



DAILY BRIEF

From March 6, 2014

Legal & Judicial

HB 151 – relating to Security of Protected Consumer’s Information

HB 151, relating to Protected Consumer’s Information, by Representative Heather Dawes Fitzenhagen (R-Fort Myers) passed unanimously through the House Regulatory Affairs Committee. **AIF General Counsel, Tammy Perdue**, stood in support of this bill during the committee meeting. The bill now heads to the House floor.



The bill creates the “Keeping I.D. Safe (KIDS) Act” to authorize a representative of a minor consumer younger than sixteen years of age, or a guardian, to place a security freeze on that consumer’s credit report. The reason being, while parents typically apply for a Social Security number for their child shortly after birth, a credit reporting agency does not create a credit report or history until an application for credit is received. An identity thief will typically apply for credit with a child’s Social Security number, but with a different name and date of birth. As a result, the identity theft may go undetected for years. A recent study conducted by ID Analytics estimated that more than 140,000 instances of identity fraud are perpetrated on minors in the United States each year.

AIF supports protecting consumer information to guard minors from potential identity theft. Any legislation resulting in reduced instances of credit fraud is a common-sense action for the Legislature.

Economic Development

HB 325 – relating to Brownfields

HB 325, relating to Brownfields, by Representative Charlie Stone (R-Ocala) passed unanimously through the House Local & Federal Affairs Committee. The bill now heads to its last stop before the House floor in the House Economic Affairs Committee.

The bill clarifies, in statute, the process for designation of a Brownfields area and offers liability protection for anyone responsible for rehabilitation of a Brownfields site. Subsequently, the bill encourages redevelopment in our state’s Brownfields areas.

AIF supports any legislation promoting Florida’s Brownfield Program as it provides a variety of financial and regulatory incentives encouraging parties to voluntarily clean up and redevelop Brownfield sites. By restoring Brownfield sites, the properties return to the tax rolls quicker and become useful to their community.

SB 208 – Relating to Motorsports Entertainment Complexes

SB 208, relating to Motorsports Entertainment Complexes, by Senator Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) passed the Senate Committee on Appropriations by a 17-1 vote. **AIF Senior Vice President of State and Federal Affairs, Brewster Bevis**, stood in support of this bill during the committee. The bill now heads to its last stop before the Senate floor in the Senate



The bill would allow for a monthly distribution of a specified amount of sales tax revenue to a complex certified as a motorsports entertainment complex by the Department of Economic Opportunity while the complex upgrades its facilities.

AIF supports this measure due to the massive economic driver that motorsports are in the state of Florida. The positive economic impact to the state and the jobs created is a worthwhile return.

Taxation & Budget

HB 155 – relating to Defense Contracting

HB 155, relating to Defense Contracting, by Representative Jimmie Smith (R-Lecanto) passed the House Finance & Tax Subcommittee by a 17-1 vote. The bill now heads to its last stop before the House floor in the House Economic Affairs Committee.

The bill creates a tax incentive program aimed at stimulating economic development for Florida's Defense Industry by encouraging companies with federal contracts to hire more Florida-based subcontractors. The bill would allow a prime contractor to reduce its taxable income 4 percent for each subcontract it awards.

AIF supports this bill because Florida's military personnel and installations, as well as the industries that support them are critical to our state's economic health.

HB 567 – relating to Hurricane Preparedness

HB 567, relating to Hurricane Preparedness, by Representative Matt Gaetz (R-Shalimar) unanimously passed the House Finance & Tax Subcommittee. The bill now heads to the House Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee.

The bill establishes a sales tax exemption for specified items related to hurricane preparedness beginning on June 1, 2014, and ending on June 12, 2014. These items include flashlights, radios, first-aid kits, batteries, small coolers, generators and various other items.

AIF supports sales tax holidays for hurricane supplies. This tax holiday is a win-win for customers and the state as sales tend to increase more than they would without the tax holiday.