

In this 2018 Legislative Session, we were on the ground with a full-time presence and achieved 15 VICTORIES by either PASSING good Legislation or DEFEATING bad proposed legislation. In the report below, you will see examples of both types of victories and sadly a few bills of which we were disappointed in the outcome.

Some of the bills featured below had robust engagement from both sides of the issue; some bills made it through multiple committees, were voted on by the legislature, and either were signed by Governor Scott and will become law or are currently awaiting being signed; and some of the bad bills were thwarted early and never saw the light of day. This report is a summary of final bill actions as of the printing of this report. A detailed report on each of our priority bills can be viewed on our website: www.FLfamily.org under the vertical tab "Legislative Bills/Legislative Agenda." Having this full-time coverage during the entire session is expensive but it is the only way to make a real difference.

We are honored to be "your voice for your values" in the Capitol, the media, and in communities throughout Florida. Here are a few highlights from the 2018 Legislative Session:

6 VICTORIES where we worked to PASS good Legislation!

VICTORY! Pregnancy Support Services PASSED and SIGNED into law. (HB 41 / SB 444). Sponsors: Rep. Jackie Toledo (R), Sen. Aaron Bean (R). Requires the Florida Department of Health to contract with the Florida Pregnancy Care Network (FPCN) to provide pregnancy support services for women who suspect or know they are pregnant. Codifies into law \$4 million in permanent annual funding for pregnancy care centers.

VICTORY! Display of State Motto in Public Schools PASSED and SIGNED into law. (HB 839 / SB 1158). Sponsors: Rep. Daniels (D), Rep. Ponder (R), Sen. Perry (R). Requires each Florida school and each school district building to prominently display the state motto "In God We Trust." This bill language was added to HB 7055, an education omnibus bill, passed by the House and Senate and signed by the Governor.

VICTORY! Clarifying Requirements for Home Education Students PASSED and SIGNED into law. (HB 731 / SB 732). Sponsors: Rep. Jennifer Sullivan (R), Sen. Dennis Baxley (R). Clarifies requirements for both home education students and the school districts they report to; prohibits school districts from requiring certain information; and requires school districts to offer the same academic opportunities of career/vocational courses, certifications and assessments to both public and home educated students.

VICTORY! Hope Scholarship Program PASSED and SIGNED into law. (HB 1 / SB 1172). Sponsors: Rep. Byron Donalds (R), Sen. Bill Galvano (R). Allows students the opportunity to transfer to another public school or apply for a scholarship to attend a private school if a victim of battery, harassment, hazing, bullying, kidnapping, robbery, sexual offenses, harassment, assault, threat or intimidation. The bill language was added to HB 7055, an education omnibus bill.

VICTORY! Free Speech Zones on Campus PASSED and SIGNED into law. (HB 909 / SB 1234). Sponsors: Rep. Rommel (R), Rep. Clemons (R), Sen. Baxley (R). Protects the right to free speech outdoors on public campuses of higher education such as state colleges, universities, law schools, etc. by removing free speech zones and providing a cause of action for students whose rights are violated by the institution. The bill language was added to SB 4, an education omnibus bill.

VICTORY! Resolution Declaring Pornography a Public Health Risk ADOPTED by the Florida House. (HR 157 / SR 480). Sponsors: Rep. Ross Spano (R), Sen. Kelli Stargel (R). Recognizes the public health risk created by pornography and acknowledges the need for education, prevention, research, and policy change to protect Floridians.

9 Bad Bills which were DEFEATED!

VICTORY! Creating Special Rights for the LGBT or “Florida’s Competitive Workforce Act” was DEFEATED (HB 347 / SB 66). Sponsors: Rep. Ben Diamond (D), Rep. Rene Plasencia (R), Sen. Darryl Rouson (D). This bill would have violated the dignity and privacy of women and children, and Floridians' First Amendment rights of free speech and freedom of association. It would have provided a new way for LGBT individuals to sue employers and small businesses for discrimination demanding money damages. It would also have allowed any men access to use women’s showers, locker rooms, and bathrooms by subjectively claiming he “feels” like a woman.

VICTORY! Banning Conversion Therapy was DEFEATED (HB 717 / SB 696). Sponsors: Rep. Evan Jenne (D), Sen. Jose Rodriguez (D). Would have prohibited people in Florida who are licensed to provide professional counseling, to counsel children and youth under the age of 18 struggling with their “sexual orientation and/or gender identity” to think and live in a heterosexual manner consistent with their biological gender, even if the child (as the patient) asks for their help to do so.

VICTORY! Contraception Mandate was DEFEATED (HB 1273 / SB 1718). Sponsors: Rep. Holly Raschein (R), Sen. Lauren Book (D). This bill would have mandated that employers provide insurance plans that include contraception, including abortion-inducing drugs.

VICTORY! Limitation of Free Speech at Abortion Clinics was DEFEATED (HB 189 / SB 320). Sponsors: Rep. Amy Mercado (D), Sen. Linda Stewart (D). Would have prohibited anyone from interfering with women attempting to enter abortion clinics. Sidewalk counselors or protesters could face fines, civil suits, and criminal penalties for simply calling out to a woman to not abort her baby.

VICTORY! Opening of Adoptee Birth Records was DEFEATED (HB 357 / SB 576). Sponsors: Rep. Richard Stark (D), Sen. Dennis Baxley (R). Would have mandated opening up birth records to birth parents and adult adoptees, even without the consent of the birth parents in adoptions.

VICTORY! Legalization of Fantasy Gambling Contests was DEFEATED (HB 223 / SB 374). Sponsors: Rep. Jason Brodeur (R), Sen. Dana Young (R). Would have exempted fantasy gaming contests such as fantasy sports leagues from being subject to gambling penalties and regulations, in effect, legalizing fantasy gambling.

VICTORY! Legalization of Designated Player Games/Expanding Slot Machines was DEFEATED (SB 840). Sponsor: Sen. Travis Hutson (R). Would have removed the requirement that greyhound, thoroughbred, quarter horse and harness horse permit holders conduct live racing at their pari-mutuel facilities in order to be eligible for or keep their slot machine and cardroom licenses. Allows these facilities to take wagers for intertrack races and simulcasts. Legalizes designated player games.

VICTORY! Preview Games and Machines was DEFEATED (HB 1293 / SB 1802). Sponsor: Rep. Al Jacquet (D), Sen. Perry Thurston Jr. (D). Would have legalized preview or pre-reveal machines, slot machines

which draw individuals in by revealing the prize before the game is started. A Florida judge has already ruled the machines constitute gambling.

VICTORY! Same-Sex Marriage Language was DEFEATED (HB 130 / SB 6027). Sponsors: Rep. David Richardson (D), Sen. Gary Farmer (D). Would have removed the language in state statute which prohibited same-sex couples from marrying and the State of Florida from recognizing same-sex marriages from other states.

6 Bills we were DISAPPOINTED did not pass

DISAPPOINTMENT. Dismemberment Abortion DID NOT PASS (HB 1429 / SB 1890). Sponsors: Rep. Erin Grall (R), Rep. Joe Gruters (R), Sen. Debbie Mayfield (R). Would have prohibited dismemberment abortion, where an unborn child is killed by an abortionist using instruments to cut or rip the child's body apart piece by piece and then extracts the pieces from the mother.

DISAPPOINTMENT. Florida Guide to a Healthy Marriage DID NOT PASS (HB 1323 / SB 1580). Sponsors: Rep. Clay Yarborough (R), Rep. Danny Burgess (R), Sen. Kelli Stargel (R). Would have created the Marriage Education Committee, tasked with developing the Florida Guide to a Healthy Marriage. The guide would include a variety of resources to prepare Florida couples for marriage, strengthen existing marriages and restore marriages that are potentially moving toward dissolution. Clerks would be responsible for posting the guide on their websites and individuals applying for a marriage certificate would have to certify that they read the guide or a similar resource.

DISAPPOINTMENT. Free Enterprise Protection Act DID NOT PASS (HB 871 / SB 1290). Sponsors: Rep. Jay Fant (R), Sen. Dennis Baxley (R). Would have prohibited any level of state government or individual acting on behalf of the state from discriminating against a business based upon their internal personnel or employee benefits policies or their exercise of free speech and religion as protected under the Florida and US Constitution. The state and its subdivisions would be prohibited from revoking tax exemptions and benefits; denying grants, certifications, licenses, etc.; and denying access and entitlement to property, facilities and speech forums, among other provisions.

DISAPPOINTMENT. Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking DID NOT PASS (HB 169 / SB 1046). Sponsors: Rep. Ross Spano (R), Sen. Lauren Book (D). Would have created the Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking and Prevention to be funded by penalties and damages obtained from traffickers and facilitators, and funds appropriated by the Legislature. The fund would have been used to assist victims with medical and mental health exams and treatment, living expenses, lost wages and repatriation, education and prevention efforts, to create a survivor's resource center, or for vacating convictions against trafficking victims incurred due to trafficking, etc.

DISAPPOINTMENT. Increased Penalties for Human Trafficking DID NOT PASS (HB 7039 / SB 1502). Sponsors: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Rep. Ross Spano (R), Sen. Lauren Book (D). Would have required a 10-year minimum mandatory imprisonment sentence for any individual, who knowingly or recklessly, engages in, attempts to engage in, or financially benefits from human trafficking. Also, would redefine the term "Adult Entertainment Establishment" to include additional adult-style businesses.