

# DAILY BRIEF

*For the 2022 Legislative Session*



**FROM FEBRUARY 9, 2022**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **SB 2508 – Relating to Environmental Resources**

On Wednesday, February 9, [SB 2508](#), sponsored and heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee, was reported favorable with 16 yeas and 4 nays. **AIF's Vice President of Governmental Affairs, Adam Basford, spoke in support of this legislation.**

In the past two years, the Florida Legislature has provided over \$1.1 billion to the South Florida Water Management District (district). This level of investment by the State in Everglades restoration and water resource development requires additional accountability. The bill provides a framework for ensuring that the district continues to fulfill each of its statutory responsibilities of flood control, water supply, water quality, and natural systems while implementing large scale ecosystem restoration projects.

SB 2508 will now go to the Senate floor for consideration.

**AIF supports legislation that addresses the existing water quality and quantity issues as Florida's businesses and citizens alike rely on access to clean, uncontaminated water.**

## **LEGAL & JUDICIAL**

### **SB 7014 & HB 7021 – Relating to COVID-19-Related Claims Against Health Care Providers**

On Wednesday, February 9, [HB 7021](#) by the House Health & Human Services Committee was read on the House floor and substituted for [SB 7014](#) by the Senate Judiciary Committee. SB 7014 was read a second time on the House floor and was placed on third reading to be voted on.

The bill extends the length of time that health care providers receive liability protections from COVID-19-related claims. According to legislation passed during the 2021 Legislative Session, liability protections from COVID-19-related claims apply to claims accruing within 1 year after the effective date of the act, which was March 29, 2022. The bill extends the application period of the liability protections, making them applicable to claims accruing before June 1, 2023. The net result

of the bill is to extend the liability protections for about 14 months, from March 29, 2022, to June 1, 2023.

SB 7014 will now be read a third time on the House floor and receive votes.

**AIF supports legislation that protects the Florida health care community, who has been on the frontline during the pandemic, from frivolous and costly litigation by plaintiffs suing to settle.**