

























# 2017 ADVOCACY SUMMARY REPORT

Legislative Item	Pro-Biz or No-Biz	What it Means for Your Business	Progress
<b>Beach Renourishment</b>		Advocate for beach renourishment funding for our award winning beaches. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Business Development</b>		Streamline process to open a business & reduce regulations, allowing business owners to invest in our communities. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>		Redevelop outdated properties in St. Pete Beach, Treasure Island & Madeira Beach to allow competitiveness in the marketplace. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>FAILED</b>
<b>Pedestrian Safety</b>		Educate local communities & promote use of the unique crosswalk system on Gulf Boulevard through "Key to Safety Cards". <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Transient Boat Docks</b>		Allow for the installation of new transient boat docks along our beaches to benefit business & enhance our economy. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Waterborne Transportation</b>		Work with municipalities to embrace & support waterborne transportation. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
<b>Property Assesst Clean Energy</b>		Allow commercial property owners to borrow money from private operators for conservation or clean energy upgrades. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Penny for Pinellas</b>		Reauthorize a 30 year old one-cent sales tax for another 10 years. Not a new tax. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Tourist Development Tax: Enforcement</b>		Ensuring all rental properties pay the Tourist Development Tax to create fair and equitable funding to market our destination. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
<b>Tourist Development Tax: Preservation</b>		Preserving the Tourist Development Tax for its intended purpose; beach renourishment and marking our destination. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Sales Tax Recalculation</b>		Recalculate the formula used to return sales tax to municipalities to include tourists. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
<b>Transportation</b>		Support funding for Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority's (PSTA) BRT lines from the airport to Clearwater Beach and from Downtown to St. Pete Beach. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Water Quality</b>		Incentivize capital investment in alternative & wastewater infrastructure improvement and expansion projects as well as projects to enhance water quality in the Gulf & Bays. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>

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<b>Workforce Development</b>		Education and training resources geared toward creating an enhanced pool of qualified workers to fill thousands of available open positions. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
<b>Business Rent Tax</b>		Reduce the Business Rent Tax in order to create a fair and level playing field for all businesses; Florida is the only state with this tax. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Film Florida</b>		Increase funding for Florida's entertainment industry Financial Incentive Program to create competitiveness between states. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>FAILED</b>
<b>Expansion of Gaming</b>		Allow Vegas style casinos to open up in Florida's family-friendly climate and compete with small mom & pop businesses. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: OPPOSED</b>	<b>BLOCKED</b>
<b>Insurance Reform</b>		Support Initiatives that reduce Workers Compensation Insurance and Flood Insurance rates. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Reliable &amp; Effective Energy</b>		Oppose off-shore oil drilling by using reliable & effective energy alternatives. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>School Start Date</b>		Move the school start date to its original start date to help families take end-of-summer vacations without missing school. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Tourism</b>		Advocate for VISIT FLORIDA funding and oppose any items that would negatively impact the tourism industry; our #1 industry. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Airport Infrastructure</b>		To remain competitive as a top tourist destination, Congress needs to allow airports to set their own passenger facility charge rates for capital funding. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
<b>Fisheries</b>		Sound management and conservation for marine resources is needed to extend fishing seasons and maximize to opportunity for commercial and recreational fishing. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>Insurance Reform</b>		Insurance reform is critical to control skyrocketing flood insurance rates, reduced coverage, arbitrary policy cancelations, mismanagement and other industry abuses. <b>TAMPA BAY BEACHES CHAMBER: SUPPORT</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>



