



2017 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

FLORIDA COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

PAM STEWART



2017 Legislative Summary

2016 Statistics

- Total Bills Filed - 1,814
- Total Bills Passed - 279
- Total Bills Passed Impacting Education and the Agency - 48

2017 Statistics

- Total Bills Filed -3,052
- Total Bills Passed - 249
- Total Bills Passed Impacting Education and the Agency - 25

Legislative Summary Resources

- Legislative Update Presentation
- Legislative Review Book
- Legislative Implementation Overview Chart
 - Technical Assistance and Notification Memos

Governmental Relations: www.fldoe.org/gr

Questions: Legislation@fldoe.org



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K -12 Education Impacting Legislation

K-12 Education Impacting Legislation

- **HB 15- Educational Options**
 - Expands the eligibility and services for the Gardiner Scholarship and increases the scholarship amount for the tax credit scholarship
- **SB 256- Center for Partnerships for Arts Integrated Teaching**
 - Eliminates the expiration date of the statute that authorizes the Center
- **HB 293- Middle Grades**
 - Requires a study of states with high-performing students in grades 6-8
- **HB 371- Assistive Technology Devices**
 - Allows students to take Assistive Technology Devices home and to the community
- **SB 436- Religious Expression in Public Schools**
 - Prohibits a school district from discriminating on the basis of religious expression. Requires DOE to develop a model policy
- **HB 749- Adoption Benefits**
 - Allows charter school and virtual school employees to receive adoption benefits

Education Impacting Legislation

- **HB 781- School Grades**

- Defines a K-3 feeder pattern school as one where the majority of the students are assigned to the graded school

- **HB 989- Instructional Materials**

- Allows a parent or resident of the county to raise objection of an instructional material to the school board

- **HB 1109- Private School Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities**

- Allows private school students to participate in extracurricular activities in a school that they choose, provided the school has not reached capacity

- **HB 1239- School Bus Safety**

- Increases penalties for school bus violations

House Bill 7069

- Enrolled Text of the Bill:
[HB 7069](#)

- House Message Summary:
[Conference Report](#)



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Postsecondary Education Impacting Legislation

Postsecondary Education Impacting Legislation

- **SB 374- Postsecondary Education**
 - See attached handout
- **SB 396- Student Loan Debt**
 - Requires Postsecondary Institutions that receive state financial aid to provide annually to students information regarding their student loans
- **HB 501- Public Records Exemption- Information Technology/Postsecondary Education Institutions**
 - Provides a public records exemption for information technology security incidents
- **HB 859- Postsecondary Distance Education**
 - Authorizes Florida to participate in a reciprocity agreement with other states for the delivery of postsecondary distance education
- **HB 1079- Public Records Exemption- Campus Emergency**
 - Provides a public records exemption for campus emergency response plans



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Agency Impacting Legislation

Agency Impacting Legislation

- **HB 181- Natural Hazards**
 - Requires each agency to designate a liaison to the natural hazards interagency workgroup
- **HB 207- Agency Inspectors General**
 - Prohibits awarding of employment bonus to inspector or deputy inspectors
- **SB 370- Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol**
 - Requires benefits to employees who are civil air patrol members
- **HB 599- Public Work Projects**
 - Prohibits a political subdivision from requiring a contractor of a public work project to adhere to certain employee restrictions
- **HB 1021- Construction**
 - Requires DOE and DEO to develop a plan to implement the construction industry task force recommendations



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Direct Support Organizations

Direct Support Organizations (DSO)

Division of Blind Services HB 6037

- Removed the Sunset provision for the repeal of the DBS DSO

Vocational Rehabilitation SB 890

- Requires additional oversight by DOE and reporting
- Transfers funds to DOE trust fund
- Requires VR to administer High School High Tech
- Limits administrative costs
- Moves the repeal date to 2019



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