

American Association of University Women Florida: Advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**2023** Positions on Priority Legislation

### SB 202/HB 1 SCHOOL CHOICE

#### **O**PPOSE

SPONSORS: CHOICE & INNOVATION SUBCOMMITTEE AND TUCK AND PLASENCIA (CO-SPONSORS) AMESTY; ANDERSON; BAKER; BARNABY; BASABE; BLACK; BRACKETT; FINE; GARCIA; GIALLOMBARDO; JACQUES; LEEK; LOPEZ, V.; MASSULLO; PAYNE; PERSONS-MULICKA; PLAKON; PORRAS; RIZO; ROACH; ROBINSON, W.; SIROIS; SNYDER; TRAMONT & SEN SIMMON

Senate Referrals: Education Pre-K-12, Appropriations Committee on Education, Appropriations House Referrals: Choice & Innovation Subcommittee, Prek\_12 Appropriations Subcommittee Education & Employment Committee

**School Choice:** This bill revising student eligibility and ineligibility requirements for the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program; revising obligations of eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organizations; revising student eligibility and ineligibility requirements for the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program; authorizing public schools, including charter schools, to enroll certain students on a part-time basis; requiring the State Board of Education to provide recommendations by a specified date to the Governor and the Legislature for repeals and revisions of the Florida Early Learning-20 Education Code to be considered in the 2024 legislative session; authorizing vehicles other than buses to transport students; authorizing district school boards to use advanced degrees in setting salary schedules for instructional personnel or school administrators, etc.

# SB 166 / HB 59 HUMAN TRAFFICKING/HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PROSTITUTION

**SUPPORT** 

# SPONSORS: SEN. LORI BERMAN CO-INTRODUCER: ROSALIND OSGOOD / REP. KELLY SKIDMORE

Senate Referrals: Criminal Justice; Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Fiscal

House Referrals: Criminal Justice, Judiciary, Justice Appropriations subcommittee, Criminal Justice

This bill includes the alcohol as one of the controlled substances that traffickers can coerce victims. It Increases criminal penalties for engaging in human trafficking will help to increase punishment for traffickers and safeguard victims.

SB 326/HB 651 HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**SUPPORT** 

SPONSORS: SEN. ROSALIND OSGOOD, CO-SPONSORS: SEN. LINDA STEWART, LAUREN BOOK / REP: FELICIA ROBINSON

Senate Referrals: Criminal Justice, Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, Fiscal Policy House Referrals: Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Justice Appropriations Subcommittee, Judiciary

**Human Trafficking:** Revising definitions and defining terms; revising criminal penalties to include fines of certain amounts for violations of specified offenses; requiring the Department of Education and Department of Health, in conjunction with the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking, to establish an awareness training program and community partnership on human trafficking, sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and child trafficking; requiring each state attorney to ensure prosecutors receive certain mandatory semiannual educational training, etc. House bill requires prosecution of specified offenses under Florida RICO.

This bill has increased penalties for traffickers, training for prosecutors and adopting a proprosecution stance. Fines are increased to \$100,000. Age appropriate awareness training in educational and health settings required.

# SB 486 / HB 431Solicitation of Minors to Commit Lewd or Lascivious ActsSupportSponsors: Sen. Jennifer Bradley / Rep. Jessica Baker

**Senate Referrals:** Criminal Justice, Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice, Fiscal Policy

House Referrals: Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Justice Appropriations, Judiciary Solicitation of Minors to Commit Lewd or Lascivious Acts: Prohibits person 24 years of age or older from soliciting person 16 or 17 years old in writing to commit lewd or lascivious act. A new subsection making it a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree felony.

SB 334 / HB 389 MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.SUPPORTSPONSORS: SEN. LAUREN BOOK / REP. KELLY SKIDMORE, CO-SPONSORS: REP. JOE CASELLO

Senate Referrals: Education PreK-12, Appropriations on Education, Fiscal Policy House Referrals: Education Quality Subcommittee, PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee, Education & Employment Subcommittee

**Menstrual Hygiene Products in Public Schools:** Citing this act as the "Learning with Dignity Act"; defining the term "menstrual hygiene products"; requiring school districts to make menstrual hygiene products available, at no charge, in certain schools within the district and in certain locations within such schools; requiring schools to notify students of the availability and locations of such products; encouraging school districts to partner with specified organizations to meet certain requirements.

# SB 590 / HB 51 PROHIBITED DISCRIMINATION BASED ON HAIRSTYLE IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM SUPPORT SPONSORS: SEN. POWELL REP. DRISKELL/ESKAMANI

Senate Referrals: Judiciary, Education Pre-K-12, Rules House Referrals: Education Quality Subcommittee, Civil Justice Subcommittee, Education & Employment Committee **Prohibited Discrimination Based on Hairstyle in the Education System**: Citing this act as the "Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair Act" or "CROWN Act"; prohibiting discrimination based on protected hairstyle in the K-20 public education system; defining the terms "race" and "protective hairstyles" for purposes of public K-12 nondiscrimination requirements, etc.

Hair discrimination is rooted in systemic racism and erodes trust between students and the education system that is supposed to care for them. Protective styles, locs, headwraps, and durags are not just vital to the protection of Black hair, they are expressions of culture and identity. *Discriminating against Black hair reinforces the othering of Black children and is another way that Black identity is policed.* 

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# SPONSORS: SEN. BOOK. REP. CASSEL

Senate Referrals: Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy House Referrals: Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee; Constitutional Rights Rule of Law & Government Operation Subcommittee; State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee; Commerce Committee

**Employee Leave and Wage and Salary History :** Authorizes parental leave for state employees in Career Service System whose child is stillborn; prohibits public employer, employment agency, & private employer from engaging in certain activities relating to wages & salary; authorizes public employer, employment agency, & private employer to confirm prospective employee's wage & salary history under certain conditions.

# SCR 270 / HCR 513 EQUAL RIGHTS FOR MEN AND WOMEN SUPPORT

SPONSORS: SEN. BERMAN / POLSKY REP. JOSEPH

Senate Referrals: Judiciary, Ethics & Elections, Rules House Referrals: Civil Justice Subcommittee, Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee, Judiciary Committee

**Equal Rights for Men and Women:** Ratifying the proposed amendment to the United States Constitution relating to equal rights for men and women, etc.

# Let's Make Florida the 39th State to Ratify the ERA