



Status Update:  
Attacks on Workers Rights,  
Academic Freedom, Bright Futures,  
etc.

Spring Legislative Session 2021

# HB 947/SB 78 – affects all unions

- Employer may not deduct dues until it confirms with the employee that he/she wants to join the union.
- Employee must reauthorize union membership every time a new contract is negotiated.
- In committee discussions, Republican members are talking about carving out police/fire unions (*a very bad sign*).

# HB 835/SB 1014 – affects UFF

- Requires all educator unions (including higher education) to report 50% membership to maintain certification, authorizes the Public Employees Relations Commission to investigate if it has met 50% threshold, authorizes College/University to challenge accuracy of union's claims, provides for revocation of certification as an outcome of the investigation.
- Loss of dues deduction, etc.

# Other bills of interest

- HB 553/SB 176 – Fee waivers for graduate assistants (support!).
- SB 86 – Makes Bright Futures contingent on whether degree “leads directly to employment,” as determined by the Governor.
- HB 997/SB 220 – Presidential search exemption from Sunshine laws.
- HB 1047/SB 1110 – prohibits institutions and their Dean of Students Offices from entering into, and requires withdrawal from (by 1/1/22), any “agreement with a communist regime.”
- HB 281/SB 52 – Authorizes University BOTs to implement performance bonuses for University employees.

# Other bills of interest (continued)

- HB 233/SB 264 – Mandatory intellectual diversity surveys; allows for recording classroom instruction.
- HB 6001 – Guns on campus.
- SB 48 – Creates “education savings accounts” for parents who take their students out of public schools.
- SB 84 – Eliminates the pension option of FRS beginning 7/1/22.
- HB 1/SB 484 – Enables criminalization of many protest-related activities, reduces civil/criminal liability for injuring protestors.