



**Brevard County's four Chambers of Commerce have jointly identified the following 2020 State of Florida Legislative priorities:**

**ISSUES WE SUPPORT**

**(1). Indian River Lagoon Funding/Coastal Management** – We support recurring state funding for the cleanup of the Indian River Lagoon, enabling the attainment of federal grants for local cost-share projects and the IRL National Estuary Program, as well as increases in state funding for beach renourishment to be "a dedicated amount sufficient to sustain Florida's beaches" in the fight against beach erosion. These include:

**HB 2053 Brevard County Water Quality Improvements – Reps. Fine, Altman, Plasencia**

Provides an appropriation for the Brevard County Water Quality Improvements. Appropriation: \$50,000,000.00

**SB 712 Water Quality Improvement - Sen. Mayfield** - Citing this act as the "Clean Waterways Act"; comprehensive legislation

**SB 640/HB 153 Indian River Lagoon State Matching Grant Program - Sen. Harrell; Reps. Fine, Roth, Overdorf, Altman, Hogan, Johnson, Plasencia**

Provides certain projects identified in Indian River Lagoon Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan are eligible for state funding consideration; directs DEP to coordinate with water management districts to identify projects & grant recipients.

**(2). Workforce Readiness/Education:** We support an increase in programs that will provide high school students and young adults with career ready educational opportunities in the skilled, manufacturing and technical trades. We support partnerships between colleges/universities and businesses, incorporating trade study with degree programs, and providing incentives for businesses to offer internships and on-the-job training.

**HB 2303 Junior Achievement Workforce Readiness Programs Expansion – Appropriation Project Rep. Fine**

Provides an appropriation for the Junior Achievement Workforce Readiness Programs Expansion. Appropriation: \$750,000.00

**SB130/HB 71 – Sen. Hutson, Diaz; Rep. Santiago**

Authorizes Governor to approve workforce training grants to certain charter schools under Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

**HB 4371 Astronaut High School Welding Lab Equipment - Rep. Sirois**

Appropriation of \$150,000 for modern welding equipment which would complete a new welding training lab

**(3). Workforce Housing:** We support impeding the legislature’s ability to divert funds collected from real estate doc stamps (Sadowski Act) to use for purposes other than affordable housing. We support investments in affordable housing for our community’s critical workforce, including first responders, teachers, healthcare workers and others.

**(4). Tourism:** We support efforts to retain the Division of Tourism Marketing for a multi-year period and provide adequate funding. We also support policies that maintain the funding derived by local Tourist Taxes be used for tourism related activities, which drive our economy.

**SB 362/HB 213 Florida Tourism Marketing – Sens. Hooper, Stewart, Harrell, Baxley, Torres; Reps. Ponder, Ausley, Fernandez, Hogan, Johnson, Polo, Santiago, Stone** – abrogates scheduled repeal of Division of Tourism Marketing of Enterprise Florida for eight years; Further, we support Gov. DeSantis’ request for a minimum of \$50M in funding for Visit Florida.

**HB 2489 – Rep. Fine – Brevard Zoo Aquarium** - Appropriation request of \$1.325M

**(5). Transportation Infrastructure Improvements** – We support improvements to Brevard’s roadways that have a direct effect on business, including its seaport and airport, including: replacement of the SR 405/NASA Causeway Indian River Bridge; drawbridge on State Road 401 leading into the north Port area; improvements to the State Road A1A corridor, from the Pineda Causeway to Port Canaveral; HB 1329/SB 826 on marina evacuations for Port Canaveral; and improvements to State Road 528, including continuing design of road widening, and adding bicycle and recreation features.

**(6). Space Commerce, Exploration and Tourism** – Continue to prioritize & fund spaceport projects in the Strategic Intermodal System five year plan, strengthening the NASA Kennedy Space Center & Cape Canaveral Air Force Station as America and the world’s leading Multi-User Spaceport complex.

