

# WEEK 5 REPORT

// 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

+ MARINE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA

MARCH 29 - APRIL 2, 2020



# // WEEK 5 REPORT

## CONTENTS

### SB 72 // HB 7

Civil Liability for Damages  
Relating to COVID-19

It is hard to believe we have completed five weeks of the 2021 Legislative Session and have four left. Boating and boating related issues continue to be moving quickly through the process. MIAF is working closely with other stakeholders and sponsors to make changes to bills as needed.

### SB 578 // HB 223

Marina Evacuations

A quick recap is the FWC “Boating” bills are still different in verbiage. They are getting closer. MIAF prefers the Senate version if a version must pass. As for the “Anchoring” bills, the bills are moving through the process and are appearing as though they might pass this year as the boating caucus split and did not remain a unified voice against the bills. MIAF continues to work with MIAPB to try and get changes to this bill as it has one more committee reference. “Racketeering” took up a lot of resources. The bill was amended on the Senate floor with friendly language. The House bill is still not acceptable as it has the word “killing” in the amended version. MIAF prefers the Senate Bill.

### SB 1658 // HB 271

Power-driven Vessel Safety  
Requirements

Issues are moving quickly and we are having to watch calendars closely. Committee assignments are being removed and amendments are being filed at the last minute. COVID rules make it more difficult to react to last minute changes, especially unfriendly changes.

### SB 1562 // HB 1099

Motorboat Engine Cutoff Switches

Below are some of the bills we are following for Marine Industries Association of Florida.

### SB 1834 // HB 1275

Vessel Safety

#### Anchoring

#### SB/CS1946 and CS/HB1515

### SB 1668 // HB 1335

Seagrass Mitigation Banks

CS SB 1946 passed Senate Community Affairs on Tuesday. The bill had one technical amendment filed to it as of the writing of this report. The bill is now a CS/CS for Senate Bill 1946 and is attached for your convenience. MIAF has a meeting to discuss the bill with the sponsor again this week.

### SB 1652 // HB 1337

Anchoring Limitation Areas

The House Bill, CS/HB 1515 had a committee reference removed and is now scheduled to be heard in the

### SB 1946 // HB 1515

Anchoring Limitation Areas

House State Affairs Committee on April 6th at 9 am. No amendments were filed as of the writing of this report. A copy of the CS is attached for your review.



Again, the boating caucus split on whether to support or oppose the bill. Boat US has taken a support position and testifies to their support in committee.

## **Racketeering**

### **SB776 and HB 783**

This bill has been a lot of work. Unfortunately the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission did not want to negotiate language to remove the word “take” out of the Senate and House bills. The Senate and House now have different language and we prefer the Senate version as the House version includes the word “kill”. We appreciate Senator Gainer and Senator Albritton for making the needed amendments on the Senate floor.

### **FWC Bill a.k.a. and “FWC’s Boating Bill”**

#### **SB 1086 and HB639**

Different week, but the FWC boating bills continue to differ. The Senate bill is still the preferred version for Marine Industries if a version has to pass this Session. Senate Bill 1086 still has two more committee stops to pass. The bill had not been placed on agenda as of the writing of this report.

The House Bill received four committee references and has passed through three committees with amendments. Yet again, I cannot stress enough the difficulty we have had trying to negotiate language with FWC. It has been a very disappointing year as a stakeholder working with FWC on every bill this Session. There is enough time for these bills to pass so we must remain vigilant and watch all amendments.

## **Marina Evacuation**

### **SB578 and HB 223**

These bills are different. The House bill passed the House floor 116-0. We anticipate the Senate bill will be amended on the Senate floor to mirror the House bill and then would be on its way to the Governor for signature.

## **Budget**

The House of Representatives and Senate passed their respective budgets out of their Appropriations Committees this week. We are now ready for the House and Senate to file budget amendments on the floor and set the stage for the budget conference process.

Below are some of the boating appropriations we are tracking. They did not change from last week and appear to be identical amounts in the House and Senate budgets. We hope they will be agreed to quickly in the conference process once it begins.

Please note, the House budget is now House Bill 5001.

### **Senate Bill 2500**

1708 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY  
CLEAN MARINA

FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 500,000

1767 SPECIAL CATEGORIES BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM  
FROM MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND . . . . . 625,650

1768 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL PROGRAM  
FROM MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND . . . . . 2,204,849

1769 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE  
FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 3,900,000

1769A GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY  
DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL PROGRAM  
FROM MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND . . . . . 1,369,345

1770 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY  
FLORIDA BOATING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
FROM MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND . . . . . 627,993  
FROM STATE GAME TRUST FUND . . . . . 1,250,000

**House Bill 5001**

1708 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY  
CLEAN MARINA FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 500,000

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Thank you again for allowing us to represent you in Tallahassee. Things are changing rapidly so please stay tuned as we head into the final weeks of the 2021 Legislative Session.



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