



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

**Throughout the 2025 Regular Session, the Governor and these eight legislators provided outstanding support on critical issues to AIF and our members.**

**V**otes provide tangible evidence of whether a legislator supports the ability of Florida companies to prosper and operate free of overly burdensome state regulation and taxation. They are valuable tools used by AIF and the business community to determine which legislators deserve our support. Yet voting records only tell part of the story.

*A **Champion for Business*** is a legislator who takes a stand 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.



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#### **Governor Ron DeSantis**

Governor Ron DeSantis is receiving his second Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida thanks Governor DeSantis for keeping Florida on the right track after a turbulent Legislative Session. Governor DeSantis did not mince words when he realized that some policies directly contradicted the hard work of the 2022 and 2023 tort reforms and could negatively impact businesses and consumers in Florida. When **HB 6017** – Recovery of Damages for Medical Negligence Resulting in Death by Representative Dana Trabulsy (R-Fort Pierce) was passed without caps on noneconomic damages, the Governor used his veto power to ensure that Florida stayed the course to fighting frivolous litigation. The Governor actively opposed the harmful policies while making sure principled, pro-business policy was passed and signed into law. AIF thanks Governor DeSantis for his commitment to Florida and his unwavering vision to move the state forward.



#### **Senate President Ben Albritton**

Senate President Ben Albritton is receiving his fifth Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida thanks Senate President Albritton for defending against attacks on Florida's business community and for leading the Senate with maturity and common sense. Senator Albritton was able to guide the Senate to pass insightful legislation, which will help Floridians and businesses alike for years to come. AIF thanks Senate President Albritton for his bold leadership through a difficult session and for keeping pace with Florida's need for growth in all sectors.



#### **Senate Majority Leader Jim Boyd**

Senator Jim Boyd is receiving his sixth Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida appreciates Senator Boyd's commitment to the business community and employees of the state. He demonstrated strong leadership and collaboration throughout the legislative session by actively supporting his colleagues in advancing pro-business policies in the Senate. At the same time, he remained firm and unwavering in his stance against efforts by the House to roll back critical tort reform measures, playing a key role in preserving the integrity of reforms that protect Florida's business climate from excessive litigation. AIF thanks Senator Boyd for his continued support in the Florida Senate and looks forward to supporting him through his leadership roles.



#### **Senator Gayle Harrell**

Senator Gayle Harrell is receiving her first Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida thanks Senator Harrell for her valuable contributions and medical insight to **SB 734** by Senator Yarborough – Actions for the Recovery of Damages for Wrongful Death. Senator Harrell displayed unwavering resolve and principled leadership throughout the legislative session, standing firm amid intense debate and personal attacks to remain a thoughtful and reasoned voice within the Senate Chambers. Despite the political pressures and the challenges posed by emotionally charged discussions, she made the difficult but courageous decision to vote against legislation that lacked essential caps. AIF thanks Senator Harrell for her steadfast commitment to preserving the stability and sustainability of Florida's healthcare system.



#### **Senator Stan McClain**

Senator Stan McClain is receiving his first Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida applauds Senator McClain's efforts in running seven different AIF-priority bills. He demonstrated exceptional leadership and policy expertise during the 2025 Legislative Session by successfully championing a suite of pro-business legislation across several complex and critically important policy areas, including utilities regulation, property and management associations, and environmental policy. Drawing from his broad and well-established knowledge, Senator

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McClain navigated the intricacies of each issue, ensuring that the legislation he supported not only ensured economic growth but also promoted regulatory clarity and long-term sustainability. AIF thanks Senator McClain for his outstanding dedication and thoughtful work this session.



#### **Senator Kathleen Passidomo**

Senator Kathleen Passidomo is receiving her seventh Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida applauds Senator Passidomo for her steadfast commitment to Florida's businesses and economy by showing integrity and grace in her discussions around tort issues. Additionally, she championed pro-business policies and reforms in the Senate throughout her tenure. AIF thanks Senator Passidomo for her continued work in the Florida Senate.



#### **Representative Mike Caruso**

Representative Mike Caruso is receiving his first Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida commends Representative Caruso for his steadfast and vocal dedication to ensuring the long-term stability of Florida's insurance markets. Rather than yielding to the pressure of reversing course in the wake of the recently enacted sweeping reforms, Representative Caruso has demonstrated principled leadership by advocating for consistency and clarity in policy implementation. AIF thanks Representative Caruso for his unwavering support for all Floridians.



#### **Representative Tom Fabricio**

Representative Tom Fabricio is receiving his second Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida recognizes Representative Fabricio for his commitment to the 2022 and 2023 tort reforms. As the sponsor of one of the most transformative and landmark pieces of legislation aimed at removing Florida from the ranks of so-called "judicial hellholes," he played a pivotal role in advancing meaningful legal reform across the state. However, in the face of mounting political pressure and efforts to reverse these hard-fought reforms, Representative Fabricio's policies came under significant threat. Despite these challenges, he remained resolute and unwavering in his commitment to the integrity of the reforms he helped champion. AIF thanks Representative Fabricio for his continued work on tort issues in Florida.

# 100% Voting

## These Legislators Voted 100% with the Business Community

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.

**Senator Gayle Harrell (R)**

**Representative Jose Alvarez (D)**

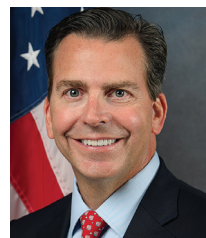
**Representative Tom Fabricio (R)**

**Representative Toby Overdorf (R)**

**Representative Alex Rizo (R)**

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

**Note:** Does not include Senator Randy Fine (R), Senator Debbie Mayfield (R), Representative Nathan Boyles (R) and Representative Brian Rodgers (R) who were elected in a special election or left the Florida Senate after minimal votes.



#### **Representative Toby Overdorf**

Representative Toby Overdorf is receiving his second Champion for Business Award. Associated Industries of Florida proudly recognizes Representative Overdorf for his continued commitment to advancing policies that support Florida's business community, particularly through his sponsorship of **HB 579** relating to Land Use and Development, during the 2025 Legislative Session. Representative Overdorf has long been a respected voice on environmental and regulatory issues, and he brought his considerable experience in crafting this legislation. HB 579, represents a thoughtful and much-needed effort to streamline regulatory processes that have increasingly hindered responsible development and business growth across the state. AIF thanks Representative Overdorf for his tireless efforts to streamline the permitting process for businesses and residents of Florida.



# Awards Presentation & Dinner

September 10, 2025

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