# The Slosberg Report

March 2022



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## Legislative Session 2022 Update

We are in Week 8 of the 2022 Legislative Session, which is scheduled to end on March 11, 2022.

#### HB 341, Sexual Offenses Definitions.

This legislation provides a specific definition of terms within a variety of sexual offense in Florida Statutes, which will address District Court of Appeals conflicting opinions on definitions within those laws. The goal of this legislation is to clarify the meaning of terms for the Courts so there are not different outcomes for the same conduct based on the circuit in which the sexual offense occurs. This bill has passed each of its three (3) House

Committee stops and is on pace to be heard on the House floor. Senate companion bill SB 692 has passed through each of its Committee stop and is headed to the Senate floor. Once this bill passes each chamber, the Governor will decide if this bill shall become law.



#### HB 3767, Rales Rides-Senior Transportation Program.

This appropriation project requests \$212,000 State funding to enable a minimum of 600 frail older adults, including over 275 Holocaust Survivors, to age in place by providing access to free transportation to medical appointments as well as social, cultural, educational, and health and well-being programs, in order to improve and maintain their physical, mental and emotional health and well-being. The Chairman of the Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee has recommended the State fund \$200,000 of this project request. The companion appropriation in the Senate has also been recommended for funding. Barring last week Session changes to the State budget proposed by the House and Senate, the Governor will decide if this funding is forthcoming to our community.

### HR 8001, Holocaust Remembrance Day.

The Holocaust was a state-sponsored, systematic persecution by Nazi Germany and collaborators between 1933 and 1945, resulting in the murder of six million Jewish people. Pursuant to an act of the United States Congress, this Resolution designates Sunday April 24 through Sunday May 1, 2022 as "Days of Remembrance" for the victims of the Holocaust, including the "Day of Remembrance" known as Yom HaShoah on April 28, 2022. The history of the

Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments to remain vigilant against hatred and tyranny. This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives and published in the House Journal on February 15, 2022. A Senate companion Resolution was adopted and published in the Senate Journal on February 10, 2022. These Resolutions honor the victims and survivors of the Holocaust, express gratitude for rescuers and liberators, and educate people about the horror of that period. Especially given the rising tide of antisemitism in our State, we must rededicate ourselves to human dignity and remain vigilant against hatred and tyranny wherever and whenever it occurs. At the end of April, all Floridians should remember- and then never forget this atrocity.



### HB 7069, Condominium and Cooperative Associations.

This comprehensive legislation creates a statewide building recertification requirement for condominiums and cooperative buildings that are three stories or higher in height 30 years after initial occupancy and 25 years after initial occupancy for buildings located within three miles of the coast. The bill requires recertifications every 10 years after a building's initial recertification. It requires an additional, more intensive inspection, or a "phase 2 inspection," if a building recertification reveals substantial structural deterioration. It requires recertification and phase 2 reports be submitted to building officials and unit owners. It also requires condominiums and

cooperatives to conduct structural integrity reserve studies every 10 years for buildings that are three stories or higher in height. Finally, it requires structural integrity reserve study inspections, and recertification and phase 2 inspections to be performed by licensed engineers or architects. This bill unanimously passed in the House on February 24, 2022. Comparable legislation in the Senate, <u>SB 1702</u>, <u>Building Safety</u>, is on the Senate floor. This bill is a direct response to what happened at Surfside and in order to prevent this from happening again.

## March is Women's History Month

President Biden has proclaimed March 2022 as Women's History Month. The President calls upon all Americans to observe this month and to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, 2022. The Proclamation indicates that despite hardship, exclusion, and discrimination, women have strived and sacrificed for equity and equality in communities across the country. Today's women and girls continue to carry forward the mission of ensuring our daughters have the same opportunities as our sons. But despite the progress being made, women and girls -- especially women and girls of color -- still face systemic barriers to full participation and wider gaps in opportunity and equality. Let us recommit to the fight and help realize the deeply American vision of a more equal society where every person has a shot at pursuing the American dream. Women's History Month provides an opportunity to honor the generations of trailblazing women and girls who have built our Nation, shaped our progress, and strengthened our character as a people.

March Celebrations

March 17th: St. Patrick's Day



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