# **2025 Legislative Session**

## Marine Industries Association of Florida Legislative Session Update -- Final July 25, 2025

After 105-day Legislative Session we are finally able to get a final report out to each of you!

As you will remember, this was a very busy year for boating issues. There were many bills this legislative session that dealt with boating and boating related activities and we anticipate next year to be just as busy!

Please find below a brief highlight of several of the bills that were filed and final actions by the Governor. You will also find some budget highlights and final actions.

The report also contains a historical summary of the bills as they progressed through the legislative process.

As we finalize everything from the 2025 Legislative Session we are quickly planning for the 2026 Legislative Session. Below are a few dates for your calendar.

### **MIA Annual Conference**

Wednesday, September 10, 2025 Thursday, September 11, 2025 St. Petersburg Yacht

# **2025-26 Interim Committee Meetings**

October 6 – 10, 2025 October 13 – 17, 2025 November 3 – 7, 2025

November 17 – 21, 2025

December 1 – 5, 2025

December 8 – 12, 2025

## The 2026 Legislative Session is early this year!

The 2026 Legislative Session begins Tuesday, January 13, 2026, and is scheduled to end March 13, 2026.

# Save The Date- 2026 Tallahassee Legislative Days

January 13th and 14th Governor's Club

Please stay up to date as we will be keeping you informed of upcoming delegation meetings, proposed rules and news from Tallahassee!



As always, thank you for allowing us to represent you in Tallahassee!

A brief highlight of some of the final actions of bills we were closely monitoring:

# **Cheat Sheet**

## **Boating Safety Bill**

CS/CS/CS/HB 289 named "Lucy's Law" passed this Session. The bill was approved by the Governor. The bill was the last bill to pass on May 2nd. The bill still contains January 1, 1988, for boater education. It is a comprehensive bill, and I encourage everyone to read it. (Chapter Law 2025-197)

### **Anchoring Bills with Port Provision**

SB 594 by Rodriguez and HB 795 by LaMarca were known as the seaport anchoring bills. The bills were amended but ultimately did not pass this legislative Session. We anticipate a local bill to be filed in Palm Beach next year on this issue. Huge thanks to everyone who rallied behind opposing this bill this year.

CS/CS/HB 795 died in the State Affairs Committee. CS/CS/SB 594 died in Fiscal Policy.

The bills would have impacted Palm Beach, Panama City, Tampa and Fort Pierce.

## **Vessel Accountability**

SB 164 by Rodriguez and Basabe passed this Legislative Session. MIA supported this legislation and waived in support of the bills. The bill was approved by the Governor. (Chapter Law 2025-147)

## Driving and Boating Under the Influence -Trenton's Law

HB 687 by Kendall passed this Session. This bill enhances penalties BUI manslaughter and vessel homicide. The bill was approved by the Governor. (Chapter Law 2025-121)

## Anchoring

CS/CS/HB 481 regarding Anchoring Limitation Areas passed the House and Senate. The bill allows local governments with 1.5 million population or more to allow the county and municipalities to create anchoring limitation areas that would restrict vessels from anchoring more than thirty days within any six-month period. The bill was signed by the Governor. (Chapter Law 2025-39)

### **Boater Freedom**

CS/SB 1388 relating to Boater Freedom passed the Senate and the House and was signed at a bill signing ceremony in Panama City, Florida. The bill prevents boats from being checked without probable cause and directs FWC to develop a 5-year safety decal. MIA supported this bill in committees. The bill became effective July 1, 2025. (Chapter Law 2025-35)

### **Water Access Facilities**

HB 735 relating to Water Access Facilities passed and has been signed by the Governor. The bill provides a Clean Marine Manufacturer designation and adds parking for boat ramps to competitive grant programs. This bill was supported by NMMA. (Chapter Law 2025-41)

#### Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

CS/CS/HB 1133 relating to Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission passed the House and the Senate. The bill was vetoed by the Governor. The bill reconfigured the FWCC into five regions within the state and members must reside full time in their region. The bill also provided for two at large seats on the Commission to represent the state.

## **Gratitude-Please Say Thank You**

The 2025 Legislative Session was extremely tough, and we had several members fighting behind the scenes on our issues. We have highlighted these members in previous updates but want to highlight them again as they went above and beyond and went on the record with votes, questions and statements. Without their voices we would not have had the impacts we had during 2025.

If you have not sent a thank you, please send a quick email and if nothing else, please remember these names as they fought for the marine industry!

Representative Michelle Rayner- Michele.Rayner@flhouse.gov

Representative Kim Berfield- kim.berfield@flhouse.gov

Representative Fabian Basabe- Fabian.Basabe@flhouse.gov

Representative Yvette Benarroch- <u>yvette.benarroch@flhouse.gov</u>

Representative Brad Yeager- Brad. Yeager@flhouse.gov

Representative Griff Griffitts- Griff.Griffitts@flhouse.gov

Representative Jason Shoaf- jason.shoaf@flhouse.gov

Representative Allison Tant- Allison.Tant@flhouse.gov

Representative Dana Trabulsy- <u>Dana.Trabulsy@flhouse.gov</u>

Representative Christine Hunchofsky- C.Hunschofsky@flhouse.gov

Representative Kelly Skidmore- Kelly.Skidmore@flhouse.gov

Senator Jay Trumbull- <u>trumbull.jay.web@flsenate.gov</u>

Senator Kristen Arrington- <u>arrington.kristen.web@flsenate.gov</u>

Senator Tina Polsky- polsky.tina.web@flsenate.gov

Also, huge shoutout to the Bay County Commission for adopting a resolution and opposing the Seaport.

Bay County Manager Robert "Bob" Majka <a href="mailto:bmajka@baycountyfl.gov">bmajka@baycountyfl.gov</a>

#### **Bill Histories**

**Boating Safety Bills -- "Lucy's Law"** 

**Senate Bill 628** Boater Safety by Senator Martin <a href="https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/628">https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/628</a>

**House Bill 289** Boating Safety by Representative Oliver and Lopez <a href="https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=80882">https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=80882</a>

**Senate Bill 58** Boater Safety by Garcia <a href="https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/58">https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/58</a>

Boating Safety was a big issue this year. There were three bills filed regarding Boating Safety. Senate Bill 628 by Senator Jonathan Martin and House Bill 289 by Representative Vanessa Oliver and Vicki Lopez were filed identically. Senator Illeana Garcia filed a more comprehensive bill that included the provisions of the bills filed by Rep Oliver and Senator Martin. The bills to watch are House Bill 289 and Senate Bill 628.

The bills are a result of a tragic accident that happened in Miami. The bills as filed increase penalties for boating violations and boating under the influence. Includes provisions for boating safety and changes the definition of a livery. We anticipate there to be more changes to these bills as they move. They are not identical as originally filed.

Senate Bill 628 is referred to three committees, Senate Criminal Justice, Senate Transportation and Senate Fiscal Policy. The bill was originally filed striking the boater education date of January 1, 1988. An amendment was filed striking that language in the bill and the bill passed the Senate Criminal Justice Committee as a Committee Substitute. The bill passed the Senate Transportation on March 12th at 8:30 am with an amendment. The bill passed unanimously and is now a Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute. The amendment requires individuals who committee a specific boating violation to complete a bater safety course. This would be a mandatory requirement. Marine Industries support this change as it would go after bad actors on Florida waters. The next stop is the Senate Fiscal Policy Committee. The Senate Bill passed the Senate Fiscal Policy on April 8th at 2 pm. Two amendments were filed and withdrawn. The bill passed 19-0. The bill is ready for the Senate floor. The next two weeks will be fast and furious, and this bill has plenty of time to pass off the Senate floor. The House Bill was substituted for the Senate Bill. Refer to the House bill.

House Bill 289 is also moving this Legislative Session. The bill received three committee references and has already been heard in its first committee and passed with a proposed committee bill that also altered the boater safety education language. We anticipate this to change again.

House Bill 289 is referred to House Criminal Justice Subcommittee where the Proposed Committee Substitute passed unanimously. The bill was referred to the Senate Budget Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee last week but was changed and referred this week to House State Affairs and House Judiciary Committee. CS/HB 289 was heard this week in House State Affairs. The bill was amended with similar language as the Senate bill but still contains a five-year residency requirement. The bill is also forty-five pages, and the Senate Bill is seven. The bill was taken up in the House Judiciary Committee on March 20th and amended again and is now CS/CS/CS HB 289. The bill is now eighty-one pages. The differences between these bills need to be cleared up before final passage as they must be identical. CS/CS/CS/SB 289 passed off the House floor this week 112-0. The bill was in Messages to the Senate and has now been referred to the Senate Fiscal Policy Committee. The bill passed the Senate Fiscal Policy Committee. 19-0. Two amendments to the bill were withdrawn.

The differences between the bills had to be worked out and the bill bounced back and forth between the Houe and Senate. The biggest sticking point was January 1, 1988, date staying in statute and a five-year state residency requirement that had enforceability issues. The bill originally passed the House on March 26th and was the last bill to pass on the last night of Session May 2nd, with the January 1st date still in statute and the 5-year Florida residency requirement removed. During the bouncing back and forth between the House and the Senate five members in the House voted against the measure Griffits, Berfield, Tant, Yeager and Skidmore.

Once the enforceability concerns were amended out in the Senate and returned to the House the bill finally passed and became enrolled. The Governor approved the bill,

Huge thank you to Senator Martin for working through all the discussions and concerns! He deserves a lot of credit for working with everyone's concerns. Also, a big thank you to MIASF for taking the lead and working closely with us on this issue.

#### CS/CSCS/HB 289 was approved by the Governor. Chapter Law 2025-197.

Also, Senate Bill 58 by Senator Garcia was temporarily passed in the Senate Criminal Justice Committee.

## **Anchoring (Port Version)**

**Senate Bill 594** Anchoring or Mooring at Seaports by Senator Rodriguez <a href="https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/594">https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/594</a>

**House Bill 795** No Anchoring or Mooring by LaMarca <a href="https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81434&SessionId=105">https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81434&SessionId=105</a>

The proposed bills would allow seaports to apply to FWC to prohibit anchoring or mooring for up to 5000 feet. This could have serious impacts in areas such as Palm Beach, Bay County and Fort Pierce.

The Senate Bill was heard in the first committee of reference and passed with amendments. Questions were asked about impacts to Peanut Island and Palm Beach. More questions arose about the port in Jacksonville. The bill did pass as a Committee Substitute. After the meeting the Senate sponsor met with us to discuss our concerns.

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 594 is currently scheduled to be heard in the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee with an amendment to change "up to 5000 feet" to "up to 1500 feet". This amendment is an improvement but continues to be a great concern. Again, this impacts more areas in the state than just Palm Beach. The bill and amendment are scheduled to be heard Monday, March 17th at 4 p.m. A substitute amendment was filed to the bill to replace the "up to 1500 feet" to "up to 2500 feet". The substitute amendment passed. MIA went on the record to oppose the bill as amended. We spoke to the recreational boaters that could be impacted including Peanut Island and Shell Island in the panhandle of Florida. The Port of Palm Beach and the Town of Palm Beach stood in support of the bill. The Port Council only put in a card for information. MIA will continue to oppose this bill.

The bill has language up to 2500 feet, which appears to be more in line with what the Palm Beach Port is supporting.

The Senate Bill is on the last Senate Fiscal Policy Committee meeting April 17th. The amendment deadline for the bill is Monday afternoon. MIA has opposed this bill in previous committees as we believe the USCG, and law enforcement can already protect the seaport and this is overreach and there is not one size fits all for the waterways surrounding our seaports.

The House Bill also received three committees of reference. The House bill is referred to House Natural

Resources and Disasters Subcommittee, House Commerce Committee and Houe State Affairs Committee. MIA had good meetings with the sponsor and expressed concerns regarding the bill. The House Bill passed its first committee of reference, House Natural Resources and Disaster Subcommittee on March 25th. The bill was amended with an insurance provision and allows up to 1500 feet. MIA waived in opposition to the bill. Questions were raised whether the Coast Guard already has this authority. The bill passed as amended and has two more committee stops. CS/HB 795 was on the House Commerce Committee meeting on April 15th. The bill had a proposed committee substitute filed for the meeting. The proposed committee substitute is unacceptable and very different than the Senate bill. The bill passed 21-2 with many statements from members expressing concerns about a one size all approach.

MIA opposed the bill and thanked the sponsor for reaching out before committee to discuss our concerns. We looked forward to continuing our discussions as we knew the bill had another stop. Representative Rayner asked what our opposition was to the bill, and I stated we believe the USCG can already protect the seaport, and all seaports are different, and a one size all approach we believe could impact recreational boating.

MIA worked very hard and met with many legislators regarding our concerns regarding the proposed committee substitute. The House sponsor reached out to us an hour before the meeting to discuss our concerns, and we had a good dialogue and are very grateful to Representative LaMarca for reaching out and having a good discussion on all our concerns. We truly appreciate his time as it is hard to get that amount of time with a legislator this time of year. So many thanks to Representative LaMarca!!!

Many members went above and beyond to assist us and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude. Representative Yeager, Berfield, Griffitts, Hunchofsky, Rayner, Shoaf and Robinson were absolute rockstars! We appreciate their efforts to raise the concerns of a one size all approach.

Representative Gossett-Seidman is a co-sponsor of the bill and made it clear in her remarks that she strongly supports the seaport anchoring bill.

The bill did not pass this Legislative Session. We expect this issue to be a local issue next year for Palm Beach and any other ports that might want anchoring limitations. This will have to go through the Local Bill process. We must be vigilant during local delegation meetings for any proposed local bills on this issue or any other boating-related issues. The House bill died in the State Affairs Committee and the Senate Bill died in the Fiscal Policy.

Let us not forget the Bay County Commission that stepped up and opposed this proposed legislation with an ordinance and media. This might have started as a local issue, but it had huge statewide impacts, and everyone worked together as a team, so a general bill did not pass this Session.

Below is a story that ran on WMBB in Northwest Florida. Bay County Commissioner Daniel Raffield was interviewed.

 $\frac{https://www.mypanhandle.com/news/local-news/bay-county/florida-bill-may-restrict-anchoring-in-sea-ports-affecting-boaters/$ 

The Bay County Commission passed a resolution this week opposing this legislation. If you would like a

copy of the resolution, please let us know and we are happy to get you a copy.

Bay News ran a story on the Seaport Bill- <a href="https://baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2025/04/11/anchoring-mooring-boat-seaport-">https://baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2025/04/11/anchoring-mooring-boat-seaport-</a>

Again, the bills would have impacted Palm Beach, Bay County, Ft. Pierce, Hillsborough and all areas with a seaport.

### **Vessel Accountability**

**Senate Bill 164** Vessel Accountability by Senator Rodriguez <a href="https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/164">https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/164</a>

**House Bill 1149** Vessel Accountability by Representative Basabe <a href="https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81827&SessionId=105">https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81827&SessionId=105</a>

This bill is aimed at improving long-term storage issues in the state. FWC has made several presentations on this issue in committees in the House and Senate.

The bill creates a free permit for vessel owners and operators. The bill also adds a few violations and penalties. Included in the proposal is the expansion of the Derelict Vessel Prevention and Voluntary Turn-In Program.

We are looking at this bill closely as we believe it is a priority this Session. We are happy to report we have met with both sponsors and had a great dialogue about this proposal.

The Senate Bill received three committees of reference. The bill is referred to the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee, Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment and General Government, and Senate Fiscal Policy. The bill passed the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee with two amendments and is now a Committee Substitute. Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 164 passed the second committee of reference Senate Appropriation Committee on Agriculture, Environment and General Government on March 18th unanimously. The bill passed the Senate Fiscal Policy Committee 18-0 on March 27th. The Senate bill passed on the Senate floor with one amendment 37-0 on April 3rd. MIA supports this bill in its current form. The bill passed the House floor 119-0 and is now enrolled. The bill was approved by the Governor. MIA supported this bill. (Chapter Law 2025-147)

The House Bill is referred to the House Natural Resources and Disasters Subcommittee, House Criminal Justice Subcommittee and House State Affairs Committee. The bill passed its first committee, House Natural Resources and Disasters Subcommittee 18-1 and MIA waived in support of the bill in committee. The bill passed its second committee of reference on April 1st in House Criminal Justice Subcommittee with one amendment 15-0. CS/HB 1149 has one committee stop left, House State Affairs Committee. The bill passed the State Affairs on April 17th with a vote of 22-1. **The House bill was laid on the table and the Senate bill was taken up and passed. Refer to Senate Bill 164.** 

## Driving and Boating Under the Influence -- "Trenton's Law"

**Senate Bill 138** Driving and Boating Under the Influence-Trenton's Law by Senator Wright <a href="https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/138">https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/138</a>

**House Bill 687** Driving and Boating Under the Influence-Trenton's Law by Representative Kendall <a href="https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81302&SessionId=105">https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81302&SessionId=105</a>

Senate Bill 138 Driving and Boating Under the Influence-Trenton's Law by Senator Wright https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/138

House Bill 687 Driving and Boating Under the Influence-Trenton's Law by Representative Kendall https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81302&SessionId=105

This bill is in response to a tragic accident that resulted in death. The bill adds "impaired substances" to the statute for driving and boating under the influence the bill also has increased penalties and provides for diversion programs

The Senate bill has passed two committees of reference and was amended in both committee meetings. The bill is now a CS/CS/SB 138. The bill is now a Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute.

The bill is referred to three committees of reference, Senate Criminal Justice, Senate Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice and Senate Fiscal Policy. The bill passed the Senate Criminal Justice Committee as a committee substitute unanimously and passed the Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice with an 8-2 vote. There was discussion in the committee about using "impaired" over "intoxicated". The bill passed the Senate Fiscal Policy with a vote of 18-1. The Senate Bill was laid on the table on the Senate Special Order and the House Bill was taken up and amended and sent back to the House. The bill passed as amended by the Senate 37-0. Refer to House Bill 687.

House Bill 687 has three committees of reference. The bill is referred to House Criminal Justice Subcommittee, House Justice Budget Subcommittee and House Judiciary Committee. The House Bill was heard in its first committee of reference with a proposed committee substitute. The bill passed 17-0. The bill passed the House Judiciary Committee 19-0. The bill passed the House Special Order Calendar on April 24th and was sent to the Senate and amended on the floor. The Senate sent the amended House Bill back to the House in Messages and the House concurred with the Senate amendments 111-0. The bill is now enrolled. **The Governor approved the bill.** 

## **Anchoring**

**Senate Bill 866** Anchoring Limitation Areas by Senator Martin <a href="https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/866">https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/866</a>

**House Bill 481** Anchoring Limitation Areas by Representative Lopex <a href="https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81046&SessionId=105">https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81046&SessionId=105</a>

This is an anchoring bill coming out of Miami Dade. The bill has proposed language that would allow local regulation of vessels outside marked boundaries of mooring fields. Applies to counties with a population of 1.5 million or greater and areas of critical state concerns. The bill also increased the distance of the buffer from anchoring of a mooring field to 300 feet. The bill also sets limitations

for overnight anchorage.

The Senate Bill has three committees of reference. The bill is referred to the Senate Environment and Natural Resources, Senate Community Affairs and Senate Rules. Senate Bill 866 passed its first committee of reference this week in Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee on March 25th. The bill was not amended but did draw opposition and feedback from committee members about the number of boating bills and concerns about utilizing laws currently on the books. The bill passed 7-1 with Senator Polsky voting against the bill. The next committee of reference is the Senate Community Affairs Committee. The bill did not make the Senate Community Affairs agenda during the fifth and final week of substantive policy committees in the Senate. The bill is available for amendment as it has been heard in its first committee of reference. We will continue to watch in case any other Senate Community Affairs Committees are noticed for extra meetings. The Senate Bill was never heard in the Senate Community Affairs Committee. The House Bill was taken up in the Senate Rules Committee making it eligible to be heard on the Senate floor.

The House Bill has two committees of reference. The bill is referred to the House Natural Resources and Disasters Subcommittee and the House State Affairs Committee. The bill passed the House Natural Resources and Disaster Subcommittee on March 11th as a Committee Substitute. The bill was scheduled to be heard at its final committee stop, the House State Affairs Committee. The bill was temporarily passed. The State Affairs Committee passed the bill with one amendment on April 2nd. The Houe Bill passed the House of Representatives 115-0. The bill was sent to the House in Messages and referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

The House bill passed the Senate Rules Committee on April 21sr with a vote 16-7. MIA testified in opposition to the bill. Senators Berman, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Rouson, Pizzo and Garcia voted against the bill in Senate Rules Committee.

The House Bill was then placed on Special Order and was heavily debated. Ultimately, the bill passed the Senate floor 29-8. The dissenting votes were Arrington Rouson, Jones, Smith, Osgood, Garcia, Polsky and Grall.

This is another anchoring bill that has drawn opposition from boating groups. This bill as written would impact five counties total and municipalities within those counties. The five counties are Broward, Hillsborough, Miami-Dade, Orange and Palm Beach County.

The bill was sent to the Governor, and the Governor signed the bill into law. The bill is Chapter Number 2025-39.

#### **Boater Freedom**

**Senate Bill 1388** Vessels Bill by Senator Trumbull https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1388

**House Bill 1001** Vessels by Representative Griffitts <a href="https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81631&SessionId=105">https://flhouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=81631&SessionId=105</a>

The Governor announced the Boater Freedom

bills at a press conference. House Bill 1001 by Representative Griff Griffitts and Senate Bill 1388 by Senator Jay Trumbull. The bills are identical as filed.

The House Bill has three references, House Natural Resources and Disasters Subcommittee, House Criminal Justice Subcommittee and House State Affairs Committee.

The Senate Bill has three committee references, Senate Environmental and Natural Resources, Appropriations Committee Agriculture, Environment and General Government and Fiscal Policy.

House Bill 1001 was never heard in its first committee of reference; however the Senate sent the bill over in Messages and the Senate Bill was taken up on the House floor. Refer to Senate Bill 1388.

Senate Bill 1388 passed in its first committee of reference, Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee on March 25th with a vote of 8-0. MIA waived in support of the bill in committee. Senate Bill 1388 passed the Senate Appropriation Committee on Agriculture, Environment and General Government 11-0 with a delete all amendment this week. The bill is now a Committee Substitute. The bill passed the Senate Fiscal Policy Committee on April 22nd 18-0. MIA supported the bill. The bill was placed on the Senate Special Order and amended on the Senate floor with several other boating provisions and sent to the House in Messages. The House took up the Boater Freedom bill and amended out the Vessel Accountability legislation and the Senate version of Lucy's law and sent back to the Senate. The bill passed the House as amended 104-7 and the Senate concurred with the amendments35-2. Please note the bill did not pass with Water Access Facilities language, Vessel Accountability language or Lucy's Law language as they all passed independently.

Senate Bill 1388 was approved as a signing ceremony in Panama City, Florida. Senator Trumbull and Representative Griffitts spoke at the press conference. The bill is now Chapter Number 2025-35.

Also, House Bill 735 and Senate Bill 1162 relating to Water Access Facilities passed this Session. House Bill 735 was approved by the Governor and is now Chapter Number 2025-41. Simply they provide for Clean Manufacturers to be under the Clean Marina Program and provide for funding for competitive grants for uplands for boat ramps.

## Gulf of Mexico/Gulf of America Bills

For those who are following the Gulf of America bills they are moving through the process. House Bill 575 passed both committees and is now ready to be heard on the House floor. House Bill passed the House Special Order on April 3rd with a 78-27 vote. The House Bill passed the Senate 28-9 and has been sent to the Governor for approval. The Governor approved the bill, and the Chapter Law Number is 2025-8. Senate Bill 608 passed the Senate Community Affairs Committee 4-3. The bill also passed the Senate Fiscal Policy on April 2nd with a vote of 10-5. The Senate Bill was scheduled to be on the Senate Special Order April 9th and was laid on the table and the House Bill was taken up and passed. These bills will update the statutes to say Gulf of America.

Also, Senate Bill 1058 passed its first committee on March 11th with a delete all amendment with a vote of 6-1. The bill has passed the second committee of reference PreK-12 Education and passed the Senate Rules Committee 22-3. The Senate bill was scheduled for the Senate Special Order April 9th. The Senate Bill was laid on the table and the Senate took up the House Bill 549 and passed it 28-9. This bill would update

educational materials to read Gulf of America. House Bill 549 was heard in the House Education and Employment Committee on March 13th and passed with a vote of 16-2. The bill is now a committee substitute. The bill had references removed and passed its final committee stop. The House bill passed both committees of reference and is now ready for the House floor. The House passed the House floor on April 3rd 78-29. The House Bill was approved by the Governor and is now Chapter Law Number 2025-7.

## **Budget**

Boat/Beach/Coral Appropriations 2025 Conference Report-Final Appropriations and Governor's Actions

1643 SPECIAL CATEGORIES CORAL REEF PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 8,000,000

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1643 are provided for coral reef restoration and protection efforts.

1647 SPECIAL CATEGORIES SEAGRASS RESTORATION TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 2,000,000

1656 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY CORAL REEF RESTORATION FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 9,500,000

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1656 are provided to implement Florida's Coral Reef Restoration and Recovery (FCR3) Initiative to enter into agreements with academic and private partnerships to establish, expand, and maintain in-state propagation and grow-out facilities; develop and implement strategies and site-specific restoration plans including curriculum for a trained workforce; and reinforce and expand restoration efforts across Florida's Coral Reef.

1660 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY CLEAN MARINA FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 500,000

1661 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY BEACH PROJECTS – STATEWIDE FROM LAND ACQUISITION TRUST FUND . . 52,542,082

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1661, \$50,000,000 in recurring funds and \$2,542,082 in nonrecurring funds from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund are provided to the Department of Environmental Protection for distribution to beach and inlet management projects consistent with any component of the comprehensive long-term management plan developed in accordance with section 161.161, Florida Statutes. Funds shall be used to fund post-construction monitoring and projects 1 through 13 on the Strategic Beach Management Plan and projects 1 through 8 on the Inlet Management Plan.

1661A GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY LEESBURG MARINA RENOVATION PROJECT FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 250,000

The funds in Specific Appropriation 1661A are provided to the Leesburg Marina Renovation Project (SF 1902) (HF 1422).

1709A SPECIAL CATEGORIES GRANTS AND AIDS - SPECIAL PROJECTS FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 100,000

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1709A, \$100,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the Boater Safety Education Program (SF 2302) (HF 1169)(VETOED)

1709A SPECIAL CATEGORIES GRANTS AND AIDS - SPECIAL PROJECTS FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 100,000

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1709A, \$100,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the Boater Safety Education Program (SF 2302) (HF 1169)(VETOED)

1714 SPECIAL CATEGORIES BOATING AND WATERWAYS ACTIVITIES FROM MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND . . . . . . . 2,626,025

1718A FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL PROGRAM FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 1,536,658

1719 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 6,000,000

1725 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL PROGRAM FROM MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND . . . . . . . . . 2,963,342

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1725 are provided to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for grants to local governments or to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, or to pay private contractors to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, derelict vessels or vessels declared a public nuisance.

1727 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY GRANTS AND AIDS - FINAL NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE RESTORATION - DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY

FROM GRANTS AND DONATIONS TRUST FUND ...... 500,000

1727A GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY ANNA MARIA HISTORIC CITY PIER RESTORATION FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 1,250,000

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1727A, \$1,250,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the Anna Maria Historic City Pier Restoration (SF 1301) (HF 1525).

1727B GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY SAFETY HARBOR PIER REPLACEMENT FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 1,140,000

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1727B, \$1,140,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the Safety Harbor Pier Replacement (SF 1263) (HF 3017).

1727C GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY SOUTH GULF COVE PARALLEL BOAT LOCK TENDER HOUSE FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 6,100,000

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1727C, \$6,100,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the South Gulf Cove Parallel Boat Lock Tender House (SF 3244) (HF 2692).

1727D GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY MELBOURNE FRONT STREET BOAT DOCK REPLACEMENT PROJECT FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . 500,000

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1727D are provided for the Melbourne Front Street Boat Dock Replacement Project (SF 1397) (HF 3102).

1727E GRANT'S AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY MONROE COUNTY FLORIDA KEYS MARINE PROTECTION BOCA CHICA MOORING FIELD SHORESIDE FACILITY

FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . 1,650,000 Funds in Specific Appropriation 1727E are provided for the Monroe County Florida Keys Marine Protection: Boca Chica Mooring Field Shoreside Facility Project (SF 2757) (HF 2414).

1727F GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY INDIALANTIC RIVERSIDE PARK PIER AND KAYAK LAUNCH FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND . . . . . . 220,000

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1727F are provided for the Indialantic Riverside Park Pier and Kayak Launch (SF 2266) (HF 1427).(VETOED)