FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

providing youth the knowledge and life skills they need to be productive, responsible citizens

RESOURCE MANUAL II

Bill Book and Lobby Bill Chart

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2022
FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

providing youth the knowledge and life skills they need to be productive, responsible citizens

RESOURCE MANUAL II

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FLORIDA 4-H LEGISLATURE

Sponsors: Committee/Bill Number: AG05
County: Referred to Committee: Agriculture &
Natural Resources

Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to be Entitled

An act to mandate a tax on single-use plastic for all establishments.

Section 1: This act would be mandated to all Florida businesses and restaurants.

Section 2: If the above establishments buy single-use plastics, they will pay a 12% sales tax on any single-use plastic.

Section 3: Single-use plastics would include: plastic straws, plastic bottles, plastic cutlery, and plastic cup lids.

Section 4: Tax collected from this bill shall be allocated to preservation of natural resources.

This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

SUMMARY

This bill will help keep more plastic out of the ocean through encouraging owners to use reusable products by putting a tax on single use plastic.

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: More plastic will stay out of the ocean and establishments will save money in the long term by buying reusable products.

Con: Establishments will be spending more money at one time if they choose to use single use plastic.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to be Entitled

An act relating veterinary telehealth.

Section 1: A veterinarian may practice telemedicine.

Section 2: A veterinarian who uses telemedicine:

    (a) Shall take appropriate steps to establish a veterinarian/client/patient relationship and
        conduct all appropriate evaluations and collect appropriate histories of the patient, consistent
        with prevailing professional standards of care for the specific patient presentation.

    (b) May not prescribe controlled substances if he or she has not previously performed
        an in-person physical examination or made medically appropriate and timely visits to the
        premises where the animal is kept. However, a consulting veterinarian using telemedicine may
        prescribe controlled substances for a terminal patient transferred to the consulting veterinarian
        for hospice care from a veterinarian who performed an in-person physical examination of the
        patient and provided medical records to the consulting veterinarian.

    (c) Must hold a current license to practice veterinary medicine in this state. The practice
        of medicine occurs where the veterinarian or the patient, or both, are located at the time the
        veterinarian practices telemedicine.

Section 3: The board has jurisdiction over a veterinarian practicing telemedicine in this state,
regardless of where the veterinarian’s physical offices are located. The practice of telemedicine
in accordance with this section is not a standard of care violation, and a veterinarian may not be
disciplined solely for practicing telemedicine.

Section 4. Definitions.

“Telemedicine” means the practice of veterinary medicine, including diagnosis, consultation,
evaluation, treatment, or transfer of medical data, by means of a two-way, real-time interactive
communication between a client and patient and a veterinarian who has access to and the ability
to review the patient’s relevant information before the telemedicine visit.
This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

SUMMARY

This bill will allow licensed veterinarians to conduct telehealth visits for ill animals

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: This bill would allow veterinarians to help care for animals in locations where they may be unable to visit physically.

Con: This bill could lead to some veterinary malpractice if a veterinarian is not properly able to assess an animal’s condition.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to be Entitled

An act relating to allowing the use of familial DNA in violent crimes prosecution.

Section 1: DNA from violent crimes shall be run through the FBI’s National DNA Index System to look for familial matches. Using DNA from genealogical databases will not be allowed.

Section 2: DNA matches must have at least 10 of the 20 markers in common to be considered a familial connection. Only people with the minimum required 10 markers may be interviewed in relation to the case.

Section 3: The cost of using familial DNA searches will be incurred by the prosecuting law enforcement agency.

Section 4: The following are definitions for this legislation:

A. “Violent crimes” shall be defined as murder, rapes, child rapes, and terrorism.

B. “Familial DNA search” is a search by law enforcement in DNA databases for genetic information indicating a relative of a person they seek to identify.

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

SUMMARY

This bill will provide a wider investigative opportunity for violent crimes.

Coding: Words in *struck through* type are deletions from existing law; words *underlined* are additions.

Pro. This could help solve many violent and cold cases providing justice and closure for victims.

Con: There are many innocent people in the DNA database. Many family members would be unwilling to provide information for investigations. It can be argued that this would violate the 4th Amendment of unreasonable search.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to be Entitled

An act relating to the decriminalization of the possession of marijuana.

Section 1. Individuals in the state of Florida will not be charged for possession of marijuana.

Section 2. No fine will be imposed on any individual found with marijuana.

Section 3. The illegal distribution of marijuana will remain punishable by law.

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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SUMMARY

Decriminalize the possession of marijuana for all Florida residents.

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Would allow police to focus on more violent crimes.

Con: May encourage individuals to obtain more marijuana.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to required instruction regarding the history of African Americans.

Section 1. Members of the instructional staff of the public schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following: The history of African Americans, including the history of African peoples before the political conflicts that led to the development of slavery, the passage to America, the enslavement experience, abolition, and the contributions of African Americans to society. Instructional materials shall include the contributions of African Americans to American society.

Section 2. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the department shall annually verify that each school district, charter school, and private school implements the instruction relating to the history of the Holocaust 75 and the history of African Americans, efficiently and faithfully.

Section 3. STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT PROGRAM. The Commissioner of Education shall design and implement a statewide, standardized assessment program aligned to the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

Section 4. The course will be paid out of tax dollars, Florida sales tax will be raised 1 cent to fund a comprehensive and interactive state program.

This bill will come into effect on July 1, 2022.

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SUMMARY

This bill will require the teaching and testing of African American history and early lives in all schools across Florida. Teachers must deliver quality content given from a textbook to students about the life of African Americans.

Coding: Words in struck-through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Education will further its teachings on historical situations to students.

Con: These situations may be taught incorrectly or opinionated, tax dollars would be raised to fund this program.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to Standardized testing regarding the SAT and ACT.

Section 1. All SAT and ACT testing will be terminated.

Section 2. All Public Universities within Florida will no longer use the SAT/ACT scoring as part of determining a student’s acceptance to a college.

Section 3. Any private Universities within Florida that continue to use this standardized testing as a part of determining an applicant’s acceptance will be fined 25,000 for the first offense.

Section 4. Definitions. As used above “Standardized testing” can be defined as the SAT and ACT, standard tests where all the questions are alike and is used to consistently score.

This bill shall take effect upon August 1, 2022.

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SUMMARY

This bill will eliminate SAT and ACT testing in the state of Florida.

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions

Pro: Provides a better analysis of a student without using a standard form of testing because many good students are not good at these standardized tests.

Con: Eliminates a standard option of measuring success.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to increasing the interstate speed limit.

Section 1. The speed limit on Florida interstates will increase to 85 mph.

Section 2. Speed limit violators will pay a fine that is triple the speed they were cited at.

Section 3. Definitions.

- “Interstate” is defined as a highway that is part of the US Interstate Highway System.
- “Speed limit” is defined as the maximum speed at which a vehicle can travel on a particular stretch of road.

This bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

SUMMARY

This bill will increase the interstate speed limit to 85 mph.

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Vehicles already travel at speeds much greater than the current speed limit of 70 mph.

Con: Higher speed leads to greater chance of accidents.
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Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to the implementation of ranked choice voting systems in Florida elections.

Section 1. The following offices will be determined through ranked-choice voting: 2 U.S. Senators, 28 Representatives to U.S. Congress, and Governor, including any nominations by primary election to such offices. State and federal primary elections, and federal general elections, will be conducted by ranked choice voting in Florida.

Section 2. For offices elected by ranked-choice voting, the ballot must be simple and easy to understand and allow a voter to rank candidates for an office in order of preference. A voter may include no more than one write-in candidate among that voter's ranked choices for each office.

Section 3. Procedures. Tabulation must proceed in rounds. In each round, the number of votes for each continuing candidate must be counted. Each continuing ballot counts as one vote for its highest-ranked continuing candidate for that round. Exhausted ballots are not counted for any continuing candidate. The round then ends with one of the following 2 potential outcomes.

(a) If there are 2 or fewer continuing candidates, the candidate with the most votes is declared the winner of the election.

(b) If there are more than 2 continuing candidates, the last-place candidate is defeated and a new round begins. 3. Ties. A tie under this section between candidates for the most votes in the final round or a tie between last-place candidates in any round must be decided by lot, and the candidate chosen by lot is defeated. The result of the tie resolution must be recorded and reused in the event of a recount. Election officials may resolve prospective ties between candidates before the election.

Section 4. For all statutory and constitutional provisions in the State pertaining to the rights of political parties, the number of votes cast for a party’s candidate for an office elected by ranked-choice voting is the number of votes credited to that candidate after the initial counting in the first round described in Section 3.

Section 5. Definitions.

Ranked-choice voting: the method of casting and tabulating votes in which voters rank candidates in order of preference, tabulation proceeds in sequential rounds in which last-place candidates are defeated and the candidate with the most votes in the final round is elected.

This bill shall take effect as of November 8, 2022.

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SUMMARY

This bill will make State elections with three or more candidates determined through voting ballots which rank all candidates in order of preference.

Coding: Words in *struck through* type are deletions from existing law; words *underlined* are additions.

Pro: Elections will be determined by majority rather than plurality support, eliminating the spoiler effect and promoting policy-based campaigns rather than negative campaigns.

Con: Voters will have to quickly adapt to an unfamiliar election system.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to the establishment of a statewide Universal Basic Income

Section 1. Every documented, adult Florida citizen will have the opportunity to opt into a program where they receive a monthly cash transfer of exactly $1,000 from the State of Florida. This will be mailed to their residence or P.O. Box in the form of a check.

Section 2. There are no stipulations as to how the transfer is to be used. The $1,000 will be considered indistinguishable from the individual’s personal cash.

Section 3. Those who opt-in automatically forgo potential or current benefits from state-provided welfare programs.

Section 4. If already participating, adults who become incarcerated for a month or longer will forgo their monthly transfers for the period during which they are incarcerated.

Section 5. The Universal Basic Income program will be funded primarily through

1. Health & Human Services Dept. budget/ net savings
   a. Money initially budgeted for welfare that is forgone due to participants opting into this program is considered a savings which then funds the program.
2. Public revenue from Florida tourism
3. 5% increase in State Corporate Income Tax

Section 6. Definitions.

1. “Adult”- Person 18 years of age or older; a legal adult
2. “Cash Transfer”- Direct payment from the government made to eligible groups of people
3. “Personal Cash”- Funds belonging to an individual for personal use
4. “State-provided welfare programs”- Statutory procedure or social assistance effort funded by the State of Florida, which may include
   a. Unemployment benefit programs
   b. Family allowance benefits
   c. Other means-tested assistance funded at the state level
5. “Public Revenue”- Profit earned by the government from consumers
6. “Universal Basic Income”- Financial transfer policy in which all citizens receive an equal financial grant paid by the government without a means test

This bill shall take effect as of January 1, 2023.
SUMMARY

This bill will introduce an opt-in Universal Basic Income as an alternative to welfare benefits.

Coding: Words in struck-through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Individuals will have greater agency with the stability of an income floor.

Con: Some individuals may exploit their cash transfer and waste their monthly funds.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to Be Entitled

An act relating to mandating that employers provide paid parental leave.

Section 1. Requirement

All businesses in the state of Florida are hereby required to provide paid parental leave to all employees. Mothers shall receive at least thirty (30) days of paid leave prior to giving birth, and at least ninety (90) days of paid leave after. Fathers shall receive at least fifteen (15) days of paid leave prior to birth, and at least thirty (30) days of paid leave after.

Section 2. Adoption Provision

Employees adopting or receiving a child via adoption shall receive at least ninety (90) days of paid leave upon reception, contingent on the child being one-year-old or younger upon reception. If an adopted child is older than twelve (12) months and younger than thirty-six (36) months, employees shall receive at least thirty (30) days of paid leave.

Section 3. Premature and Late-Birth Provision

In the case of leave based on birth or surrogacy, the birth date will be determined ahead of time and certified by a medical professional. If the birth is premature, subsequent post-birth leave shall come into effect immediately. If birth occurs after the expected date, employees shall receive up to ten (10) more days of paid leave and subsequent mandatory unpaid leave until birth.

This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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SUMMARY

This bill will make mandatory paid parental leave a requirement for all employers in the state of Florida. Mothers and fathers will receive paid time off before and after birth.

Coding: Words in struck-through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: People will face less stress and have more time to focus on building their families without worrying about their employment.

Con: Employers will have to pay workers without receiving their service in return, as well as having to hold their job for an extended period.
Be it hereby enacted by the Florida 4-H Legislature

A Bill to be Entitled

An act to get all children the proper support after they turn 18 and are out of foster care program.

Section 1: More thorough background checks for people that host children to make sure they get the support they need to grow to be functioning, working adults.

Section 2: The government will set up charity accounts for the holiday season so people that want to help change children’s lives for the better can donate to the children for their future, so funding does not depend completely on taxes.

Section 3: Give shelter to children that have turned 18 years old, who do not have the support yet, for up to 2 years while they live on their own, get jobs and learn life management skills. This bill shall take effect upon becoming law.

SUMMARY

This bill will help support kids who did not have the opportunity to grow up with support that they needed to now get the help they need to live on their own.

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: This bill will help reduce homelessness with children coming out of foster care that do not have the support they need.

Con: This bill will cause the government to put more effort and money into the foster care system.
A Bill to be Entitled

An act to increase the use of community service as punishment for crimes committed by youth and other minors.

Section 1: Recognitions

The Florida 4-H Legislature recognizing the following facts:

1. That youth, having committed a crime and having been put into the criminal justice system, often commit additional crimes.
2. Rehabilitation and community service as punishment has been found to limit individuals from committing further crimes.
3. That, therefore, the use of rehabilitation and community service, as a punishment for crime committed by a youth, is a preferable punishment than imprisonment or probation.

Section 2: Definitions

1. For this act, “youth,” “juvenile,” and “minor” are to be defined as an individual under the age of eighteen (18), having not joined the armed forces with parental consent at any age before eighteen, having not been married, and having not been granted, by any means, the full legal rights of an adult citizen or resident.

Section 3: Changes to Current Punishments for Misdemeanors

Any applicable statutes among the general law of the State of Florida shall hereby be amended by the following, whenever a youth is the individual being sentenced:

1. For the committal of all misdemeanors of the first degree, having been committed by a youth, duly convicted by a jury of their peers, by admission of guilt, or by other constitutionally acceptable means, the punishment shall not exceed ninety-six (96) hours of community service. This community service shall be operated, as pursuant to current law and procedure. The punishment must also include attending a rehabilitation program designed, designated, or other chosen by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.
2. For the committal of all misdemeanors of the second degree, having been committed by a youth, duly convicted by a jury of their peers, by admission of guilt, or by other constitutionally acceptable means, the punishment shall not exceed seventy-two (72) hours of community service. This community service shall be operated, as pursuant to current law and procedure.

Section 4: Exceptions
1. No whole or part of this act shall be interpreted as altering punishments for crimes rated or classified under the general law of this state as a felony. The punishment of youth that have been convicted to have committed felonies shall remain the same, unchanged by any portion of this act.

2. No part of this act shall apply to individuals, having met the definition of youth under this act, that have been tried as an adult.

This law shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

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SUMMARY

Lowers the punishment for misdemeanors for youth offenders to community service, with in some cases, rehabilitation.

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined are additions.

Pro: Rehabilitation and community service often lower the number of times that crimes are recommitted by offenders.

Con: Punishment may not be harsh or strong enough for some offenders.