



FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS

Legislative – CALL TO ACTION

The conference committees and their membership have been appointed and have begun their deliberations toward the completion of a final conference committee report.

Below are the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of the members that have been appointed to the General Government Conference Committee. We are going to start with these members since they will have the first opportunity to favorably impact the issues we have listed. Please e-mail them or contact their offices on the issues and let them know your feelings.

Member	District Phone	Local Phone	Email Address
Senator Dave Aronberg	(561) 433-2627	(850) 487-5356	aronberg.dave.web@flsenate.gov
Senator Carey Baker	(352) 742-6490	(850) 487-5014	baker.carey.web@flsenate.gov
Senator Charlie Dean	(352) 860-5175	(850) 487-5017	dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov
Senator Al Lawson, Jr.	(850) 487-5004	(850) 487-5004	lawson.alfred.web@flsenate.gov
Senator Steve Oelrich	(352) 375-3555	(850) 487-5020	oelrich.steve.web@flsenate.gov
Representative Joseph Abruzzo	(561) 791-4774	(850) 488-4791	joseph.abruzzo@myfloridahouse.gov
Representative Oscar Braynon	(305) 654-7100	(850) 488-0766	oscar.braynon@myfloridahouse.gov
Representative Eddy Gonzalez	(305) 364-3066	(850) 488-1683	eddy.gonzalez@myfloridahouse.gov
Representative Alan Hays	(352) 742-6441	(850) 488-0348	alan.hays@myfloridahouse.gov
Representative Bryan Nelson	(407) 884-2023	(850) 488-2023	bryan.nelson@myfloridahouse.gov
Representative Lake Ray	(904) 723-5300	(850) 488-4388	lake.ray@myfloridahouse.gov
Representative Alan B. Williams	(850) 488-1798	(850) 488-1798	alan.williams@myfloridahouse.gov
Representative Ritch Workman	(321) 757-7019	(850) 488-9720	ritch.workman@myfloridahouse.gov

Health Insurance Subsidy

The House of Representatives passed legislation that in effect would abolish the Health Insurance Subsidy on December 31, 2010. It is this program that so many retirees

depend on to help them meet the ever increasing costs of their health insurance. For some that receive the maximum benefit, it could mean a reduction of \$150.00 per month.

The House passed House Bill 5701, which accomplished this elimination, and the Senate did not consider nor pass a similar measure. We are asking that you support the Senate position and allow this very beneficial program to continue in existence.

FRS Employee Contribution

Currently, the Florida Retirement System is a non-employee contributory pension plan, and has existed in this manner since 1975. For the period of 1998 to 2008, the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund has exceeded the necessary funding or cost of the Florida Retirement System. These surpluses (\$8.2 billion) have been used to lower the FRS employer contributions.

The Senate has passed House Bill 5607, and in addition to setting the FRS employer contribution rates for the upcoming fiscal year, it also included the reinstatement of an FRS employee contribution rate of .25 of 1%.

In these very difficult economic times, **we are asking that you keep the status quo and vote against the creation of an FRS employee contribution. Please support the House position, which did not consider a similar measure.**

3% Salary Reduction for State Employees

We represent approximately 500 state forestry firefighters who have not received a salary increase the past 4 years. The starting salary of these first responders is approximately \$25,000.00 a year.

We are asking that there be no reductions in state employee salaries or that these essential first responder positions be exempted from this salary reduction.