

ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA
**LEGISLATIVE
DAILY BRIEF**



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FROM MAY 19, 2003

Help yourself to lower workers' comp rates

— Contact your senator today -

After working over the weekend, the Florida Legislature begins its second week of the special session by working out the final, lingering details for the budget and addressing the legislation included in the expanded call.

This week's schedule has the House and Senate spending the majority of their time in appropriations conference subcommittees. Tomorrow, the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee will hear the Senate workers' compensation reform bill, SB 50A, sponsored by Senators Charlie Clary (R-Destin), JD Alexander (R-Winter Haven), and Jeff Atwater (R-Palm Beach Gardens). SB 50A is identical to the House workers' compensation bill, HB 25A, by Representative Dudley Goodlette (R-Naples) and a number of co-sponsors, which is awaiting final action in the House.

The Senate is scheduled for a floor session on Wednesday. The House may meet this week, if necessary, on the call of the speaker, Representative Johnnie Byrd (R-Plant City). The special session is scheduled to end on Tuesday, May 27.

Our last report, on Friday, May 16, provided you with the latest information on bills of interest that AIF is monitoring.

It is very important that AIF members contact their state senators to urge them to pass SB 50A (HB 25) without any amendments. SB 50A (HB 25A) contains an array of workers' compensation reforms that are necessary to reduce the cost of workers' compensation insurance. This is the last best chance to pass good legislation in the special session.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING SECTION FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING WORKERS' COMPENSATION

**IF YOU WANT LOWER WORKERS' COMPENSATION RATES
NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT!!**

May 19, 2003

**Workers' compensation insurance premiums are
putting Florida employers out of business.**

Over the next two days, the Florida Senate will be determining the future of the workers' compensation market.

Now is the time for AIF members to contact their state senators and tell them that reform must be accomplished this year.

It must be accomplished by enacting the reforms contained in HB 25A and its Senate counterpart SB 50A.

Tell your senators to *vote for* SB 50A (or its counterpart HB 25A) *without any amendments*.

Tell them that a vote for either SB 50A or HB 25A is a vote for injured workers. It's a vote for jobs. And it's a vote for Florida's employers.

Both bills contain the reforms that will reduce workers' comp rates significantly, while protecting the needs of injured workers.

Before it's too late email your senator now to express your support for SB 50A and its counterpart HB 25A.

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Please send your comments or suggestions to us at aif@aif.com or call the Governmental Affairs department at (850)224-7173.

- For more information on all of the important legislative information concerning the business community, go to our “members only” Florida Business Network web site at <http://fbnnet.com>
- Send us your E-mail address and we will begin to send this report to you automatically via E-mail.