

ADVOCACY

The 2017 Legislative Session begins Tuesday, March 7th. Virtually all of the FHBA issues have been filed, although we are waiting on a couple to emerge from bill drafting in order to receive a bill number. Please note, with the official start of session bills will be placed on agenda with 48-hour notice. So let's get started.

- Workers Compensation
 - It is anticipated that the House Banking and Insurance Committee will have a workshop next week on their version of Workers Compensation bill. FHBA staff has seen a draft, and while still under review, it appears to address the issues of rate increases. **The Senate has filed SB 1582.**
- Building Code
 - SB 7000 and HB 901, which addresses the code process, have been filed. The SB had one hearing while the HB has only received a bill number.
 - The bills have drawn opposition, primarily from the Building Officials of Florida. FHBA staff have been working on appropriate replies to the opposition's concerns. FHBA responses will be posted.
 - Members also have to opportunity to let your legislative delegation know that you are supporting these two bills. Click [here](#) to let your voice be heard.
- Assignment of Benefits (AOB)
 - A number of bills have been filed that attempt to fix AOB. SB 1150/SB 1038 are the bills currently filed. The first, licenses water restoration contractors. The second, places restrictions on the use of AOB's by homeowners. Both bills have impacts on contractors and will be watched for unintended consequences.
- Notice and Right to Cure FS 558
 - SB 1158 has been filed. No word on when it will be heard. The HB is not yet available.