



2024 Legislative Priorities

Bills we are dedicated to fighting:

HB465/SB470 - POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION STUDENTS

THIS BILL THREATENS STUDENTS' FREE SPEECH RIGHTS BY BANNING CERTAIN STUDENT GROUPS FROM COLLEGE CAMPUSES. IT ALSO THREATENS TO INCREASE COLLEGE TUITION OR REMOVE SCHOLARSHIP OPTIONS FROM STUDENTS WHO ENGAGE IN CERTAIN PRO-PALESTINIAN SPEECH. SB470 IS THE COMPANION BILL TO HB465. THE BILL LIMITS SPEECH BY PROHIBITING GOVERNMENT WORKERS OR EMPLOYEES APART OF AN ORGANIZATION CONTRACTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO USE PREFERRED PRONOUNS OR NAMES OF THEMSELVES OR OF COWORKERS.

HB1605/1607 - CRIME VICTIM'S RIGHTS

LAST YEAR, THE FL SUPREME COURT RULED THAT MARSY'S LAW DOES NOT PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF POLICE OFFICERS INVOLVED IN FATAL SHOOTINGS FROM DISCLOSURE. THESE BILLS SEEK TO REVERSE THAT DECISION AND EXEMPT THE IDENTITIES OF POLICE OFFICERS WHO CLAIM TO BE CRIME VICTIMS.

SB1086 HB757/SB 1780 - DEFAMATION BILLS

SB1086 IS LIKE LAST SESSION'S DEFEATED HB991. SB1086 IS THE WORST OF THE THREE BUT PASSAGE OF ANY OF THESE WOULD BE A BLOW FOR FREE SPEECH AND FREE PRESS. THEY WOULD BE A BOON FOR TRIAL LAWYERS AND WOULD TURN FLORIDA INTO THE LIBEL TOURIST DESTINATION OF AMERICA. THEY ARE BLATANTLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR POWERFUL INDIVIDUALS TO SUE CRITICS FOR DEFAMATION. THEY WOULD ALSO INTRODUCE A "FALSE LIGHT" STANDARD INTO STATE LAW THAT CURRENTLY DOES NOT EXIST. THIS MEANS PEOPLE CAN SUE FOR TRUE STATEMENTS AND THEN PORTRAY THEM NEGATIVELY.

HB85 - PUB. REC./STATE BANKS AND STATE TRUST COMPANIES

THIS BILL SEEKS TO CREATE AN EXEMPTION THAT WOULD HIDE INFORMATION INCLUDING SHAREHOLDERS AND APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATE BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, SHIELDING THE PUBLIC FROM KNOWING WHO IS BEHIND THEM AND STINGING THEM. THIS ALSO CAN SHIELD THESE INSTITUTIONS FROM PUBLIC SCRUTINY.

Bills we are actively supporting:

HB117/SB234 - DISCLOSURE OF GRAND JURY TESTIMONY

THIS BILL REVISES THE LIST OF PEOPLE PROHIBITED FROM DISCLOSING TESTIMONY OF A WITNESS EXAMINED BEFORE A GRAND JURY OR THE EVIDENCE IT RECEIVES BUT CREATES AN EXCEPTION FOR REQUEST BY MEDIA OR AN INTERESTED PERSON. SB234 THE COMPANION BILL TO HB117, WHICH CREATES AN EXCEPTION FOR A REQUEST BY THE MEDIA OR AN INTERESTED PERSON TO THE PROHIBITED PUBLISHING, BROADCASTING, DISCLOSING, DIVULGING, OR COMMUNICATION OF ANY TESTIMONY OF A WITNESS BEFORE A GRAND JURY, OR THE CONTENT, GIST, OR IMPORT THEREOF.

SB1494 - PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

THIS BILL STRENGTHENS PUBLIC RECORDS LAW BY INCREASING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS RELATED TO PUBLIC RECORDS AND DECREASING FEES ASSOCIATED WITH PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS.



850-224-4555



WWW.FLORIDAFAF.ORG



INFO@FLORIDAFAF.ORG