



LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2010

Thanks to ABC members we were able to accomplish many meaningful and significant things in Tallahassee which will directly benefit the industry, your business and working families.

- We successfully delayed a scheduled increase in unemployment compensation premiums of up to 5,400%...positively impacting your bottom line.
- We effectively battled the powerful taxpayer-funded lobby of the cities and counties to enact significant changes to Florida local government "Prompt Payment Act"...minimizing cash flow problems brought about by public work.
- We successfully enacted changes which will begin to turn around the inefficient, duplicitous and often times costly interpretations of the fire code by local government by passing language to provide expedited declaratory statements and nonbinding interpretations of the fire code.....helping ensure good government not just big government.
- We were able to maintain state funding for apprenticeship training...helping provide you with a qualified and skilled workforce.
- We were able to change the burden of proof in "slip and fall" claims ...increasing your legal protection and avoiding frivolous lawsuits.
- We provided for the further extension of certain building permits for two ADDITIONAL years (up to 2016)...helping avoid unnecessary bureaucracy during this economic slow-down.
- We were able to amend a proposed "immigration" bill (which ultimately did not pass) to include a "safe harbor" provision to protect contractors forced to participate in federal E-verify programs from discrimination lawsuits.
- We were able to stop a plan to eliminate the minimum square foot requirements before local journeyman ratios could be required on a project...limiting unnecessary regulation of your business.
- We were able to streamline the process of obtaining an exemption from sales tax for building materials and supplies on school construction projects...providing for more efficient government.
- DEP, a WMD, or a local government with delegated permitting authority to approve or deny a permit within 30 days of receipt of any application for activities involving the management or storage of surface waters. After 30 days, the permit will be approved by default, unless the permit is part of a federally delegated program.

As you can see a LOT was accomplished, none of which would be possible without our members. Through your membership you not only are the largest commercial contractor association in the state (which is important to elected officials), but you have contributed more to political campaigns than any other contractor organization. You have allowed us to register more lobbyists and put more people on the job in Tallahassee and local government than any other organization. And more of you come to Tallahassee, write e-mails/letters and make phone calls to legislators than any other construction organization in the state. We couldn't have done this without you. Thank you.

For more information on any of these specific bills, please read the [ABC of Florida Legislative Report](#).