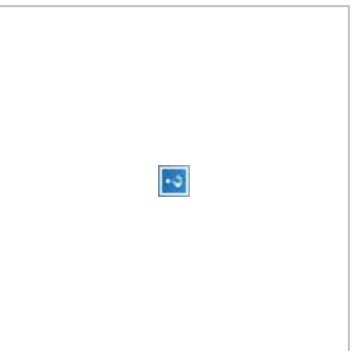
FL-REP-22-0499-A-000235

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. On Thursday, the House version (HB 7) passed the full House 74-41.

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: On Thursday, HB 1557 passed the full House floor 69-47. The Senate is taking up HB 1557, the House version, and sending it to one final Senate stop, the Appropriations Committee.

ACTION ALERT: HB 1557 will be heard in its final Senate committee meeting, Appropriations, on Monday, February 28th (the committee begins at 10:30 am) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

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](#)
To: [McClain, Stan](#)
Subject: Week 8 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session
Date: Friday, March 4, 2022 3:13:53 PM

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[Image](#)



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.

Tuesday evening, **HB 7 – The Individual Freedom Act**, the bill restricting CRT in public schools and other places, was heard on the full House floor. **Sen. Manny Diaz**, the bill sponsor, defended the bill for over an hour, dodging attacks on the bill, answering opponents' hypotheticals, and defending the principles within the bill.

View a video below of protests breaking out against this bill on Thursday. Public testimony followed with **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** again testifying in favor. In testimony, he specifically quoted the ideas prohibited in the bill, from the text of the bill itself, asking if the opponents really wanted to teach the following bad ideas in public schools as they appear in the bill:

1. "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
2. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
3. An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
4. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
5. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
7. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were

created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin."

The bill passed later, 12-5 on a party line vote.

Wednesday, the House floor heard **HB 215 - the Religious Institutions Act**, the bill seeking to place protections for churches and religious institutions from discriminatory government mandates during emergency declarations. Over very limited and even somewhat contradictory opposition in debate, **Rep. Mike Beltran** laid out the legal case for the law, pointing out that the bill simply was stating that churches are to be given equal treatment under the law. Bill sponsor **Rep. Nick DiCeglie** gave a powerful close, listing cases of religious freedom violations in Florida, declaring that government orders targeting religious institutions are unconstitutional, and calling upon his colleagues to join him in defending religious freedom for all Floridians. The bill passed on a uniquely bipartisan vote, 88-29. The bill has passed the Senate, and thus will be heading to the governor's desk.

Starting later Wednesday, the Senate took up **HB 5**, the late-term abortion ban protecting the unborn after 15 weeks in the state of Florida.

Members went straight into debating amendments, all of which were designed to undermine or eliminate key portions. Debate on just the amendments alone lasted for over 3 hours, with much of the effort spent trying to running out the clock by the opposition.

The next day, after a full day of proceedings, the Senate at last moved to final debate on **HB 5**. Surprisingly, debate began shortly before 8:30 pm and ended in less than 2 hours later. Though debate tone was passionate and intense, it remained calm and controlled. Opponents of the bill continually brought up the lack of exceptions for rape and incest and the threat of back alley abortions that would occur if the bill were passed.

A pro-life highlight from debate was when **Sen. Ileana Garcia** called out the hypocrisy of the death penalty argument. If people oppose the death penalty on the basis of defending human dignity and life, they cannot deny that same reasoning to the unborn. Additionally, **Sen. Danny Burgess** gave a dynamic defense of the unborn, arguing that conflating the language of abortion with that of reproductive justice only distorts the truth. He reasoned that if the dismemberment of a child in the womb of his mother was a form of justice, he shuttered to think of what injustice was. Unborn children have no voice and he must be that voice, declaring that he would rather lose his next election than be wrong on this issue.

Sen. Ed Hooper, in a rare moment of participating in debate, shared his personal experiences with abortion. First, as an operating room technician assigned to a hospital surgeon performing abortions, he described being assigned to remove the fetal remains and dispose of them, which he said were clearly not just clumps of cells. He then went on to share the story of his daughter, who upon becoming pregnant at age 16 refused his advice to get an abortion, to his great relief later on. He recounted his whole worldview on abortion changing once he was able to hold his new grandchild.

Sen. Jason Brodeur, challenging the accusation of voting in favor for

political reasons, shared about his experience of being given up for adoption at birth in the shadow of the legalization of abortion. He then went on to share his hope that there would be a kid whose life would be saved as a result of the bill, and as he closed, he said, "I'm doing this because that kid was me."

Bill sponsor **Sen. Kelli Stargel** again closed debate by calling on each of her fellow members to defend the lives of unborn babies. After 18 years in the legislature fighting for the unborn and their mothers, her emotion at the historic moment was clearly evident. She pointed to two of her daughters, both unplanned pregnancies, and her little granddaughter in the gallery as a testimony to life. "We are telling young women that they have to lay down their child's life to succeed--I was told that," she said. "I never dreamed I would be able to save the lives of babies past 15 weeks' gestation."

The bill passed 24-15 immediately after.

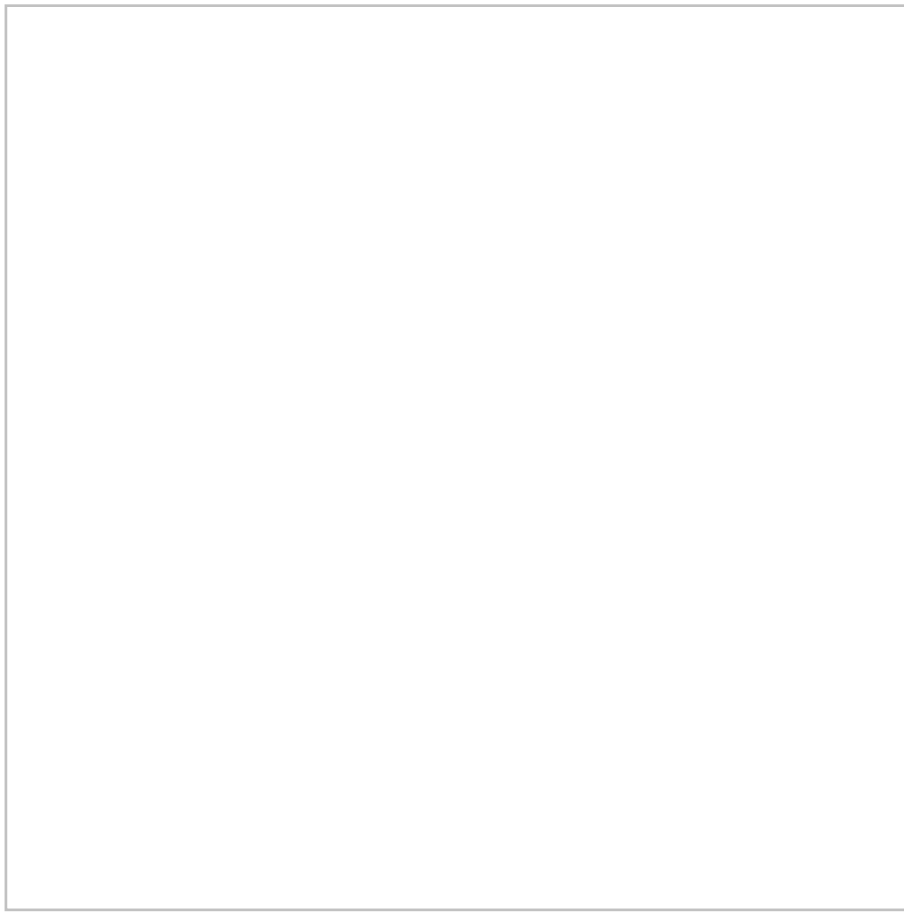
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad**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

We will continue to provide updates as session closes out next week.

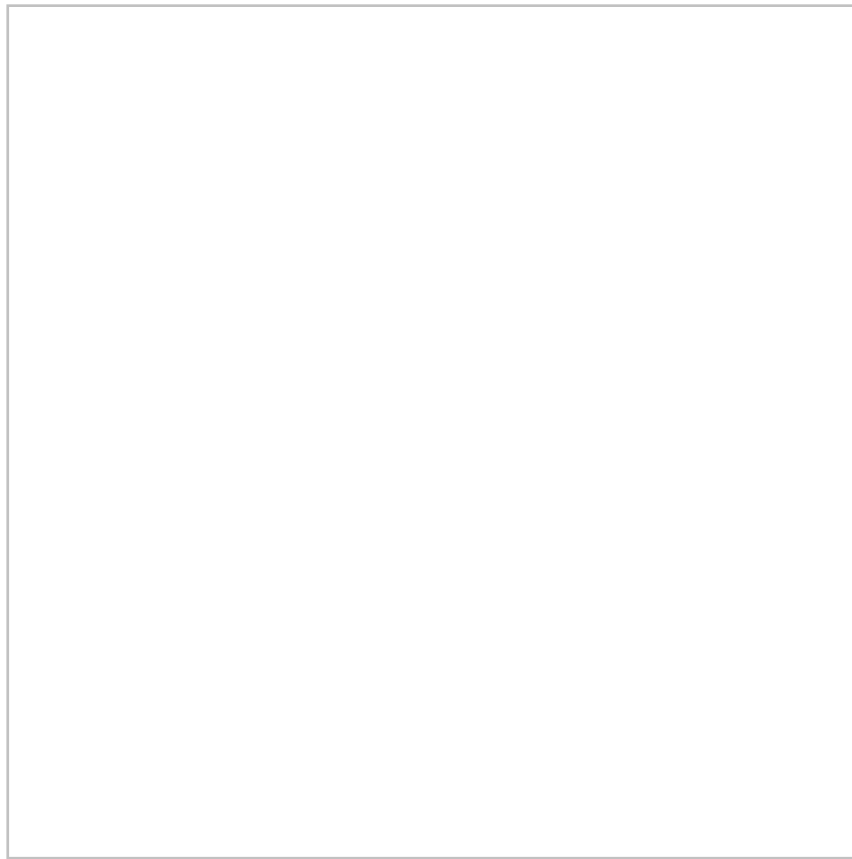
Sincerely,



John Stemberger



[VIDEO: Aaron DiPietro Defends the Parental Rights in Education Act](#)



[VIDEO: Protesters Break Out Thursday Against Parental Rights in Education Bill](#)

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 the full House floor. On the Senate side, HB 5 passed the full Senate floor Thursday 24-15 and now heads to the

governor's desk!

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: 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



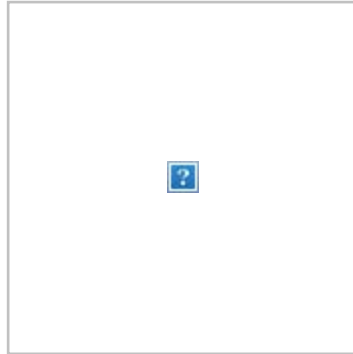
SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

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: Tuesday, HB 7 passed the Senate Rules committee 12-5 and now heads to the full Senate floor. The House version (HB 7) previously passed the full House 74-41.

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: 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

[Unsubscribe](#)

Donate



From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: You are invited...
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:36:24 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-34bz4x3y.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Your details for FFPC Tallahassee Dinner - 1/23/2022
Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 12:42:12 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Friends,

We look forward to having you as our guest this Sunday night for dinner with our board members, special guests, and our speaker, State Representative Joe Harding.

Here are the details:

Date: Sunday, January 23, 2022

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Location:

Mom & Dad's Italian Restaurant

Located in: Bannerman Crossings Shopping Center

Address: 3421 Bannerman Rd

Suite #104, Tallahassee, FL 32312

Dress:

Dressy casual/Business casual

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

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: [Tracie Baird](#)
To: [Frevola, Nicolas](#)
Cc: [Plakon, Scott](#)
Subject: Appointment w/Representative for Tuesday, Jan 25 9:45am-12:15pm
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:06:00 AM

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Nicolas,

Jan 23-25 the Florida Family Policy Council is hosting their annual PRO-FAMILY DAYS in Tallahassee. There will be people attending from all over the state of Florida. Several of those are constituents of Rep. Plakon.

I was contacting you to see if we could get these constituents an appointment with the Representative for approx. 15 minutes between 9:30am - 12:15 pm on Tuesday, Jan 25.

If you could please let me know if this is possible today I would surely appreciate it.

Tracie M Baird
Florida Family Policy Council
(843)367-0381

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:40 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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: [Mat Staver](#)
To: [Frevola, Nicolas](#)
Cc: [Mat Staver](#)
Subject: FACCCA overview. . .
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 2:17:06 PM
Attachments: [Memo for Mat and Scott Plakon - Draft 2.23.22.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Nic,

Attached is an overview of FACCCA and House of Hope.

The legislative consideration is to strike “which was in existence on January 1, 1984, and” in 409.176 (1)(a) and (5)(b). Doing so would allow for other qualified organizations to be approved by DCF to certify and register Christian child care agencies.

In addition to the work phone below, my cell is 407-766-0928.

Thanks for your consideration.

Mathew D. Staver, Esq., B.C.S.*

Founder and Chairman

Liberty Counsel

PO Box 540774

Orlando, FL 32854

(407) 875-1776 phone

(407) 875-0770 fax

www.LC.org

Offices in DC, FL and VA

*Licensed in Florida and the District of Columbia – Florida Bar Board Certified in Appellate Practice

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From: [Aaron DiPietro](#)
To: [Frevola, Nicolas](#)
Subject: Meeting request on HB 405
Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022 5:54:12 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-lfefvfu.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

January 13th, 2022

Hello Nicolas,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council. I wanted to request a meeting with Rep. Plakon to briefly introduce myself and to touch on HB 405. 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
aaron@flfamily.org

[4853 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32806](#)
[www.FLfamily.org](#)



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [John Stemberger](#)
To: [Frevola, Nicolas](#); [Floor Programs](#)
Cc: [Scott Plakon](#); [House Chaplain](#); [Plakon, Scott](#)
Subject: Minister of the Day Request for Pastor David Uth First Baptist of Orlando Tuesday March 1
Date: Monday, January 31, 2022 5:20:10 PM
Attachments: [2021 MINISTER APPLICATION FORM.doc](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chaplain Perrier and House Leadership,

Enclosed is the form I am submitting on behalf of Rep. Scott Plakon to designate Pastor David Uth of First Baptist of Orlando to pray on the floor of the House when it opens Tuesday March 1, 2022. He will be in town all day on that day. Please let me know if there are further questions and let Rep Plakon and I know if and when this request is approved.

Thank you kindly.

John Stemberger

(on Behalf of State Rep. Scott Plakon)

From: [Tracie Baird](#)
To: [Frevola, Nicolas](#)
Subject: Praying for Rep Plakon
Date: Monday, February 28, 2022 2:11:04 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Nicolas,

My husband Kevin & I work with John Stemberger and the Florida Capitol Project. We bring pastors from across the state to Tallahassee to pray for their legislators.

We have a group of pastors who would be very honored to be able to pray for Rep Plakon and express their support for all the work he is doing this year.

Please let us know if we could have just 10 minutes with him Tuesday between 9:15 - 11:15am. We would truly appreciate it!

I will look forward to your reply.

Tracie M. Baird
Deputy Director
Florida Capitol Project
Jacksonville, FL
(843) 367-0381

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:58:06 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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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...

From: [Floor Programs](#)
To: [Frevola, Nicolas](#)
Subject: RE: Minister of the Day Request for Pastor David Uth First Baptist of Orlando Tuesday March 1
Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 12:43:49 PM

Thank you!
Michelle Voran

From: Frevola, Nicolas
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 12:12 PM
To: Floor Programs
Cc: Scott Plakon ; Plakon, Scott
Subject: RE: Minister of the Day Request for Pastor David Uth First Baptist of Orlando Tuesday March 1
Good Afternoon Michelle,
Yes Chair Plakon is wanting to sponsor Pastor Uth on that day. Should you have any questions please feel free to reach out to our office.
Sincerely,
Nicolas D. Frevola

From: Floor Programs <FloorPrograms@myfloridahouse.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 10:10 PM
To: Frevola, Nicolas <Nicolas.Frevola@myfloridahouse.gov>
Cc: Scott Plakon <scott@scottplakon.com>; Plakon, Scott <Scott.Plakon@myfloridahouse.gov>
Subject: RE: Minister of the Day Request for Pastor David Uth First Baptist of Orlando Tuesday March 1
Hi,
Can you confirm that Rep. Plakon is wanting to sponsor Pastor Uth as a minister of the day?
Thank you,
Michelle Voran
Office of the Speaker
Florida House of Representatives
(850) 717-5000

From: John Stemberger <johns@flfamily.org>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 5:20 PM
To: Frevola, Nicolas <Nicolas.Frevola@myfloridahouse.gov>; Floor Programs <FloorPrograms@myfloridahouse.gov>
Cc: Scott Plakon <scott@scottplakon.com>; House Chaplain <House.Chaplain@myfloridahouse.gov>; Plakon, Scott <Scott.Plakon@myfloridahouse.gov>
Subject: Minister of the Day Request for Pastor David Uth First Baptist of Orlando Tuesday March 1
Importance: High

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Dear Chaplain Perrier and House Leadership,
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**Thank you kindly.
John Stemberger
(on Behalf of State Rep. Scott Plakon)**

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:32 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:53 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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

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

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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7:00 am - 8:45 am

\$19.50

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[Tickets](#)

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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...

From: Chris Yates
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM
To: Chris Yates
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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: You are invited...
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:36:00 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-34bz4x3y.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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:

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[Tickets](#)

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday evening, 1/24/2022

7:00 am - 8:45 am

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:40 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Roach, Spencer](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 1 of 9
Date: Saturday, January 15, 2022 8:00:15 AM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

[Image](#)



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.

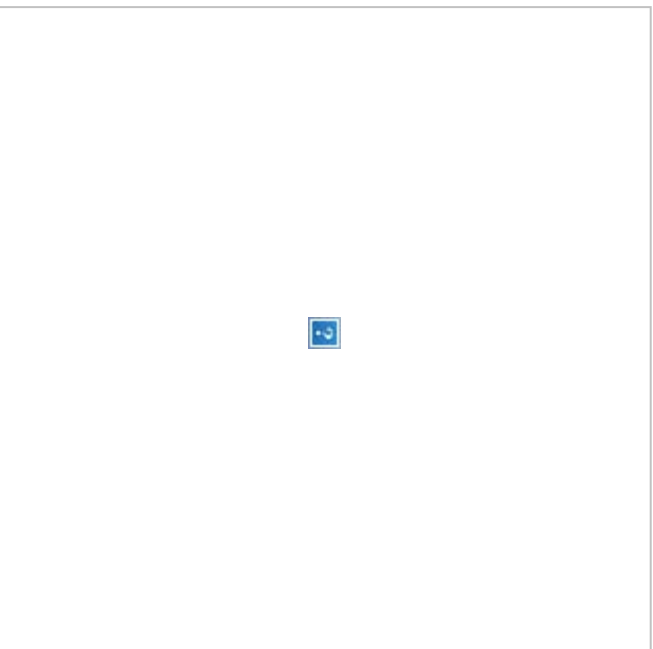
We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,

John Stemberger

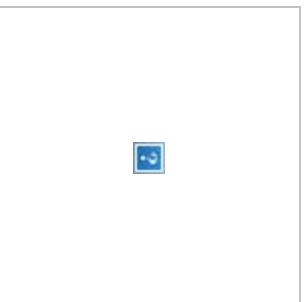
PS- Hope to see you on January 24-25 at our Pro-Life, Pro-Family Days in Tallahassee, an amazing citizen issue training

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.”

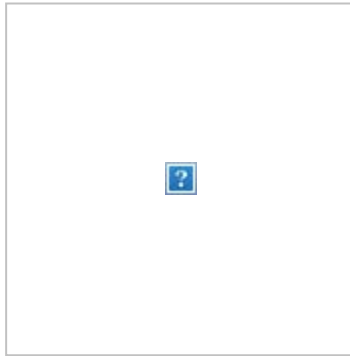
OPPOSE 3. [HB 6065/SB 0212](#) Unfairness in Women's Sports Act (Rep. Arrington/Sen. Farmer, Jr.)

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



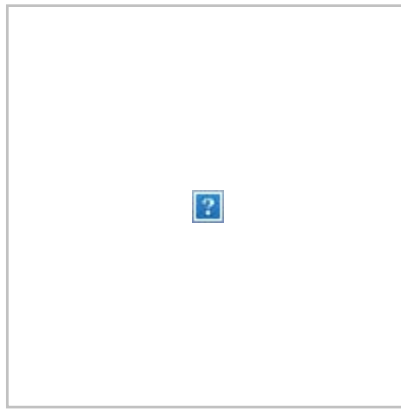
SUPPORT 1. [HB 1305/SB 1842](#) Sex Ed Materials Harmful to Minors Act (Rep. Borrero/Sen. Baxley)

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](#)
To: [Roach, Spencer](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 2 of 9
Date: Saturday, January 22, 2022 2:08:24 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

[Image](#)



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 DiCegile, 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.

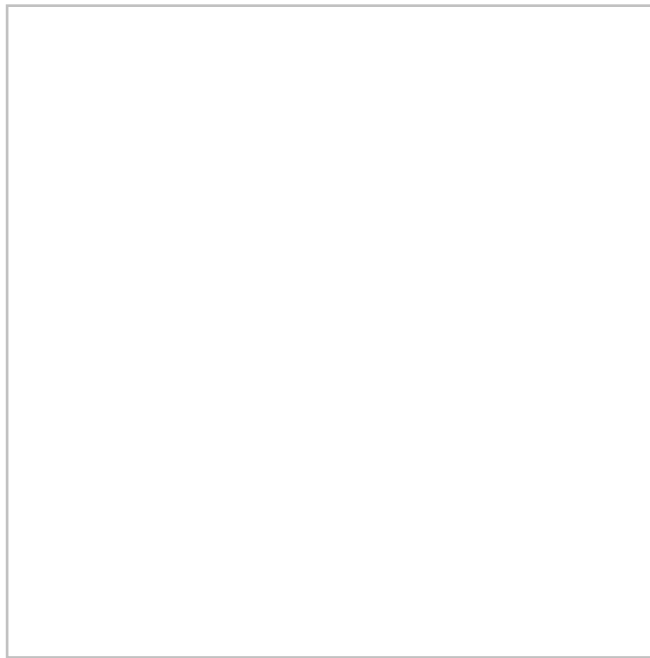
Below is a list of some of the top good and bad bills FFPC is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad** bills on our website, which will be updated as new priorities arise.

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.

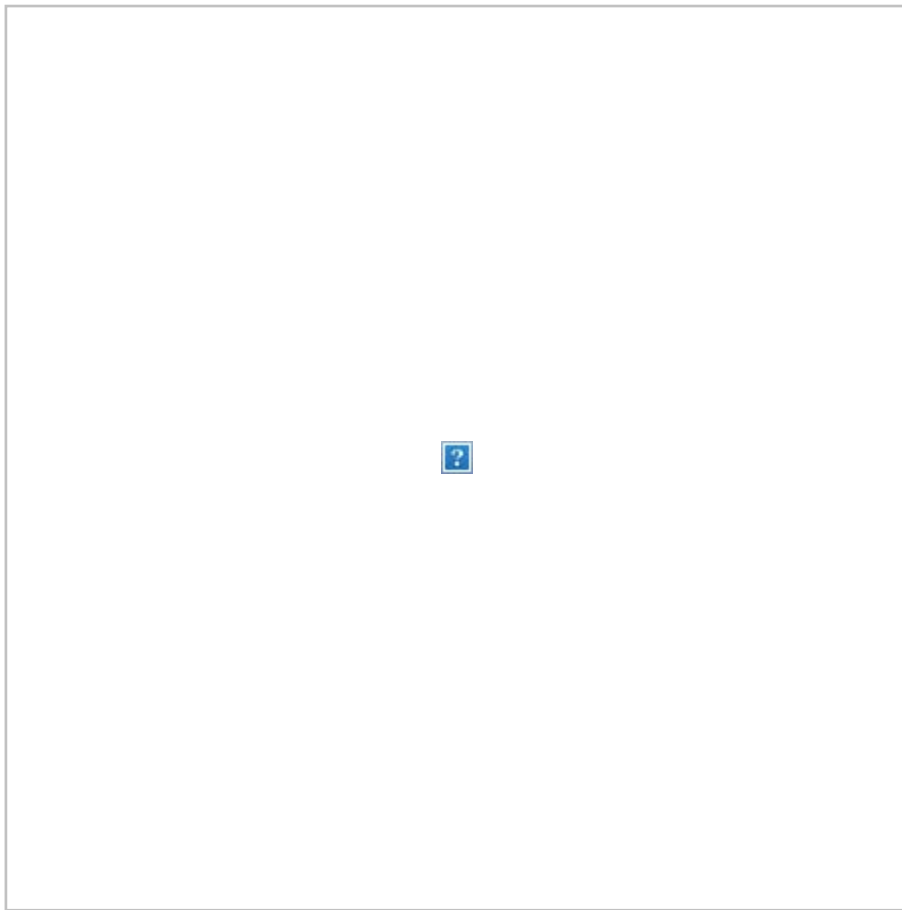
We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

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 Professions and Public Health Committee, on Tuesday the 25th at 9am.

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.

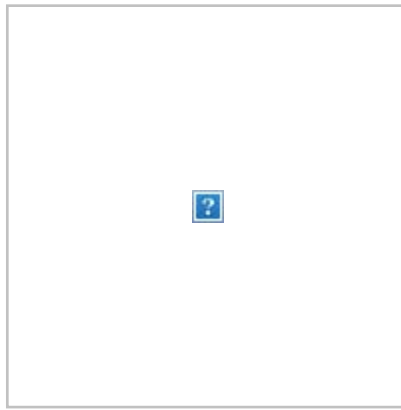
Status: No movement.

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.

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](#)
To: [Roach, Spencer](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 3 of 9
Date: Friday, January 28, 2022 3:20:02 PM

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[Image](#)



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 Trubusy** 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 Trubusy** 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.

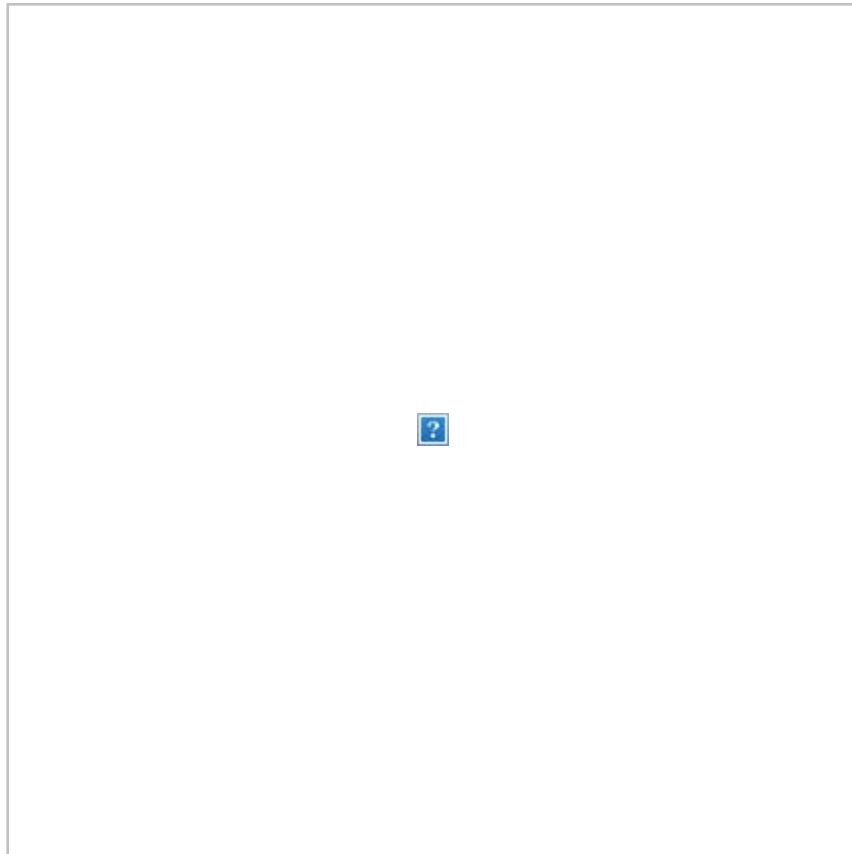
This year, we're being represented by our new Legislative Affairs Director Aaron DiPietro who is our eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will continue to provide updates weekly throughout session.

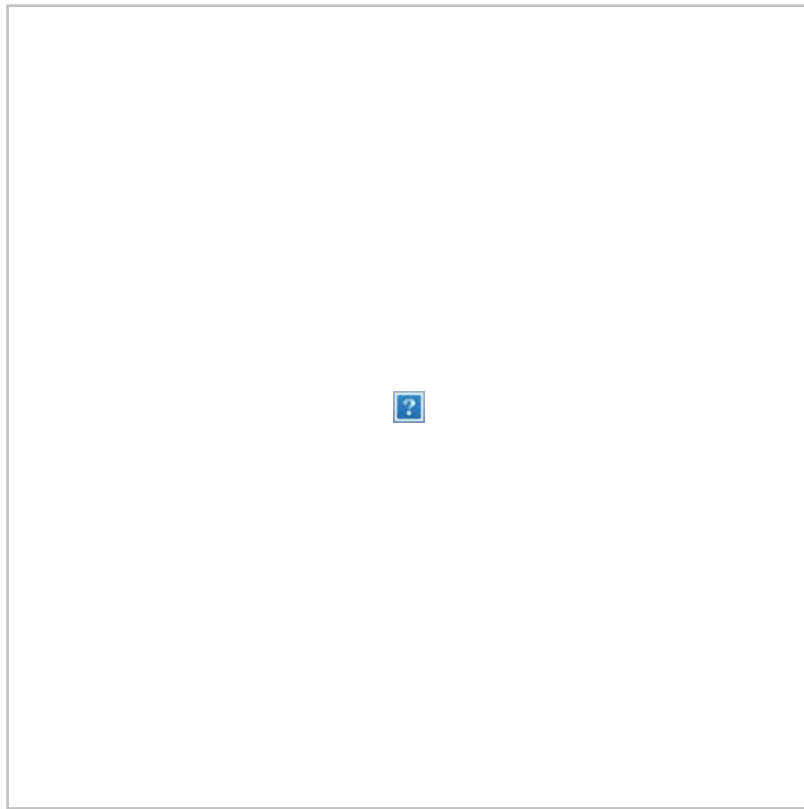
Sincerely,



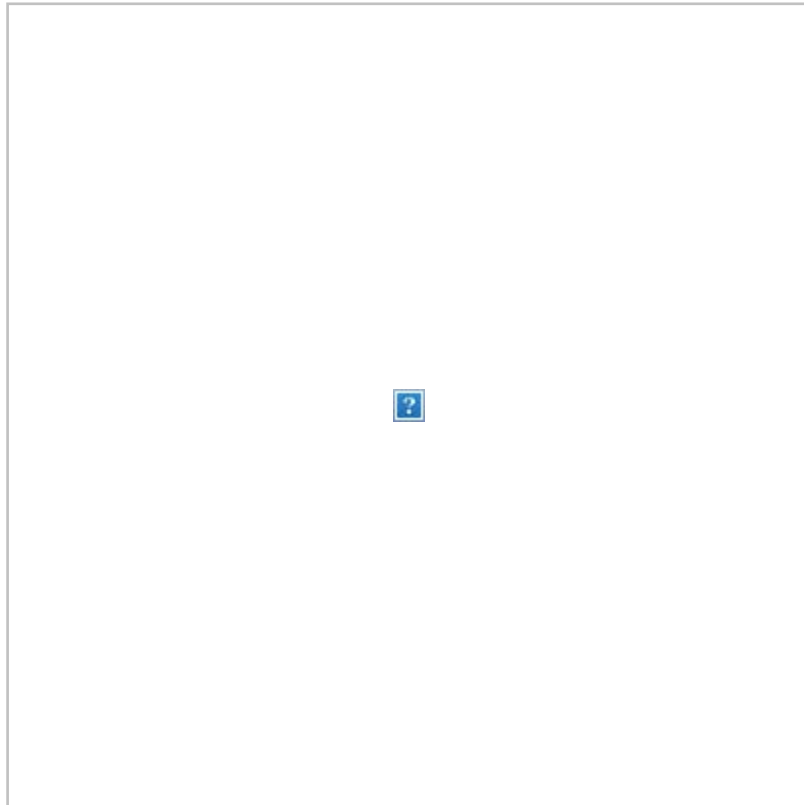
John Stemberger



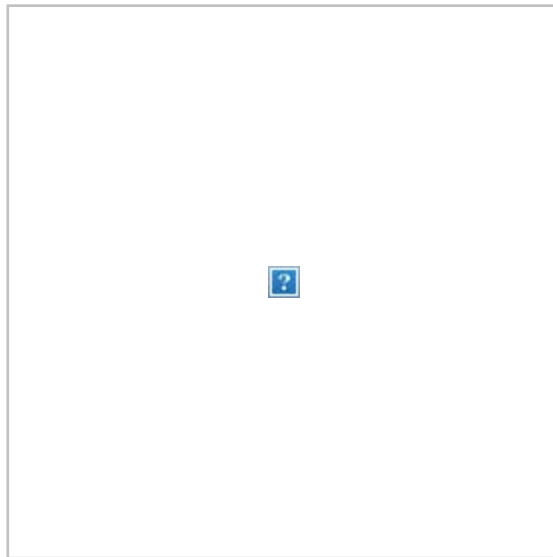
John Stemberger hosts interview with Abby Johnson and Kat Cammack at Pro Family Days Event



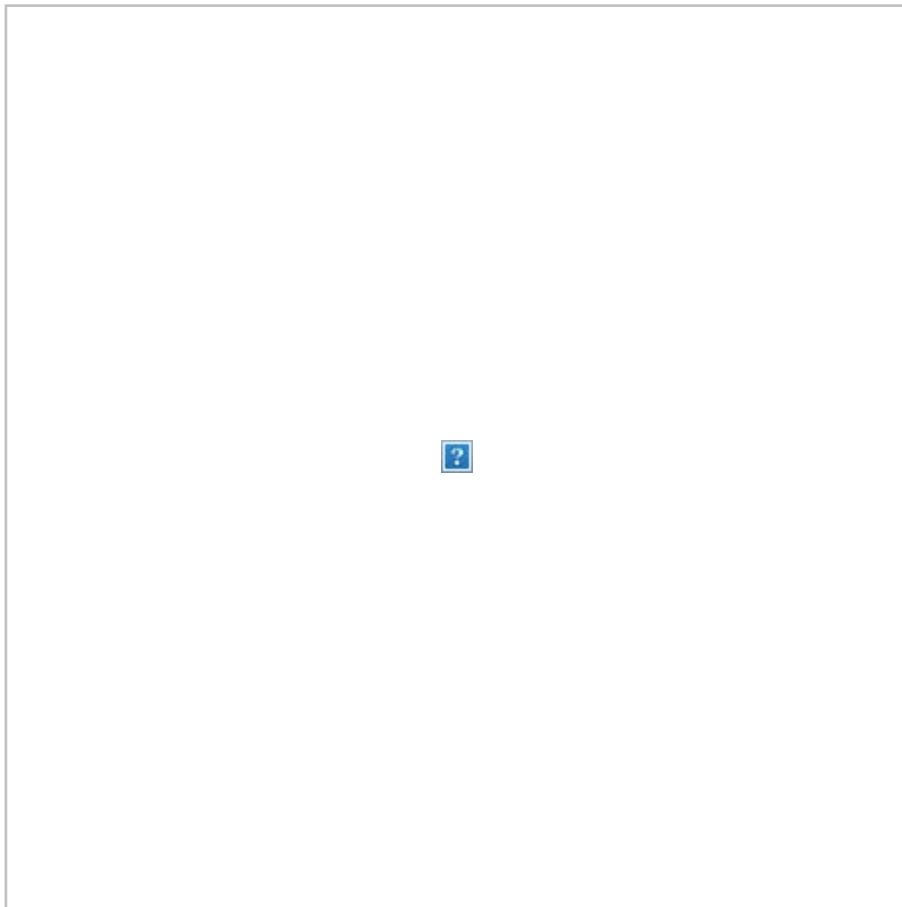
Florida Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission President Bill Bunkley presenting on "How to Lobby: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."



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



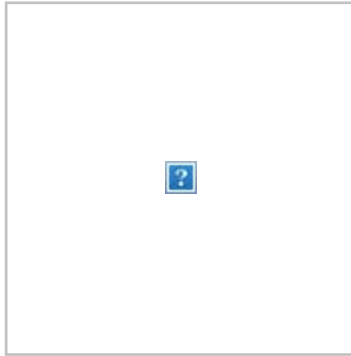
SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

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.

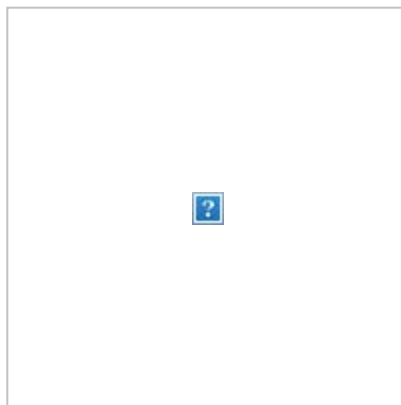
Status: No movement yet.

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.

Florida Family Policy Council

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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Roach, Spencer](#)
Subject: Insider's Report: Legislative Session Week 4 of 9
Date: Friday, February 4, 2022 6:41:14 PM

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Florida Family Policy Council
Insider's Report
Legislative Session
Week 4 of 9 - February 4, 2022

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.

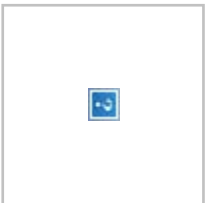
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of our legislative agenda on our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

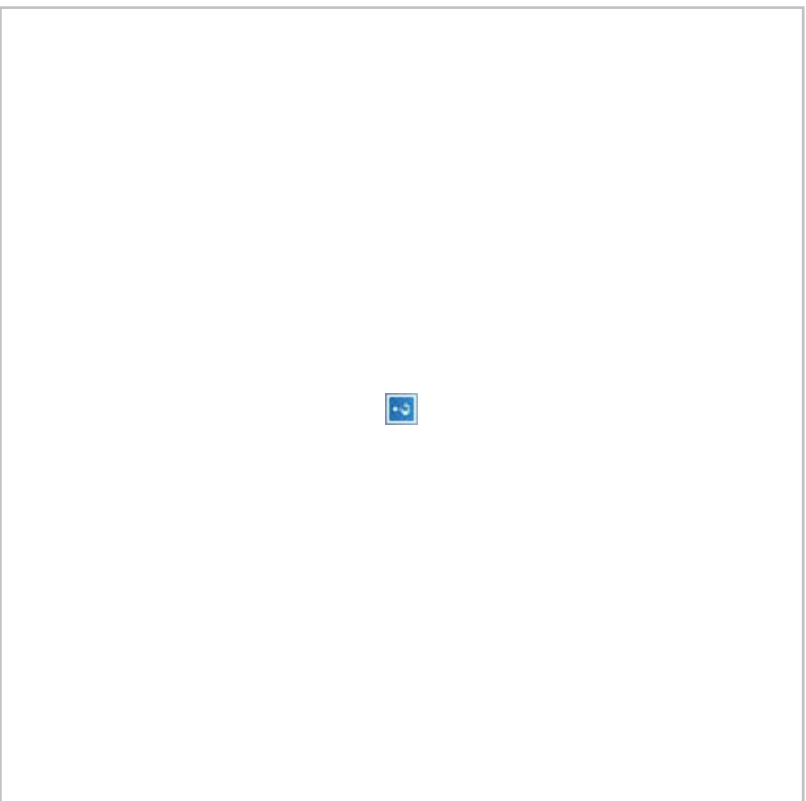
Our legislative affairs director Aaron DiPietro is doing a great job as our primary eyes and ears on the ground for us in Tallahassee. We're excited to have him on our team.

We will provide updates weekly throughout session.

Sincerely,



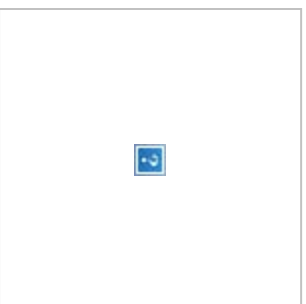
John Stemberger



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.

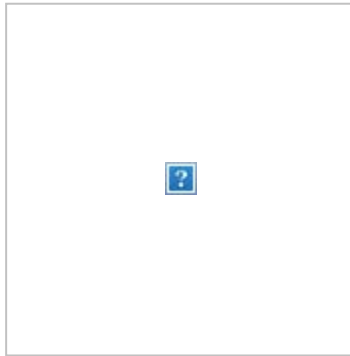
ACTION ALERT: SB 1184 will be heard in its second committee meeting, Judiciary, on Monday, February 7th (the committee meets from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm) in 412 K in the Knott Building.

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)

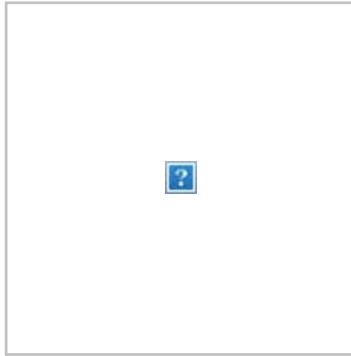
Description: This proposal would ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida public schools and provide standards for enforcement and guidelines for education policy. It also would prohibit corporations doing business in Florida from mandating CRT training for their employees.

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



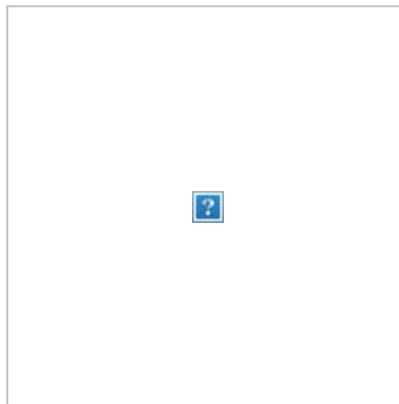
SUPPORT 1. [HB 1557/SB 1834](#) Parental Rights in Education Act (Rep. Harding/Sen. Baxley)

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

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From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:31 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:52 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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

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...

From: Chris Yates
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM
To: Chris Yates
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

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Blessings,

Chris

Christopher Yates

Assistant to the President

Director of Development

Florida Family Policy Council

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Orlando, FL 32806

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407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Roach, Spencer](#)
Subject: Victory Report: Week 9 of 9 of Legislative Session
Date: Friday, March 11, 2022 5:53:40 PM

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[Image](#)



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!

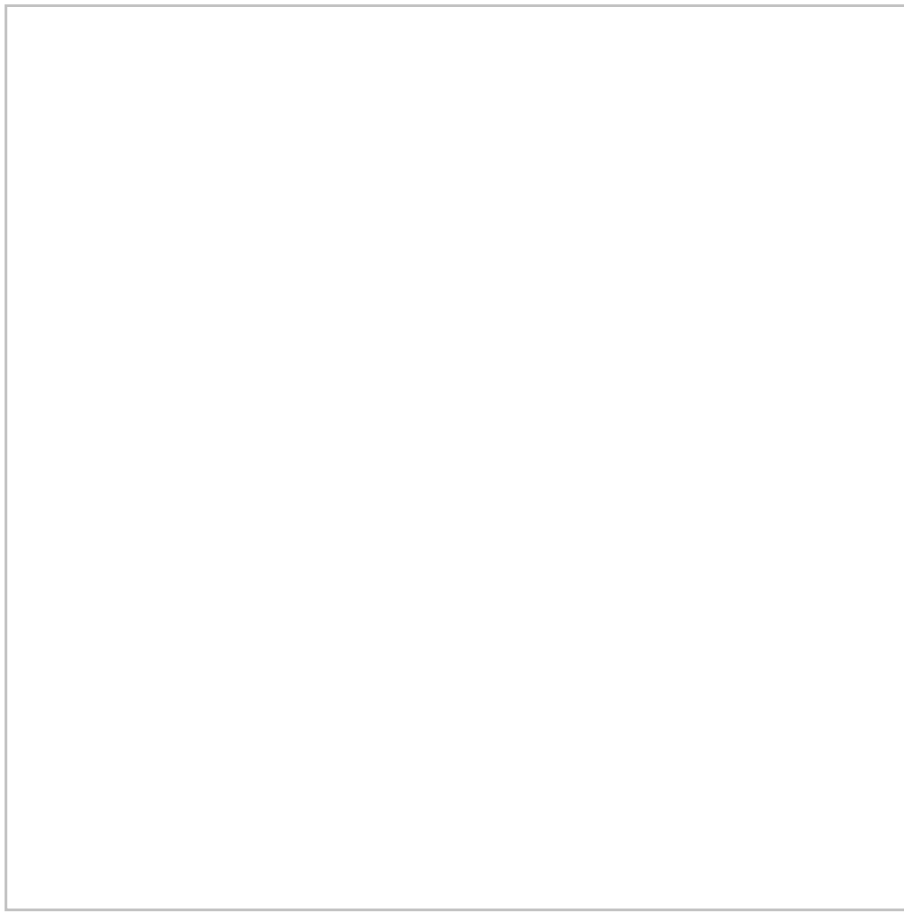
Monday afternoon, the **Parental Rights in Education Act**, (aka the so-called "Don't Say Gay" bill) (HB 1557) was heard on the full Senate floor. After nearly two hours of amendments filed by Democrat senators

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.

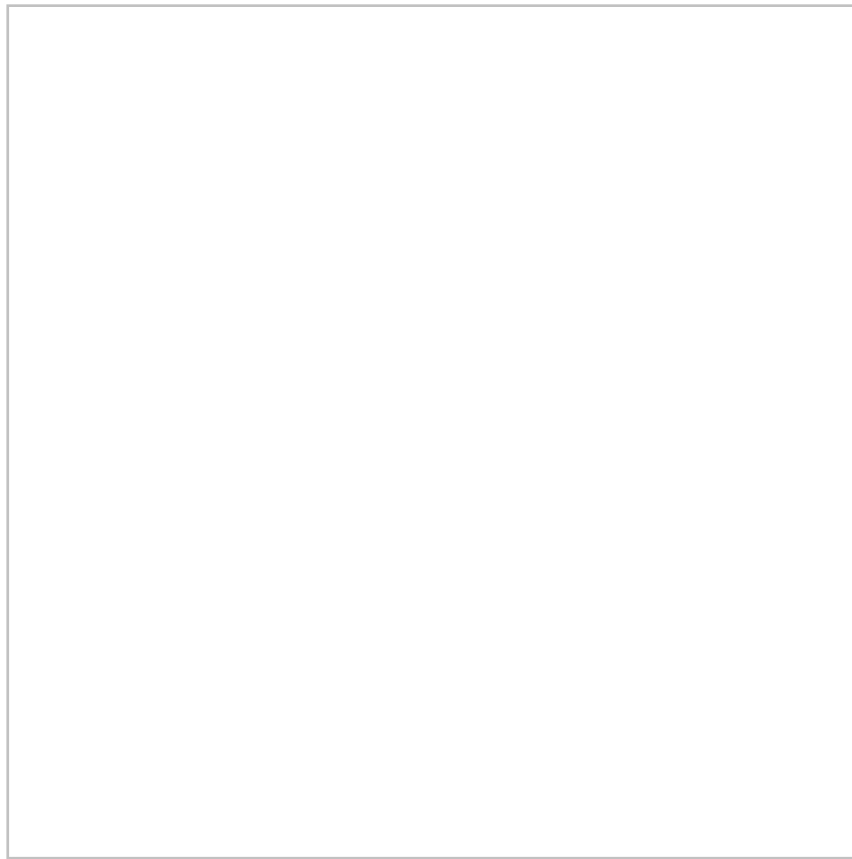
Tuesday morning, the Senate again took up **HB 1557** for final debate and a final vote. Opponents strongly criticized the bill as an attack on LGBT identifying youth, completely ignoring the actual text of the bill. Senators standing firm in debate for parental rights included **Sens. Ileana Garcia, 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.](#)



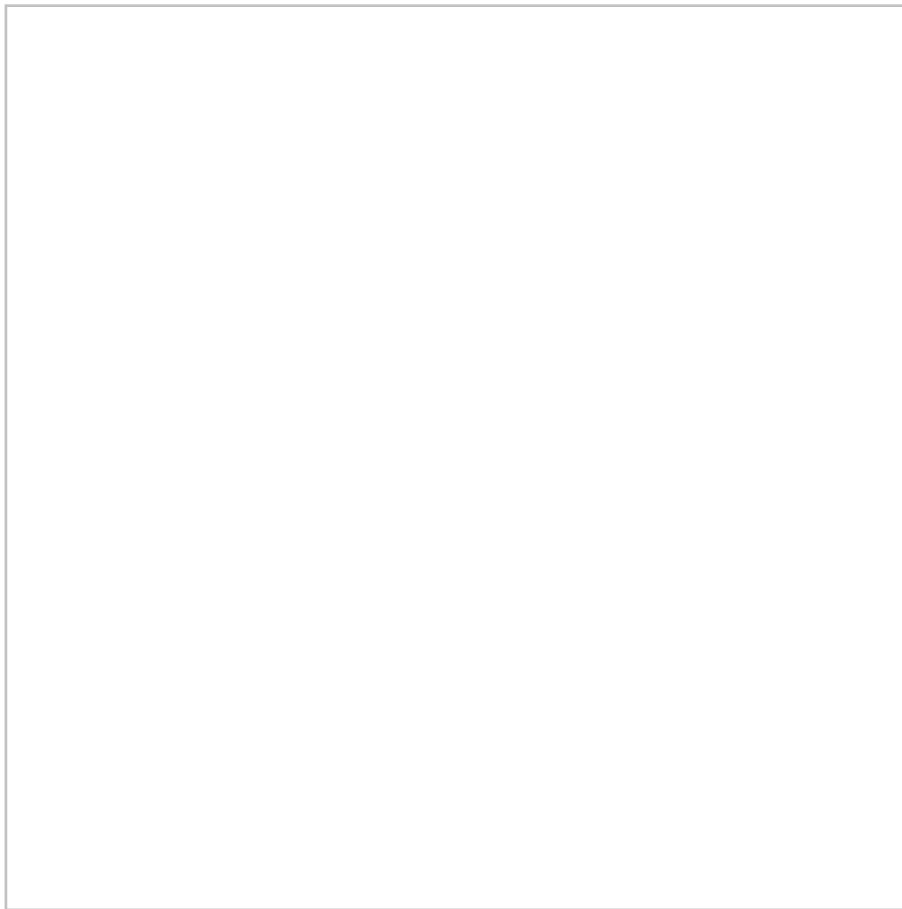
LGBTQ activists did everything they could to try to stop this commonsense bill, but they all failed. They staged massive protests at the capital. They had a school “walk out” over the bill. They even ran TV ads across Florida asking people to call DISNEY WORLD because the Disney Corporation had not spoken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



Disney finally responded by bowing down to the golden calf, saying they would recommit themselves to LGBTQ issues but ironically never actually came out against the bill.

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 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 than 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.

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 ban 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
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From: [John Stemberger, Florida Family Policy Council](#)
To: [Roach, Spencer](#)
Subject: Week 8 of 9: Insider's Report - Legislative Session
Date: Friday, March 4, 2022 3:21:13 PM

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[Image](#)



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.

Tuesday evening, **HB 7 – The Individual Freedom Act**, the bill restricting CRT in public schools and other places, was heard on the full House floor. **Sen. Manny Diaz**, the bill sponsor, defended the bill for over an hour, dodging attacks on the bill, answering opponents' hypotheticals, and defending the principles within the bill.

View a video below of protests breaking out against this bill on Thursday. Public testimony followed with **FFPC's Aaron DiPietro** again testifying in favor. In testimony, he specifically quoted the ideas prohibited in the bill, from the text of the bill itself, asking if the opponents really wanted to teach the following bad ideas in public schools as they appear in the bill:

1. "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
2. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
3. An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
4. Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
5. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
7. An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were

created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin."

The bill passed later, 12-5 on a party line vote.

Wednesday, the House floor heard **HB 215 - the Religious Institutions Act**, the bill seeking to place protections for churches and religious institutions from discriminatory government mandates during emergency declarations. Over very limited and even somewhat contradictory opposition in debate, **Rep. Mike Beltran** laid out the legal case for the law, pointing out that the bill simply was stating that churches are to be given equal treatment under the law. Bill sponsor **Rep. Nick DiCeglie** gave a powerful close, listing cases of religious freedom violations in Florida, declaring that government orders targeting religious institutions are unconstitutional, and calling upon his colleagues to join him in defending religious freedom for all Floridians. The bill passed on a uniquely bipartisan vote, 88-29. The bill has passed the Senate, and thus will be heading to the governor's desk.

Starting later Wednesday, the Senate took up **HB 5**, the late-term abortion ban protecting the unborn after 15 weeks in the state of Florida.

Members went straight into debating amendments, all of which were designed to undermine or eliminate key portions. Debate on just the amendments alone lasted for over 3 hours, with much of the effort spent trying to running out the clock by the opposition.

The next day, after a full day of proceedings, the Senate at last moved to final debate on **HB 5**. Surprisingly, debate began shortly before 8:30 pm and ended in less than 2 hours later. Though debate tone was passionate and intense, it remained calm and controlled. Opponents of the bill continually brought up the lack of exceptions for rape and incest and the threat of back alley abortions that would occur if the bill were passed.

A pro-life highlight from debate was when **Sen. Ileana Garcia** called out the hypocrisy of the death penalty argument. If people oppose the death penalty on the basis of defending human dignity and life, they cannot deny that same reasoning to the unborn. Additionally, **Sen. Danny Burgess** gave a dynamic defense of the unborn, arguing that conflating the language of abortion with that of reproductive justice only distorts the truth. He reasoned that if the dismemberment of a child in the womb of his mother was a form of justice, he shuttered to think of what injustice was. Unborn children have no voice and he must be that voice, declaring that he would rather lose his next election than be wrong on this issue.

Sen. Ed Hooper, in a rare moment of participating in debate, shared his personal experiences with abortion. First, as an operating room technician assigned to a hospital surgeon performing abortions, he described being assigned to remove the fetal remains and dispose of them, which he said were clearly not just clumps of cells. He then went on to share the story of his daughter, who upon becoming pregnant at age 16 refused his advice to get an abortion, to his great relief later on. He recounted his whole worldview on abortion changing once he was able to hold his new grandchild.

Sen. Jason Brodeur, challenging the accusation of voting in favor for

political reasons, shared about his experience of being given up for adoption at birth in the shadow of the legalization of abortion. He then went on to share his hope that there would be a kid whose life would be saved as a result of the bill, and as he closed, he said, "I'm doing this because that kid was me."

Bill sponsor **Sen. Kelli Stargel** again closed debate by calling on each of her fellow members to defend the lives of unborn babies. After 18 years in the legislature fighting for the unborn and their mothers, her emotion at the historic moment was clearly evident. She pointed to two of her daughters, both unplanned pregnancies, and her little granddaughter in the gallery as a testimony to life. "We are telling young women that they have to lay down their child's life to succeed--I was told that," she said. "I never dreamed I would be able to save the lives of babies past 15 weeks' gestation."

The bill passed 24-15 immediately after.

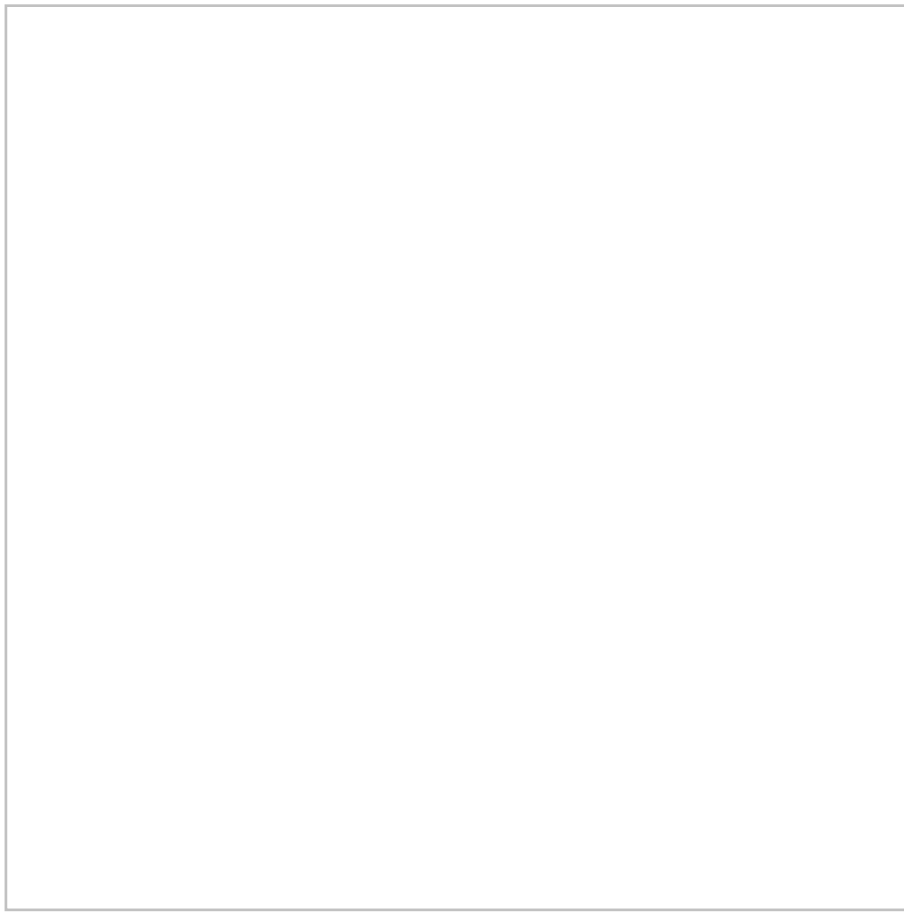
Below is an updated list of some of the top bills Florida Family Policy Council is tracking in this session, along with a summary of each and links to each bill's text. The list has been updated based on the bills that are moving this session. You can always keep track of all of the **good** and **bad**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

We will continue to provide updates as session closes out next week.

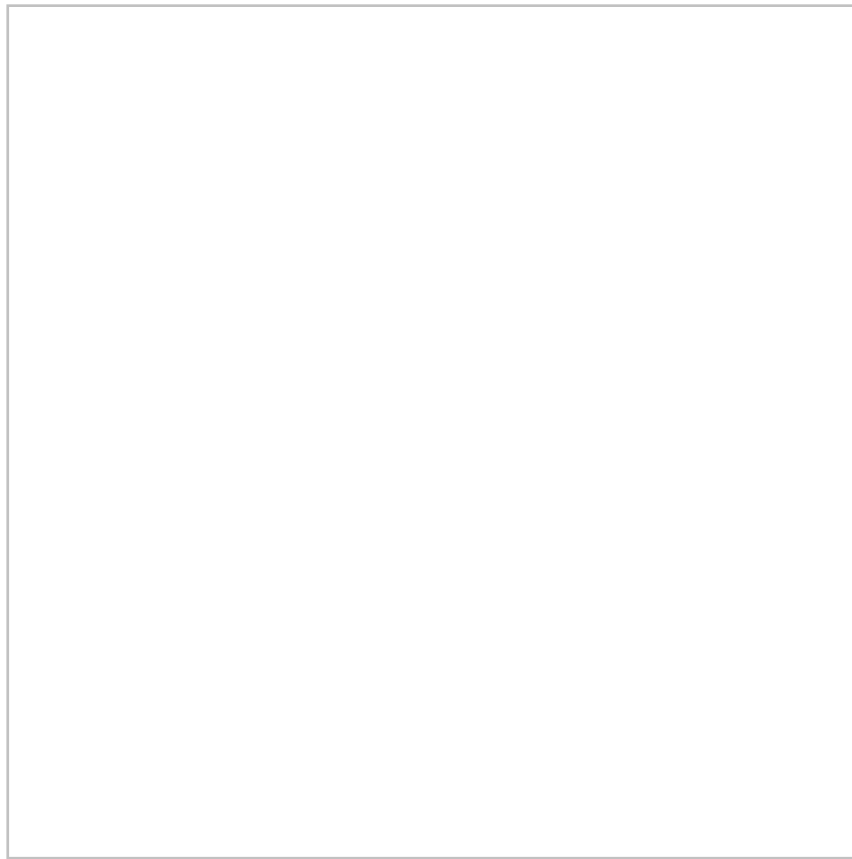
Sincerely,



John Stemberger



[VIDEO: Aaron DiPietro Defends the Parental Rights in Education Act](#)



[VIDEO: Protesters Break Out Thursday Against Parental Rights in Education Bill](#)

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 the full House floor. On the Senate side, HB 5 passed the full Senate floor Thursday 24-15 and now heads to the

governor's desk!

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: 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



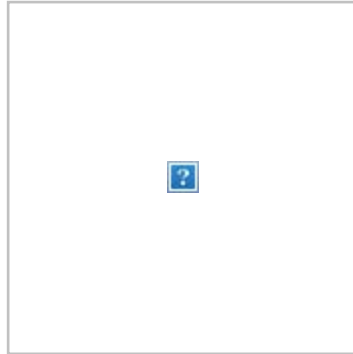
SUPPORT 1. [HB 7/SB 148](#) CRT Ban in Public Schools and Corporations Act (Rep. Avila/Sen. Diaz)

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: Tuesday, HB 7 passed the Senate Rules committee 12-5 and now heads to the full Senate floor. The House version (HB 7) previously passed the full House 74-41.

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: 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

[Unsubscribe](#)

Donate



From: [Tonya Shellnutt](#)
To: [Aaron DiPietro](#); [Snyder, John](#)
Subject: 1 page condensed version of Medical Rights of Conscience
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 3:08:34 PM
Attachments: [logo_abdfb0ec-e06e-407a-a721-cd0e4f742400.png](#)
[Short MED Draft 2022.docx](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find attached a very short version of medical rights of conscience. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything. Blessings.



Tonya Shellnutt
State Government Relations Director
+1 480 444 0020 (Office)
+1 480 388 8140 (Direct Dial)
+1 803-899-0080 (Mobile)
480-444-0028 (Fax)
tshellnutt@adflegal.org
ADFlegal.org

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:40 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

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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: [Stephanie Nichols](#)
To: [Ken Kniepmann](#); [Tonya Shellnutt](#); [Craven, Sarah](#); [Snyder, John](#)
Subject: Emergency Medical Condition Definition under EMTALA
Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 2:17:30 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I wanted to pass this on to show how extensive emergency medical condition is defined under EMTALA. Pain and impairment to bodily functions is covered.

The term “[emergency medical condition](#)” means—

(A)a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in—

(i)

placing the health of the individual (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy,

(ii)

serious impairment to bodily functions, or

(iii)

serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or

(B)with respect to a pregnant woman who is having contractions—

(i)

that there is inadequate time to effect a safe [transfer](#) to another [hospital](#) before delivery, or

(ii)

that [transfer](#) may pose a threat to the health or safety of the woman or the unborn child.



Stephanie Nichols
Legal Counsel, Center for Legislative Advocacy
(501) 288-2927
snichols@adflegal.org
ADLegal.org

This e-mail message from Alliance Defending Freedom and any accompanying documents or embedded messages is intended for the named recipients only. Because Alliance Defending Freedom is a legal entity engaged in the practice of law, this communication contains information, which may include metadata, that is confidential, privileged, attorney work product, or otherwise protected from disclosure under applicable law. If you have received this message in error, are not a named recipient, or are not the employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to a named recipient, be advised that any review, disclosure, use, dissemination, distribution, or reproduction of this message or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and permanently delete the message. PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION/ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT.

From: [Stephanie Nichols](#)
To: [Ken Kniepmann](#); [Snyder, John](#)
Subject: From the IL case on conscience
Date: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 7:38:22 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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"When one member of a team of employees makes an objection of conscience to performing a minority of her job duties," the court [wrote](#) in its holding, "the employer should be required to accommodate the employee in her present position if doing so does not unreasonably compromise the employer's operations."

This is a quote from the IL case involving plaintiff Sandra Rojas. It illustrates exactly how these conscience laws work in the real world in the way we talked about Monday. Just wanted to pass it on in case it could be helpful.



Stephanie Nichols
Legal Counsel, Center for Legislative Advocacy
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snichols@adflegal.org
ADflegal.org

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From: [Craven, Sarah](#)
To: [Snyder, John](#)
Subject: Fwd: Rep. Snyder HELP Act prep - ZOOM INFO
Date: Monday, January 24, 2022 12:58:24 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sara Diercks
Date: January 24, 2022 at 12:55:39 PM EST
To: "Craven, Sarah" , Ken Kniepmann , Stephanie Nichols , Tonya Shellnutt
Cc: Matt Sharp , Natalie Allen , "Snyder, John"
Subject: Rep. Snyder HELP Act prep - ZOOM INFO

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Tonya is boarding a flight to Florida; Stephanie will lead the meeting. Thanks!

[https://st2.zoom.us/static/5.2.4485/image/new/ZoomLogo_110_25.png]

Hi there,

Sara Diercks is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

One tap mobile: US: +16699006833,,94325440138#,,,,*860152# or
+12532158782,,94325440138#,,,,*860152#

Meeting URL: [https://adfllegal.zoom.us/j/94325440138?](https://adfllegal.zoom.us/j/94325440138?pwd=RlM1Mi9pNmUvQUdvN3pYNnB6cWFrdz09)

pwd=RlM1Mi9pNmUvQUdvN3pYNnB6cWFrdz09

Meeting ID: 943 2544 0138

Passcode: 860152

Join by Telephone

For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location.

Dial:

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 646 876
9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 943 2544 0138

Passcode: 860152

International numbers

From: [Stephanie Nichols](#)
To: [Snyder, John](#)
Subject: Great job today!
Date: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 7:42:05 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Great job today on a tough hearing! If you want to make any amendments, like making the emergency medical treatment under EMTALA explicit in the bill, just let me know. I have amendments like that at the ready.

Appreciate your excellent work on this important bill!

Stephanie



Stephanie Nichols
Legal Counsel, Center for Legislative Advocacy
(501) 288-2927
snichols@adflegal.org
ADFlegal.org

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From: [Aaron DiPietro](#)
To: [Craven, Sarah](#)
Subject: HB 747 Meeting Request Followup
Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022 6:13:23 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-gdovdfg.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

January 13th, 2022

Hello Sarah,

This is Aaron DiPietro with the Florida Family Policy Council just following up on our phone conversation. I wanted to request a meeting with Rep. Snyder on HB 747. We are supportive of the proposal and look forward to discussing the bill's status and strategies on moving the bill forward. I know this week was undoubtedly extremely busy and completely understand. 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](#)
www.FLfamily.org



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Stephanie Nichols](#)
To: [Snyder, John](#); [Craven, Sarah](#); [Ken Kniepmann](#)
Cc: [Matt Sharp](#)
Subject: HB 747
Date: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:07:06 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi, Rep. Snyder. Thanks so much for taking the time to discuss medical conscience legislation this afternoon.

- The EMTALA language I discussed as a potential amendment is:
“Nothing herein shall be construed to override the requirement to provide emergency medical treatment to all patients set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 1395dd or any other federal law governing emergency medical treatments.”
- On referral: The wording addition we might consider, if we have opportunity at some point, to strengthen referral coverage under the bill would be adding “or facilitating” in line 65 of the bill so that it reads:
“providing or facilitating a health care service or any part of such service.”
- Regarding insurance companies as payers:
 1. Insurance companies would have to have moral, ethical, or religious beliefs (established in their governing documents) for this bill to even apply to them. Most secular insurance companies are not organized for religious, moral, or ethical purposes, so conscience protection would not apply for them.
 2. However, if an insurance company later developed principles of moral, ethical, or religious beliefs as established in their governing documents and operational policies, they would still be subject to contract law. They would not be able to deny payment for services that were not excluded under the contract in place at the time an insurance policyholder purchased coverage at the beginning of their plan year. The insurance company, under contract law, would not be able to change the rules of the game in the middle of the year. Nothing in this bill abrogates contract law and other regulations that apply to insurance companies.



Stephanie Nichols
Legal Counsel, Center for Legislative Advocacy
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snichols@adflegal.org
ADFlegal.org

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From: [Craven, Sarah](#)
To: ["Tonya Shellnutt"](#)
Cc: ["Ken Kniepmann"](#)
Subject: Medical Conscience Open
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 11:22:15 AM
Attachments: [Medical Conscience Open.docx](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi Tonya,
Ken mentioned that you were looking for the opening remarks for Medical Conscience by Representative Snyder. Please find attached.

Regards,

Sarah Craven

Legislative Aide

District: (772) 210-5626

Tallahassee (850) 717-5082

Representative John Snyder, District 82

Florida House of Representatives



From: [Tonya Shellnutt](#)
To: [Craven, Sarah](#)
Subject: Messaging and possible questions
Date: Monday, January 24, 2022 7:49:57 AM
Attachments: [logo_abdfb0ec-e06e-407a-a721-cd0e4f742400.png](#)
[Bill Sponsor Messaging One Pager DRAFT.docx](#)
[220121 Committee QA HELP Act--Ken Kniepmann.pdf](#)

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Sarah,

Please find attached a one pager for Representative Snyder for talking points. Additionally, Ken Kniepmann worked on some possible questions from committee members and that is also attached. Looking forward to visiting this afternoon. Blessings!



Tonya Shellnutt
State Government Relations Director
+1 480 444 0020 (Office)
+1 480 388 8140 (Direct Dial)
+1 803-899-0080 (Mobile)
480-444-0028 (Fax)
tshellnutt@adflegal.org
ADFlegal.org

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:58:08 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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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...

From: [Tonya Shellnutt](#)
To: [Craven, Sarah](#)
Subject: Re: HB747 testimony
Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:46:37 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image001.png](#)
[logo_abdfb0ec-e06e-407a-a721-cd0e4f742400.png](#)

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That's super helpful!! Thank you Sarah! I will get some letters to you for Rep. Snyder to chose from. Blessings!

On Jan 19, 2022, at 8:33 AM, Craven, Sarah wrote:

EXTERNAL

Hi Tonya,
For anything to be read in committee by the Chair it could not be anonymous. If letters were sent to the Chairs or to Rep. Snyder or other Reps before the meetings those could be anonymous.
Hope that helps.
Regards,
Sarah

From: Tonya Shellnutt
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 6:52 AM
To: Craven, Sarah
Subject: HB747 testimony

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Sarah! I know Rep. Snyder wanted us to work on getting stories for HB747 and one question that has come up is anonymity. Doctors, nurses, and med students are so concerned right now of being "canceled" and wondering if they can submit anonymous letters of support? Thank you in advance for your help. Blessings.
Tonya



Tonya Shellnutt
State Government Relations Director
+1 480 444 0020 (Office)
+1 480 388 8140 (Direct Dial)
+1 803-899-0080 (Mobile)
480-444-0028 (Fax)
tshellnutt@adflegal.org
ADFLegal.org

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:16 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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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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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

**Full Event- Begins at 3:00 pm on Monday 1/24/2022
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\$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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:52 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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

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

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505 W Pensacola Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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\$19.50

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[Tickets](#)

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\$100.00

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[Tickets](#)

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Thank you for serving our great state of Florida!

Blessings,
Chris

Christopher Yates
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www.FLfamily.org
407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: Chris Yates
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39 PM
To: Chris Yates
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Update! My mistake, please see the correct dates and times as listed below...

Good Afternoon!

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\$50.00

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[Tickets](#)

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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\$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...

From: [Sara Diercks](#)
To: [Craven, Sarah](#); ["Ken Kniepmann"](#); [Stephanie Nichols](#); [Tonya Shellnutt](#)
Cc: [Matt Sharp](#); [Natalie Allen](#); [Snyder, John](#)
Subject: Rep. Snyder HELP Act prep - ZOOM INFO

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Tonya is boarding a flight to Florida; Stephanie will lead the meeting. Thanks!

[<https://zoom.us/>](https://zoom.us/)

Hi there,

Sara Diercks is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://adfllegal.zoom.us/j/94325440138?pwd=RIM1Mi9pNmUvQUdvN3pYNnB6cWFrdz09>

One tap mobile:

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Meeting URL:

<https://adfllegal.zoom.us/j/94325440138?pwd=RIM1Mi9pNmUvQUdvN3pYNnB6cWFrdz09> <<https://adfllegal.zoom.us/j/94325440138?pwd=RIM1Mi9pNmUvQUdvN3pYNnB6cWFrdz09>>

Meeting ID:

943 2544 0138

Passcode:

860152

Join by Telephone

For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location.

Dial:

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID:

943 2544 0138

Passcode:

860152

International numbers <<https://adfllegal.zoom.us/u/adThiHKAaO>>

From: [Tonya Shellnutt](#)
To: [Ken Kniepmann](#); [Stephanie Nichols](#); [Ken Kniepmann](#); [Craven, Sarah](#)
Cc: [Snyder, John](#); [Matt Sharp](#); [Natalie Allen](#)
Subject: Rep. Snyder HELP Act prep

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: You are invited...
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 12:35:29 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-34bz4x3y.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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[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

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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...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SPEAK AT PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY DAYS EVENT
Date: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:00:40 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4g3tdrko.png](#)
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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Orlando, FL 32806

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407-607-4268



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited..... CORRECTION..updated times/dates.....
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:58:03 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2buwh113.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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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

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\$100.00

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

[Tickets](#)

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For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:39:28 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

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For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

From: [Chris Yates](#)
To: [Chris Yates](#)
Subject: Re: You are invited.... Dates/Times CORRECTION
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 2:06:56 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-iz04wpwa.png](#)
[Outlook-mmfs2xti.png](#)
[2022 Pro-Family Days flier version 2b.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. USE CAUTION when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

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

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