



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**

2019 Legislative Summary – What Passed

- **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**

2019 Legislative Summary – What Passed

- **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 buy 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 or state college lead in taking action**

Elections and the 2019 Legislature

- **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/>

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