



*Mayor Susan Haynie
Chair*

Legislative Update for the week ending 09/15/2017

Overview

Greetings and welcome to the first MPOAC legislative update for the 2018 Florida legislative session. While the session officially begins January 9th, 2018, many activities are already taking place which will lead us into the session. This week the House and Senate Committees were to meet until an uninvited guest by the name of Irma came through Florida and made a mess of things. Committee meetings for this week were wisely cancelled. There will be committee meetings in the next few months and bills are being filed for the upcoming session.

Below are the dates of events for the 2018 legislative session, and included in this legislative update is a listing of bills filed thus far in the session. Updates will occur on an as needed basis until the official start of the 2018 legislative session, then your MPOAC updates will be issued weekly.

A few bills have been filed, many more will be filed over the coming months. Your MPOAC Legislative Update will keep you apprised of newly filed bills.

Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy the MPOAC Legislative Update.

Important Dates for the 2018 Legislative Session

- August 01, 2017 – Deadline for filing claim bills
- November 17, 2017 - Deadline for submitting requests for drafts of general bills and joint resolutions, including requests for companion bills
- January 5, 2018 – Deadline for approving final drafts of general bills and joint resolutions, including companion bills
- January 9, 2018 - Regular Session convenes, deadline for filing bills for introduction
- February 24, 2018 - All bills are immediately certified, motion to reconsider made and considered the same day
- February 27, 2018 - 50th day, last day for regularly scheduled committee meetings
- March 9, 2018 - 60th day, last day of Regular Session

**Committee Meeting schedule prior to the official
Legislative Session beginning on January 9th**

October 2017 - Week of the 9th
October 2017 - Week of the 23rd
November 2017 - Week of the 6th
November 2017 - Week of the 13th
December 2017 - Week of the 4th

Legislation of interest to the membership

This is a summary of bills filed and published on the legislature's website as of September 15, 2017. More bills will be filed during the 2018 session and as they are made available the newly filed bills will be added to this list. The bills are listed in numerical order for your convenience. As the session and bills progress, this ordering of bills will make it easier to follow the status of any particular bill you are tracking.

SB 72: Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving – (Garcia – Co-Introducers: Rodriguez; Mayfield) - Revising the legislative intent relating to the authorization of law enforcement officers to stop motor vehicles and issue citations to persons who are texting while driving; requiring deposit of fines into the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund, etc. Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

SB 90: Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving – (Perry) – Identical to SB 72. Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations

SB 116: Operation of Vehicles – (Baxley – Co-Introducers: Passidomo) - Requiring drivers to vacate lanes closest to, or reduce speed and pass, vulnerable road users, authorized emergency, sanitation, and utility service vehicles or workers, and wrecker operators under certain circumstances, subject to certain requirements, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

HB 117: Operation of Vehicles – (Stone) - Companion Bill to SB 116. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee.

HB 121: Texting While Driving – (Slosberg; Stark) – Similar to SB 72 and SB 90. Revises short title & legislative intent; revises penalties for violations of provisions re: texting while driving; provides enhanced penalties for violations committed in school zones & crossings; requires law enforcement agencies to adopt policies prohibiting racial profiling in enforcement; removes requirement that enforcement be accomplished as secondary action. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Judiciary Committee; Government Accountability Committee.

SB 206: Highway Memorial Markers – (Perry) – Requiring the Department of Transportation to establish a process, including the adoption of any forms deemed necessary by the department, for submitting applications for installation of a memorial marker; authorizing the department to

install a certain sign at no charge to an applicant; authorizing an applicant to request an emblem of belief not specifically approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration for incorporation in a memorial marker, subject to certain requirements, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.