ACE of Florida 2019
Florida Legislative Summary
2019 Legislative Summary

What happened?
- 3492 bills filed
- 303 more filed than 2018
- 197 passed (3 fewer than 2018)
- 5.6% passed – lowest since 2000
- 18.5% passed in 2004
2019 Legislative Summary

➢ 396 passed one of the chambers (129 Senate 267 House)
➢ 197 passed both houses and sent to governor
2019 Legislative Summary

- 118 bills signed
- 4 on Governor’s desk
- 2 Vetoed
- 3 presented to Secretary of State (resolutions or memoriams)
- 70 yet to be sent
2019 Legislative Summary – Governor’s Vision

➢ Tax Relief
➢ Florida’s Environment
➢ World-class education system
➢ Hurricane recovery
➢ Election Security
➢ Addiction relief and mental health
➢ Safe communities
2019 Legislative Summary – What Passed

- $91.1 billion budget
- $243 K-12 increase per student
- $4M increase for district Workforce programs
- Repeal of smokable marijuana ban
- Ability to import prescription drugs
- Three new toll highways
- Expanded school safety/arm school personnel
2019 Legislative Summary – What Passed

- Expanded voucher program
- Cancer benefits for firefighters
- Created agricultural hemp program
- Increased penalties for killing or harming police dogs or horses
- The right for homeowners to have veggie gardens in front yards
Eases testing requirements for teacher certification
Implemented plan to restore felon’s voting rights IF court-ordered financial obligations paid
More CTE in middle and high schools
Requires districts to share referendum money with charters
Creates a database of those who solicit prostitutes
Texting/driving a primary offense
Financial literacy in high schools

Allow self-driving cars to operate without human backup

Eliminate sanctuary cities

Prohibits flying drones near detention centers

Bright Futures requirements raised
2019 Legislative Summary – What Failed

- Fracking ban
- Asking voters to raise constitutional amendment approval from 60% to 2/3
- Requiring child care facilities to double check children not in unattended cars
2019 Legislative Summary – What Failed

- Creation of a state disqualified teacher list
- Raising age to by tobacco from 18 to 21
- Asking voters to raise constitutional amendment approval from 60% to 2/3
- Requiring child care facilities to double check children not in unattended cars
2019 Legislative Summary – What Failed

- License plate to raise funds for LGBTQ organizations
- Parental consent for minors abortions
- Recreational marijuana
- Prohibits sexual orientation conversion therapy under 18
National Legislative Update

➢ President’s 2020 budget recommends $156M (24%) reduction in adult ed funding
➢ House initial markup recommended an increase
➢ Senate begins its process next month
➢ Finals amounts are Cap dependent
2020 Legislative Session – What’s Next?

➢ Session starts January 14
➢ Session ends March 13
➢ Florida Presidential primary March 17
➢ Joint Budget Commission Sept. 9
➢ Interim Committee week Sept. 16
➢ Committee weeks; Oct. 21, Nov. 4 & 12, Dec. 9
ACE Champions 2020 Timetable

➢ August video conference
➢ ACE Conference Advocacy Session
➢ Tallahassee legislator and committee visits October/November
➢ ACE Leadership Institute in Tallahassee January 2020
➢ Other activities as needed
ACE Advocacy Initiative for 19/20

➢ Act as district or state college point of communication

➢ Act as district of state college lead in taking action
Two things we fight the most:

- Ignorance.....about adult education ...which you can fix
- Arrogance....which you can’t fix

Spend your political time wisely....make friends for next January!

Invite a legislator or aide to your school or event (with permission 😊)
Advocacy Resources

- https://www.coabe.org/legislative-center/
- www.educateandelevate.org
- https://legiscan.com/
- http://www.leg.state.fl.us/
- http://aceofflorida.org/advocacy/
Contact Information

➢ Julie Roberts, Executive Director, ACE of Florida
  ➢ 850-222-2233
  ➢ Julie@aceofflorida.org

➢ Dave Barnes, Advocacy and Planning, ACE of Florida
  ➢ 727-743-8202
  ➢ dave@aceofflorida.org

➢ Melanie Stefanowicz, Executive Director, Secondary and Post-Secondary CTE, School District of Osceola County
  ➢ 407-870-4600
  ➢ Melanie.Stefanowicz@osceolaschools.net