Bradenton Herald

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Bills that failed in the 2014 Florida Legislature

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Measures that failed to pass during the 2012 regular session of the Florida Legislature, which ended Friday, would have:

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

-Set aside state incentives for film and television productions.

-Raised the state's minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour.

-Regulated the growing number of craft breweries in the state.

—Permitted the sale of liquor in grocery stores instead of requiring it to be sold in a stand-alone facility.

CONSUMERS

—Legalized the sale of half-gallon refillable beer containers known as growlers. While Florida allows unlimited gallon and quart growler sales, the state's odd bottle laws ban the 64-ounce size that is the industry standard in 47 states.

EDUCATION

—Allowed school employees or volunteers with law-enforcement or military training to carry firearms to fight back in the event of a schoolhouse attack.

—Split the Florida A&M University and Florida State University engineering college.

-Removed from public record the names of applicants for university and college presidents.

-Mandated all school districts review textbooks and ended a state approval process for textbooks.

-Required high school students take a semester-long course that deals with personal finances.

-Changed the service requirements for the Bright Futures college scholarship program so that students could work on political campaigns and get credit for it.

—Halted implementation of Florida's transition to new school standards based primarily on Common Core State Standards.

ENVIRONMENT

—Protected Florida's springs by trying to limit overpumping of groundwater and limiting potential sources of pollution.

GAMBLING

—Allowed casinos in South Florida and created a new statewide commission to oversee gambling.

-Let dog tracks end greyhound racing but keep their permits for other gambling activities such as poker rooms.

GOVERNMENT

-Closed off the state's pension plan to newly elected officials and top employees while also increasing the vesting period.

—Ended the perk that allows the governor and other top state employees to pay lower premiums for health insurance than other rank-and-file state workers.

-Required drug testing of elected officials and judges.

GUNS

-Repealed the state's "stand your ground" self-defense law.

-Allowed someone to carry a concealed weapon or gun while evacuating during an emergency.

HEALTH CARE

—Taken \$50 billion in federal money over the next decade to expand Medicaid health coverage for needy Floridians.

—Promoted the use of telemedicine in Florida and establish requirements for health providers who treat patients remotely.

—Marketed the state as a destination for medical procedures to national and international audiences. While the bill did not pass there is still money in the state budget for medical tourism.

-Ended a legal dispute over the creation of three trauma centers.

-Revised eligibility requirements for the state's subsidized children health insurance program so that legal immigrants no longer have to wait five years to become eligible.

INSURANCE

— Allowed the shift of homeowner policies away from Citizens Property Insurance and into largely unregulated surplus line carriers.

TAXES

-Reduced the state taxes paid on commercial rent.

-Increased the number of businesses exempt from having to pay the state's corporate income tax.

-Cut the taxes consumers pay on cellphones and cable television bills.

TRANSPORTATION

-Blocked local regulation of limousine services that has prevented the Uber car service from starting up in certain Florida cities.

-Repealed the law allowing the use of red-light cameras.

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