**FHBA Legislative Affairs Update:**

**ADVOCACY:**

* Construction Workforce Taskforce
	+ The Construction Workforce Taskforce was established via state legislation to address the shortage of skilled crafts people and building inspectors training in Florida.
	+ Promoted by the FHBA during the 2016 legislative session, the Taskforce will make a number of recommendations at their January 20th meeting.
	+ FHBA staff will help move those recommendations through the 2017 session.
	+ Beth Catlin, FHBA member from Lee HBA, is the FHBA representative on the Taskforce.
* Florida Building Commission (FBC) Meeting
	+ The FBC has completed work on the 6th edition of the Florida Building Code effective January 1, 2018.
	+ FHBA staff has participated for over 2 years in this endeavor.
	+ The FBC will undertake a number of “glitches” to assure the code is ready.
	+ Training is available from the FHBA on the significant code changes.
* 2017 Legislative Session
	+ March 7 – May 5, 2017
	+ Legislative Priorities:
		- Workers’ Compensation Reform,
		- Building Code Development,
		- Notice and Right to Cure,
		- Statute of Repose,
		- Workforce, and
		- Condominium Bulk Buyer.
	+ FHBA staff will review 100’s of bills for their impact on our industry.
	+ While session runs March 7 - May 5, the action is ongoing. Committees are meeting almost every week until opening day.
	+ We anticipate other issues will be filed dealing with HOA’s, building code, funding affordable housing, insurance and licenses.