Florida Solar Energy Industries Association
2018 Session Report
Week 4
February 2, 2018

By House Rule, Bills not heard and passed out of their first Committee of Reference during Week 4, are essentially dead and no longer eligible for consideration. Literally hundreds of House bills died this past week.

Bills that are dead in the House can still be considered through their companion measure filed as a Senate bill. However, if the Senate version of a House bill has not been moving by Week 4, it is unlikely the Senate will pass a bill not even considered by the House.

The following bills being tracked still have some "life" left in them.

Building Commission

HB 299 by Representative Stan McClain, reduces the size of the Florida Building Commission from its current 27 members, down to 11 members.

Despite HB 299 still waiting for its final hearing in the House Commerce Committee, there has been no movement on this bill since November 15th. And because there is no senate companion measure filed, it is unlikely HB 299 will even pass this Session.

Renewable Energy

SB 1038 by Senator Jeff Brandes, and its companion measure, HB 1411 by Representative Ben Diamond, creates the Energy 2040 Task Force within the Public Service Commission requiring the task force to make recommendations, by the year 2020 regarding what the state's energy needs and future portfolio should look like.

SB 1038 is still waiting to be heard in its second committee stop, the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee.

HB 1411 was not heard in its first Committee of Reference, the House Energy Committee.

Fracking

Three anti-fracking bills have been filed. HB 237 by Representative Kathleen Peters; SB 834 by Senator Gary Farmer; and SB 462 by Senator Dana Young.

SB 462 has been scheduled for a hearing during Week 5, in the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation, on Tuesday, February 5th. (NOTE: This bill passed unanimously and is now in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Environmental and Natural Resources.)