



DAILY BRIEF

From March 30, 2009

Monday was a relatively quiet in contrast to what this week will bring starting tomorrow. Major pieces of legislation will be considered this week; mainly, the Senate's tax increase proposals that have been long-awaited by members of the public. The Senate Finance and Tax Committee will be meeting over a period of two days (Tuesday and Wednesday) to consider among other issues: changes to Florida's corporate income tax system, cigarette excise taxes, sales tax exemptions, and other major changes to Florida's tax structure.

In addition, the House will be on the floor Tuesday to hopefully vote out [HB 903](#) Relating to Workers' Compensation Attorneys' Fees. Its Senate companion, [SB 2072](#) by Senator Garrett Richter will be considered by its second committee stop – the [Senate Judiciary Committee](#) on Wednesday, April 1st.

Last but not least, if you haven't watched this week's edition of AIFTV here is your chance to do so. In this week's edition we include a special message from [Representative Mike Horner \(R-Kissimmee\)](#) on his parental authority bill and an interview with [Representative Chris Dorworth \(R-Heathrow\)](#) on his legislation to regulate citizen initiative petition gatherers.

[Watch this week's edition of AIFTV](#)

Education & Workforce

Today, the [House Full Appropriations Council on Education and Economic Development](#) passed (10-7) [HB 1293](#) Relating to High School Graduation by [Representative Erik Fresen \(R-Miami\)](#). The bill raises high school graduation standards to ensure Florida's students are prepared to enter the increasingly competitive global economy. The initiative raises the bar on math and science requirements for high school graduation, requires students to achieve a grade-level score on the 10th grade FCAT.

[HB 1293](#) will now go to the House floor where it will be considered by all 120 members of the Florida House of Representatives.

AIF strongly supports increased standards for high school graduation so that students will graduate from high school ready for college and work. This bill increases the value of a Florida high school diploma – for businesses, for colleges, and most importantly, for the students of Florida.