



*Mayor Susan Haynie  
Chair*

## **Legislative Update for the week ending 10/27/2017**

### **Overview**

This week brought a few announcements, some surprises and committee meetings. Speaker Corcoran announced this week that he did not see the rainy day fund as an appropriate source to fill in funding gaps which are expected in the coming state fiscal year's budget. Revenues for the coming year are expected to rise very slightly and the costs from Hurricane Irma are expected to consume all of the increase and more. That means that cuts to some programs are likely if reserves won't be tapped. The Speaker also made it known that he is interested in seeing more transparency from Visit Florida, expect more on this as the session progresses. The Speaker focused on Visit Florida and Enterprise Florida last session and originally proposed cutting the funding for both programs to zero.

Of interest to the MPOAC membership and friends is SB 90, the texting while driving bill, which passed out of its first committee with only one dissenting vote. An amendment to the bill was filed and accepted by the committee. The amendment does not materially affect the intent of the bill. A similar bill in the House (but not identical) has the same status since the last MPOAC Legislative Update was published. Not to worry though, there is still a lot of session left for HB 121 to advance.

As in the last update, shown below are the dates of events for the 2018 legislative session, and included in this legislative update is a listing of bills filed thus far in the session related to transportation. Updates will occur on an as-needed basis until the official start of the 2018 legislative session, then your MPOAC updates will be issued weekly.

A few bills have been filed, many more will be filed over the coming months. Your MPOAC Legislative Update will keep you apprised of newly filed bills.

Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy this edition of the MPOAC Legislative Update.

## Important Dates for the 2018 Legislative Session

- August 01, 2017 – Deadline for filing claim bills
- November 17, 2017 - Deadline for submitting requests for drafts of general bills and joint resolutions, including requests for companion bills
- January 5, 2018 – Deadline for approving final drafts of general bills and joint resolutions, including companion bills
- January 9, 2018 - Regular Session convenes, deadline for filing bills for introduction
- February 24, 2018 - All bills are immediately certified, motion to reconsider made and considered the same day
- February 27, 2018 - 50th day, last day for regularly scheduled committee meetings
- March 9, 2018 - 60th day, last day of Regular Session

## Committee Meeting schedule prior to the official Legislative Session beginning on January 9th

October 2017 - Week of the 9th  
October 2017 - Week of the 23rd  
November 2017 - Week of the 6th  
November 2017 - Week of the 13th  
December 2017 - Week of the 4th

## Legislation of interest to the membership

This is a summary of bills filed and published on the legislature's website as of September 15, 2017. More bills will be filed during the 2018 session and as they are made available the newly filed bills will be added to this list. The bills are listed in numerical order for your convenience. As the session and bills progress, this ordering of bills will make it easier to follow the status of any particular bill you are tracking.

**Changes from last update are shown in RED**

**SB 72: Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving – (Garcia – Co-Introducers: Rodriguez; Mayfield)** – Withdrawn. Identical to SB 90.

**CS/SB 90: Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving – (Perry – Co-Sponsor: Garcia; Mayfield; Rodriguez; Campbell)** – Identical to SB 72. Revising the legislative intent relating to the authorization of law enforcement officers to stop motor vehicles and issue citations to persons who are texting while driving; requiring deposit of fines into the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund, etc. Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations. **Committee Substitute (amendment) and passed by Communications, Energy and Public Utilities (Yeas 7, Nays 1). This bill also picked up three more co-sponsors.**

**SB 116: Operation of Vehicles – (Baxley – Co-Introducers: Passidomo)** - Requiring drivers to vacate lanes closest to, or reduce speed and pass, vulnerable road users, authorized emergency,

sanitation, and utility service vehicles or workers, and wrecker operators under certain circumstances, subject to certain requirements, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

**HB 117: Operation of Vehicles – (Stone)** - Companion Bill to SB 116. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee.

**HB 121: Texting While Driving – (Slosberg; Stark)** – Similar to SB 72 and SB 90. Revises short title & legislative intent; revises penalties for violations of provisions re: texting while driving; provides enhanced penalties for violations committed in school zones & crossings; requires law enforcement agencies to adopt policies prohibiting racial profiling in enforcement; removes requirement that enforcement be accomplished as secondary action. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Judiciary Committee; Government Accountability Committee.

**SB 176: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Hutson)** – Similar to HB 6001 - Repealing provisions relating to the installation and use of traffic infraction detectors to enforce specified provisions when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal, provisions that authorize the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, a county, or a municipality to use such detectors, and the distribution of penalties collected for specified violations, etc.. Referred to Transportation; Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

**SB 182: Small Business Roadway Construction Mitigation Grant Program – (Rodriguez)** - Requiring the Department of Transportation to create a Small Business Roadway Construction Mitigation Grant Program; requiring the program to disburse grants using funds allocated to the department by the Legislature to certain qualified businesses for the purpose of maintaining the businesses during a construction project of the department, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

**SB 188: Public School Transportation – (Steube)** - Requiring district school boards to provide transportation to certain students; revising the speed and road conditions that meet the requirements for a hazardous walking condition; requiring a district school superintendent to request a review of a hazardous walking condition upon receipt of a written request from a parent of a student, etc. Referred to Education; Appropriations Subcommittee on Pre-K - 12 Education; Appropriations.

**SB 206: Highway Memorial Markers – (Perry)** – Requiring the Department of Transportation to establish a process, including the adoption of any forms deemed necessary by the department, for submitting applications for installation of a memorial marker; authorizing the department to install a certain sign at no charge to an applicant; authorizing an applicant to request an emblem of belief not specifically approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration for incorporation in a memorial marker, subject to certain requirements, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

**HB 215: Autocycles – (Payne)** - Defines "autocycle" & revises definition of "motorcycle"; requires safety belt usage by autocycle operator/passenger; authorizes autocycle operation without motorcycle endorsement; provides applicability. Definition of an autocycle: A three-wheeled motorcycle that has two wheels in the front and one wheel in the back; is equipped with a roll cage or roll hoops, a seat belt for each occupant, antilock brakes, a steering wheel, and seating

that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride it; and is manufactured in accordance with the applicable federal motorcycle safety standards provided in 49 C.F.R. part 571 by a manufacturer registered with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. **Not knowing from the description what an autocycle looks like, I thought it best to share with you a picture of one. The image of an autocycle is shown below.** Bill referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. Bill passed the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee (Yeas 12, Nays 2) and is now in the Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee.



**SB 346: Motorcycle and Moped Riders – (Perry)** – Increasing the age (from age 16 to age 21) at which persons who are operating or riding upon a certain motorcycle are exempt from protective headgear requirements, etc. **Bill referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.**

**SB 384: Electric Vehicles – (Brandes)** – Requiring the Florida Transportation Commission to review all sources of revenue for transportation infrastructure and maintenance projects and prepare a report to the Governor and the Legislature when the commission determines that electric vehicles make up a certain percentage or more of the total number of vehicles registered in this state; requiring a long-range transportation plan to consider infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate the increased use of autonomous technology and electric vehicles, etc.. **Bill referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.**

**HB 6001: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Avila; Ingoglia)** – Similar to SB 176 - Repeals provisions relating to installation & use of traffic infraction detectors to enforce specified provisions when driver fails to stop at traffic signal, provisions that authorize DHSMV, county, or municipality to use such detectors, & provisions for distribution of penalties collected for specified violations. Referred to Appropriations Committee, on the Committee agenda for 10/10/2017. **Bill passed Appropriations Committee (Yeas 16, Nays 10).**