



INTERIM BRIEF

For the 2019 Legislative Session

From February 13, 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL & AGRICULTURE

SB 314 – Advanced Well Stimulation Treatment

On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, **SB 314**, Advanced Well Stimulation Treatment by Senator Bill Montford, was heard in the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee and was voted favorably with 5 yeas and 0 nays. **AIF stood in opposition of this bill.**

The bill creates a new section of law, which:

- Prohibits both fracking and matrix acidization in the state (injecting fluids into a rock formation);
- Requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to conduct a study evaluating environmental impacts of well stimulation;
- Appropriates \$2 million to DEP for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to fund the study

SB 314 will now head to the Senate Innovation, Industry, and Technology Committee.

AIF opposes bills or regulations that prohibit well stimulation techniques, prohibit hydraulic fracturing, limit technological advances and infringe on private property rights.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HB 261 – Beverage Law

On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, **HB 261**, Beverage Law by Representative Josie Tomkow, was heard in the House Business & Professions Subcommittee and was voted favorably with 8 yeas and 7 nays. **AIF stood in support of this bill.**

Florida's Tied House Evil Law prohibits a manufacturer or distributor of alcoholic beverages from having a financial interest in the establishment of a licensed vendor, and prohibits a manufacturer or distributor from giving gifts, loans, property, or rebates to retail vendors. This bill amends and clarifies certain exemptions granting manufacturers the right to partner with

vendors, so long as the manufacturer's agreement does not impose on sales of other manufacturers' brands.

HB 261 will now head to the House Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee.

AIF supports legislative efforts to clean up laws imposing burdens and restrictions on manufacturer and vendor partnerships.

LEGAL & JUDICIAL

HB 423 – Lost or Abandoned Personal Property

On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, **HB 423**, Lost or Abandoned Property by Representative Spencer Roach, was heard in the House Business & Professions Subcommittee and was voted favorably with 15 yeas and 0 nays. **AIF stood in support of this bill.**

This bill allows an owner or operator of a theme park, entertainment complex, zoo, museum, aquarium, public food service establishment, or public lodging establishment to elect to dispose of or donate lost or abandoned property found on its premises. Under the bill, an owner or operator who elects to dispose of or donate lost or abandoned property must first take charge of the property, maintain a record of the property, and hold the property for at least 30 days. The bill prohibits the owner or operator from selling the property. If the property remains unclaimed after 30 days, the owner or operator must dispose of or donate the property to a charitable institution. If a charitable institution accepts certain electronic devices, the bill requires the charitable institution to make a reasonable effort to delete all personal data from the device before its sale or disposal. The bill also provides that the rightful owner of the property may reclaim the property at any time before its disposal or donation.

The bill creates an alternate disposal process for lost or abandoned property for theme parks, entertainment complexes, zoos, museums, aquariums, public food service establishments, and public lodging establishments. The alternative process would require these types of facilities to hold the property for at least 30 days. Any property not claimed within 30 days must be donated to a charitable institution.

HB 423 will now head to the House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

AIF supports the right of property owners to hold and donate lost or abandoned property thereby eliminating the burden of contacting law enforcement for lost personal belongings.