

**State Legislative 101 –  
Florida Engineering Society (FES)/American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC-FL)**



**1. How we watch bills:**

- Resources (examples below)
  - Florida House of Representatives Website
  - Florida Senate Website
  - LobbyTools Software
  - News sources/articles and social media
  - Florida House of Representatives printing office
  - Florida Senate printing office
- With Key Words (examples below)
  - CCNA
  - Florida Building Codes
  - Expressway Authority
  - Infrastructure
- With Statute Alerts (examples below)
  - Ch. 471 Engineering
  - 287.057 Procurement of Commodities or Contractual Services
  - Sec. 471.007 Board of Professional Engineers
  - Sec. 471.0195 Florida Building Code Training for Engineers
- Amendments (examples below)
  - Amendments to bills that open certain statutes
  - Bills used as vehicles for amendments

**2. What we do when key alerts are triggered:**

- Read bill/amendment
- Alert appropriate committees
- Monitor bill/amendment
- Get second opinion (seasoned lobbyist/attorney)
- Meet with bill sponsor, stakeholders, and staff
- Develop strategy to support, amend or “kill” adverse bill/amendment

**3. How a bill becomes a law:**

- Bill is filed by sponsor (Representative/Senator) during bill filing period
- Leadership (House Speaker/Senate President) assigns bill to one or more committees for consideration
- If bill passes through all assigned committees, bill is voted on by full chambers (House and Senate)
- If bill clears both chambers, bill is sent to Governor and either signed into law or vetoed
- If bill is not vetoed by Governor, it will become law on the bill’s “effective date”

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**4. When we send out reports:**

- As soon as possible if bill, or amendment to a bill, is of immediate concern
- At the end of the committee/session week
- After all passing bills have been either approved/vetoed by Governor

**5. Where to find more information on the web:**

- FES website: <https://www.fleng.org/page/Advocacy>
- Florida House of Representatives Website: <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/default.aspx>
- Florida Senate Website: <https://www.flsenate.gov/>
- News sources/articles and social media/google
- Request physical copy from the State Legislative Library