

**April 3, 2017**

## **FAPG Legislative Update**

### **Professional Regulation:**

[SB 802](#) (Sen. Passidomo) [HB 7047](#) (Rep. Beshears) Regulated Professions and Occupations; Requiring an individual applicant to apply for licensure in the name of the business organization that he or she proposes to operate under; requiring that a license be in the name of a qualifying agent rather than the name of a business organization; prohibiting a business organization from engaging in certain practices until it is qualified by a qualifying agent; requiring the board to certify an applicant to qualify one or more business organizations or to operate using a fictitious name under certain circumstances, etc.

**SB 802 is on the Judiciary Committee agenda tomorrow (Tuesday) Morning where an amendment will be filed to take Geologists out of the bill. HB 7047 is in the Commerce Committee which is scheduled to meet on Thursday afternoon. Please contact Rep. Beshears and request he amend his bill to take Geologists out!!!**

### **Water/Natural Resources:**

[SB 442](#) (Sen. Dana Young R-Tampa) Advanced Well Stimulation Treatment; Prohibiting the performance of advanced well stimulation treatments; clarifying that permits for drilling or operating a well do not authorize the performance of advanced well stimulation treatments, which would ban all types of **fracking** in Florida, was moved favorably by the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and is now in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Environment and Natural Resources, its second of three committees of reference. An identical bill, [HB 451](#) (Rep. Mike Miller R-Orlando) has not yet been heard in committee. Three other bills that would prohibit extreme well stimulation ([SB 98](#), [HB 35](#) and [SB 108](#)) are also awaiting their first committee hearings. **For all practical purposes, with the House Leadership refusing to take up HB 35, fracking legislation for this session is dead.**

[CS/SB 1018 HB 753](#): (Sen. Denise Grimsley R- Lake Placid) **Contaminated Site Cleanup**: Provides exceptions to certain application & cost-share requirements for advanced cleanup; specifies prioritization of requests; requires & authorizes DEP to make determinations & initiate activities relating to advanced clean up; increases amount of funds available for advanced cleanup work; requires certain funds be made available for certain tax credit authorizations. –The Senate bill is now in the Environmental & Natural Resources Appropriations subcommittee and the House bill passed unanimously out of the Natural Resources and Public Lands Subcommittee, and is now in Ways & Means Committee. **The Senate bill is in the Environmental & Natural Resources Appropriations subcommittee and the House bill passed unanimously out of the Ways & Means Committee, and is now being placed on the calendar for a Floor vote.**

[CS/SB 10](#) (Sen. Rob Bradley R- Fleming Island) was amended by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee by the Environment and Natural Resources to expand the water resource projects included in it. Originally focusing on the creation of a reservoir project in the Everglades Agricultural Area to address algal issues in the Treasure Coast area, the bill was amended on March 8 to include water projects from other bills related to the St. Johns River, Indian River Lagoon and Florida Keys. These projects would be funded with money from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. It would also expand the ability of wastewater-treatment facilities to recycle water. The bill has passed it's first to committees and now moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee, its last committee of reference. [HB 761](#), the House companion bill, has not yet been heard in committee. **The bill is on the agenda of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, its last committee of reference. There will be several amendments filed to the bill that are rumored to dramatically change the scope of the bill. [HB 761](#), the House companion, has not yet been heard in committee.**

### **Budget**

Both the House and Senate released their proposed budgets last week with appropriations committees in both Houses scheduled to hear the budget bills in committee this week. Proposed Cleanup funding allocations are as follows:

	<b><u>House</u></b>	<b><u>Senate</u></b>
Petroleum Tanks	\$100 million	\$110 million
Dry Cleaning	\$8.5 million	\$8.5 million
Hazardous Waste	\$8.5 million	\$8.5 million

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Phil Leary, AICP  
Principal, Leary Governmental Affairs  
[pleary@LearyGAC.com](mailto:pleary@LearyGAC.com)  
(904)429-3847 Office  
(386)937-7829 Cell

**BUDGET:** Gov. Rick Scott has proposed an \$83.5 billion budget for the fiscal year that starts July 1, up about \$1.2 billion from the current year. In the proposal, Scott called for \$618 million in tax cuts, increased education spending and cuts in hospital funding. But the proposal has met skepticism from some lawmakers, who are concerned about projected budget shortfalls in the coming years. Add in the House Speaker's desire to eliminate Enterprise Florida and Visit Florida, two of the Governors priorities and the Senate President's push for \$2.4 billion dollars to purchase 60,000 acres in the Everglades Agriculture Area, it all adds up to a raucous budget debate.