



2016

Champions for Business



Votes provide tangible evidence of whether or not a legislator upholds the ability of Florida companies to operate free of overly burdensome state regulation and taxation.

It is a valuable tool used by AIF and the business community to determine which legislators running for re-election deserve our support. Yet, voting records only tell part of the story.

A *Champion for Business* is a legislator who takes risks for his or her belief in the free-enterprise system, who defies the status quo when it is harmful to our state's competitive climate, and who faces down opponents to the growing prosperity of Florida's citizens.

The *Champion for Business* is evidence that, in our efforts to let our members and their legislators know who has been good for business and who has been bad, we leave no stone unturned.

This year, AIF selected those legislators who we deem are strong and forceful advocates for the business community. In our collective wisdom, these ten legislators are the epitome of what a *Champion for Business* should be. Whether they proposed an important bill, authored a key amendment, or toiled behind the scenes, these legislators are the ones who made a difference this session.

The *Champion for Business* award symbolizes our gratitude for extraordinary efforts by legislators on behalf of the business community.

2016 *Champions for Business*



Senator Jack Latvala (R-Clearwater) is receiving his fourth AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida

salutes Senator Latvala for carrying legislation that aimed to provide incentives for Florida's business community in order to bolster our state's economy. Latvala's Economic Development package included a provision that renamed the "Quick Action Closing Fund" to the "Florida Enterprise Fund" and instated the requirement that each new project vying for this incentive must create at least 10 new jobs before being eligible to receive the incentive funds. By this action alone, Senator Latvala's legislation would help our state become a premiere location for business and job creation. We proudly recognize Senator Latvala as a 2016 "Champion for Business."

Throughout the 60 days of lawmaking, these were the leaders we turned to when the business community needed someone we could depend upon.



Senator Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) is receiving her fifth AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida

commends Senator Hukill for her advocacy and leadership in reducing taxes for Florida's businesses and families year after year. This year she sponsored legislation that made the tax exemption for manufacturing equipment permanent. Implementing the manufacturing tax exemption was not only a top priority for our AIF Manufacturing, Aerospace and Defense Council, but will also make Florida competitive with states that already allow for this exemption. We proudly recognize Senator Hukill as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Senator Charlie Dean (R-Inverness) is receiving his second AIF Champion for Business Award.

Associated Industries of Florida hails Senator Dean for defending our state's water by successfully carrying **SB 552**, Environmental Resources, to the finish line this year. This legislation addresses Florida's impending water shortage by implementing a broad-based, comprehensive water policy that will protect our state's precious springs and water resources. As a top priority for AIF and our Florida H2O Coalition, we are beyond pleased that SB 552 was the first bill signed into law by Governor Scott for the 2016 Legislative Session. We proudly recognize Senator Dean as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Senator Aaron Bean (R-Jacksonville) is receiving his third AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida

applauds Senator Bean for his leadership in Tort Reform and protecting this important legal principle for Floridians. Senator Bean understands the importance of safeguarding our legal system from stealth attacks by the trial bar that undermine our state's friendly business climate. He was successful in identifying and blocking legislation during the committee process that would have created loopholes in our comparative fault statutes and permitted the unfair doctrine of joint and several liability to creep back into Florida law. His action to protect the philosophy that a person should only pay for their fair share of damages echoed the warnings and concerns expressed by AIF and our colleagues in the business community. We proudly recognize Senator Bean as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Senator Garrett Richter (R-Naples) is receiving his sixth AIF Champion for Business Award.

Associated Industries of Florida

salutes Senator Richter for championing the Regulation of Oil and Gas Resources legislation aimed at growing Florida's on-shore energy industry while providing safeguards for the environment. This legislation sought to revise the Oil and Gas Program under the Department of Environmental Protection's Mining and Minerals Regulation Program in the Division of Water Resource Management to estab-

Whether they proposed an important bill, authored a key amendment, or toiled behind the scenes, these legislators are the ones who made a difference this session.

lish safer and more effective practices for oil and gas drilling, production, and exploration activities within Florida. AIF supported the need to maintain appropriate permitting laws to protect the environment, enhance efficiency between industry and the state, and ensure that clear appropriate standards are met and clearly communicated. We proudly recognize Senator Richter as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Representative Jim Boyd (R-Bradenton) is receiving his third AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of

Florida commends Representative Boyd for sponsoring an Economic Development package that aimed to provide incentives for Florida's business community in order to bolster our state's economy. Economic development involves the state and local governments working together to improve the state's business environment and competitiveness, to create and retain jobs, and to continually increase incomes. Legislation such as this would make Florida a premiere location for business and job creation. We proudly recognize Representative Boyd as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Representative Matt Gaetz (R-Shalimar) is receiving his third AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of

Florida applauds Representative Gaetz for his commitment to providing tax cuts for Florida's businesses and families. Gaetz's successful work on

this year's tax package, **HB 7099**, will amount to \$129.1 million in cuts for the fiscal year 2016-2017. His sponsorship and steadfast work on this legislation will promote and solidify our state's standing as one of the best states to live in and conduct business. Governor Scott signed HB 7099 into law on 4/13/16 and will take effect on 7/1/2016. We proudly recognize Representative Gaetz as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Representative Matt Caldwell (R-Lehigh Acres) is receiving his fourth AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida salutes Representative

Caldwell for his leadership in sponsoring the Environmental Resources legislation. Caldwell successfully sponsored, along with Senator Charlie Dean, legislation that addresses Florida's impending water shortage by implementing a broad-based, comprehensive water policy that will protect our springs and water resources. **SB 552** was the first bill to be signed into law by Governor Scott on 1/21/16 and will take effect on 7/1/16, changing the future of our state's most precious and valuable resource. We proudly recognize Representative Caldwell as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Representative Frank Artiles (R-Miami) is receiving his second AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated

Industries of Florida commends Representative Artiles for taking the lead in sponsoring Information

Technology legislation that will bring our state's cyber security measures up to date in order to protect Floridians and Florida's businesses from a potential cyber-attack. Getting the Legislature to understand the urgency for the implementation of a consistent and cohesive process for an IT security framework was no easy feat. Throughout the 2016 Session, Artiles worked tirelessly to see this measure through, and because of that effort, **HB 1033** was signed into law by Governor Scott on 3/25/16 and will take effect on 7/1/16. We proudly recognize Representative Artiles as a 2016 "Champion for Business."



Representative Ray Rodrigues (R-Fort Myers) is receiving his second AIF Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida salutes Representative

Rodrigues for successfully championing the Regulation of Oil and Gas Resources legislation, identical to Senator Richter's, aimed at growing Florida's on-shore energy industry while providing safeguards for the environment. This legislation sought to revise the Oil and Gas Program under the Department of Environmental Protection's Mining and Minerals Regulation Program in the Division of Water Resource Management to establish safer and more effective practices for oil and gas drilling, production, and exploration activities within Florida. We proudly recognize Representative Rodrigues as a 2016 "Champion for Business."

Past AIF Champions for Business Winners

2015 Champions for Business

Gov. Rick Scott – *Tax Cuts*
Senate President Andy Gardiner – *Health Care*
Sen. Garrett Richter – *Oil & Gas Regulation*
Sen. Dorothy Hukill – *Tax Cuts*
Sen. Aaron Bean – *Health Care*
Speaker Steve Crisafulli – *Water Policy*
Rep. Ray Rodrigues – *Oil & Gas Regulation*
Rep. Matt Caldwell – *Water Policy*
Rep. Matt Gaetz – *Tax Cuts*

2014 Champions for Business

Gov. Rick Scott – *Motor Vehicle Rollback*
Speaker Will Weatherford – *In-State Tuition*
Sen. Joe Negron – *Motor Vehicle Rollback*
Sen. Jack Latvala – *In-State Tuition*
Sen. Jeremy Ring – *IT Governance*
Sen. Bill Montford – *GMO "Protecting Florida Agriculture"*
Rep. Seth McKeel – *IT Governance*
Rep. Jeanette Nunez – *In-State Tuition*
Rep. Richard Corcoran – *STEP*
Rep. Steve Crisafulli – *STEP*

2013 Champions for Business

Gov. Rick Scott – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Garrett Richter – *Expert Testimony*
Sen. Joe Negron – *Health Care*
Sen. John Legg – *Education*
Sen. Alan Hays – *Workers Compensation*
Sen. Chris Smith – *Environmental Regulation*
Sen. Bill Galvano – *Manufacturing Development*
Rep. Jim Boyd – *Manufacturing Development*
Rep. Steve Crisafulli – *Insurance Tax Credit*
Rep. Matt Gaetz – *Legal Reform*
Rep. Matt Hudson – *Workers Compensation*
Rep. Larry Metz – *Expert Testimony*
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – *Environmental Regulation*
Rep. Steve Precourt – *Employment Benefits*
Rep. Jake Raburn – *Environmental Regulation*
Sen. Dorothy Hukill – *AIF Manufacturing, Aerospace and Defense Council Champion for Business Award*
Sen. Wilton Simpson – *AIF Environmental & Agricultural Sustainability Council Champion for Business Award*
Rep. MaryLynn Magar – *AIF Manufacturing, Aerospace & Defense Council Champion for Business Award*
Rep. Matt Caldwell – *AIF Environmental & Agricultural Sustainability Council Champion for Business Award*
Rep. Kevin Rader – *AIF Financial Services Council Champion for Business Award*
Rep. Bill Hager – *AIF Financial Services Council Champion for Business Award*

2012 Champions for Business

Rep. Steve Crisafulli – *Environmental Policy*
Rep. Matt Caldwell – *Environmental Policy*
Rep. Seth McKeel – *Environmental Policy*
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – *Environmental Permitting*
Rep. Steve Precourt – *Economic Development*
Rep. James Grant – *Communication Services Tax (CST) Reduction*
Rep. Erik Fresen – *Gaming Reform*
Rep. Eric Eisnaugle – *Property Tax*
Rep. Will Weatherford – *Unemployment Tax Reform*
Rep. Jim Boyd – *Automobile Insurance*
Rep. Dan Davis – *Workers Compensation*
Rep. Mack Bernard – *Workers Compensation*
Sen. Elyn Bogdanoff – *Gaming Reform*
Sen. Chris Smith – *Metal Theft Legislation/Workers Compensation*
Sen. Don Gaetz – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Jack Latvala – *Health Care*
Rep. Clay Ford – *Environmental Sustainability Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Jim Norman – *Environmental Sustainability Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Ed Hooper – *Hospital Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Frank Artiles – *Development and Infrastructure Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Bill Hager – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Joe Negron – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*

2011 Champions for Business

Rep. Chris Dorworth – *Property Tax Reduction*
Rep. Doug Holder – *Unemployment Compensation*
Rep. Dorothy Hukill – *Insurance Reform*
Rep. Marlene O'Toole – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – *Environmental Permitting*
Rep. Will Weatherford – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Trudi Williams – *Water Policy*
Rep. John Wood – *Property Insurance Reform*
Rep. Rich Workman – *Pension Reform*
Rep. Dana Young – *Port Security*
Sen. JD Alexander – *Immigration Reform*
Sen. Elyn Bogdanoff – *Judgment of Interest*
Sen. Anitere Flores – *Immigration Reform*
Sen. Jack Latvala – *Port Security*
Sen. Joe Negron – *Medicaid Reform*
Sen. Garrett Richter – *Tort Reform*
Sen. Jeremy Ring – *Single Sales Factor*
Sen. David Simmons – *Class Size*
Rep. Joe Abruzzo – *Florida Maritime Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Ken Roberson – *Environmental Sustainability Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Brad Drake – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Gary Aubuchon – *Florida Development and Infrastructure Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Florida Development and Infrastructure Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*



Awards table at the Annual Champions for Business Reception & Awards Presentation held in Orlando.

2010 Champions for Business

Speaker Larry Cretel – *Unemployment Compensation*
Rep. Dean Cannon – *Medicaid Reform*
Rep. Steve Crisafulli – *Economic Development/Aerospace*
Rep. Brad Drake – *Commercial Insurance*
Rep. Adam Hasner – *Unemployment Compensation*
Rep. Alan Hays – *Workers' Compensation*
Rep. Mike Horner – *Parental Waivers*
Rep. Ralph Poppell – *Dynamic Scoring*
Rep. Perry Thurston – *International Commercial Arbitration*
Rep. Will Weatherford – *Economic Development Job Creation*
Senate President Jeff Atwater – *Tort Reform*
Sen. Rudy Garcia – *Unemployment Compensation*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Economic Development*
Sen. Garrett Richter – *Property Insurance*
Sen. John Thrasher – *Education Reform*
Sen. Thad Altman – *Aerospace Industry Relief*
Sen. Durell Peaden – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Bill Proctor – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Jeremy Ring – *Florida Maritime Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Lake Ray – *Florida Maritime Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. John Legg – *Florida Education, Economic & Workforce Development Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Nancy Detert – *Florida Education, Economic & Workforce Development Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Marlene O'Toole – *Information Technology Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Dorothy Hukill – *Florida Development & Infrastructure Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Lee Constantine – *Environmental Sustainability Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Trudi Williams – *Environmental Sustainability Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*

2009 Champions for Business

Rep. Dean Cannon – *Energy Legislation*
Rep. Anitere Flores – *Workers' Compensation*
Rep. Adam Hasner – *Elections*
Rep. Carlos Lopez-Cantera – *Property Taxes*
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – *Medicaid Reform*
Sen. Garrett Richter – *Workers' Compensation*
Sen. Mike Fasano – *Economic Development*
Sen. Chris Smith – *Public Notices*
Sen. Don Gaetz – *Low Income Pool (LIP) Transparency*

Sen. Mike Bennett – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Bryan Nelson – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Pat Patterson – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Dave Aronberg – *Florida Maritime Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Charles Van Zant – *Florida Energy Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Seth McKeel – *Florida Energy Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Erik Fresen – *Florida Education, Economic & Workforce Development Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*

2008 Champions for Business

Rep. Thad Altman – *Space Legislation*
Rep. Anitere Flores – *Education & Workforce Development*
Rep. Peter Nehr – *Property Tax Reform*
Rep. Ray Sansom – *Economic Development*
Rep. Baxter Troutman – *Metal Theft Legislation*
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Administrative Procedures Act*
Sen. Mike Fasano – *Transportation*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Taxes*
Sen. Bill Posey – *Space Legislation*
Sen. Jeremy Ring – *Economic Development*
Rep. Dennis Ross – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Al Lawson – *Financial Services Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink – *Financial Services Council Champion for Business*
Rep. Paige Kreegel – *Florida Energy Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Kevin Ambler – *Florida Maritime Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*

2007 Champions for Business

Rep. Trey Traviesa – *Telecommunications*
Rep. Charlie Dean – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Alan Hays – *Property Insurance*
Rep. Rich Glorioso – *Transportation*
Rep. Aaron Bean – *Government Outsourcing Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Rep. Will Weatherford – *Information Technology Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*
Sen. Al Lawson – *Information Technology Council "Legislator of the Year" Award*

2006 Champions for Business

Governor Jeb Bush – *Support of Business Agenda*
Speaker Allan Bense – *Tort Reform/Repeal of Join & Several*

Senate President Tom Lee – *Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several*
Rep. Marty Bowen – *Agriculture*
Rep. Don Brown – *Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several*
Rep. Fred Brummer – *Tax Reform*
Rep. Mike Davis – *Affordable Housing*
Rep. Adam Hasner – *Energy Legislation*
Rep. Matt Meadows – *Tax Incentives for Manufacturing*
Rep. Dennis Ross – *Property Insurance Reform*
Rep. Marco Rubio – *Private Property Rights*
Rep. Trey Traviesa – *Telecommunications*
Sen. Jeff Atwater – *Tax Relief for Businesses*
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Growth Management*
Sen. Jim King – *Economic Development*
Sen. Dan Webster – *Tort Reform*

2005 Champions for Business

Governor Jeb Bush – *Tort Reform*
Speaker Allan Bense – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Frank Attkisson – *Private Sector Protection*
Rep. Holly Benson – *Medicaid Reform Legislation*
Rep. Don Brown – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Fred Brummer – *Repeal of Intangible Tax*
Rep. Rene Garcia – *Medicaid Reform Legislation*
Rep. Joe Pickens – *Asbestos and Silica Reform Act*
Rep. Dennis Ross – *Property Insurance Reform*
Rep. Dwight Stansel – *Tort Reform*
Rep. John Stargel – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Jeff Atwater – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Tax Reform*

2004 Champions for Business

Rep. Allan Bense – *Support of Business Agenda*
Rep. Kim Berfield – *Workers' Compensation Reform*
Rep. Mike Davis – *Growth Management*
Rep. Jeff Kottkamp – *Premises Liability Legislation*
Rep. Bruce Kyle – *Court Funding*
Rep. Joe Negron – *Court Funding*
Rep. John Stargel – *Tax Reform*
Sen. JD Alexander – *Workers' Compensation Reform*
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Growth Management*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Rod Smith – *Court Funding*

2003 Champions for Business

Rep. Allan Bense – *Support of Business Agenda*
Rep. Dudley Goodlette – *Workers' Compensation*
Rep. Connie Mack – *Tort Reform*





Associated Industries of Florida (AIF) and our members are proud to recognize the members of the Florida legislature who have achieved a 100% AIF voting record for the 2016 Session. This represents a commitment to sound policy that supports Florida's employers and job creators. Not only does this score encompass votes to pass legislation beneficial to businesses, it includes votes to defeat policies that would have a detrimental impact on businesses and their employees.



Rep. Ben Albritton
(R-Bartow)



Rep. Dennis Baxley
(R-Ocala)



Rep. Jason Brodeur
(R-Sanford)



Rep. Doug Broxson
(R-Milton)



Rep. Colleen Burton
(R-Lakeland)



Rep. Neil Combee
(R-Auburndale)



Rep. Bob Cortes
(R-Maitland)



Rep. Steve Crisafulli
(R-Merritt Island)



Rep. Travis Cummings
(R-Orange Park)



Rep. Eric Eisnagle
(R-Orlando)



Rep. Jay Fant
(R-Jacksonville)



Rep. Erik Fresen
(R-Miami)



Rep. Bill Hager
(R-Boca Raton)



Rep. Gayle Harrell
(R-Stuart)



Rep. Shawn Harrison
(R-Tampa)



Rep. Clay Ingram
(R-Pensacola)



Rep. Charles McBurney
(R-Jacksonville)



Rep. Larry Metz
(R-Groveland)



Rep. George Moraitis
(R-Ft. Lauderdale)



Rep. Marlene O'Toole
(R-The Villages)



Rep. Kathleen Passidomo
(R-Naples)



Rep. Kathleen Peters
(R-St. Petersburg)



Rep. Ray Pilon
(R-Sarasota)



Rep. Elizabeth Porter
(R-Lake City)



Rep. Dan Raulerson
(R-Plant City)



Rep. Lake Ray
(R-Jacksonville)



Rep. Ken Roberson
(R-Port Charlotte)



Rep. Patrick Rooney
(R-Palm Beach Gardens)



Rep. David Santiago
(R-Deltona)



Rep. Jimmie Smith
(R-Inverness)



Rep. Ross Spano
(R-Riverview)



Rep. Cyndi Stevenson
(R-St. Augustine)



Rep. Charlie Stone
(R-Ocala)



Rep. Ritch Workman
(R-Melbourne)



Rep. Dana Young
(R-Tampa)

We applaud these 35 legislators who have helped make Florida the best place to do business.