



I.U.P.A. LOCAL 6020

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

BROWARD DEPUTY SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

THE VOICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

2023 Legislative Progress Report

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Meetings Report:

I.U.P.A. Local 6020 President Matt Cowart has conducted numerous meetings with State Representatives, State Senators, and their Legislative Aides to discuss legislative matters beneficial to first responders. Below is the number of meetings I.U.P.A. Local 6020 President Matt Cowart has conducted going into the 2023 legislative session.

State Representatives Met With: 68

Legislative Aides to State Representatives Met With: 8

State Senators Met With: 16

Legislative Aides to State Senators Met With: 4

Total Meetings: 96

I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Supported Legislation:

Returning the Florida Retirement System (FRS) Back to 25 Years of Credible Service for Special Risk Members

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 is advocating for the FRS for special risk members to have the retirement age restored back to age 55 from age 60 and for the years of creditable service to return from 30 years back to 25 years for members to be eligible for retirement.

Filed in the House as House Bill 239

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Demi Busatta Cabrera

Filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 224

Senate Bill Sponsor: Senator Ed Hooper

Claim Bill for former Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) Deputy Maury Hernandez

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 supports a Claim Bill for former BSO Deputy Maury Hernandez who sustained a career ending gunshot wound to the head in 2007 while in the line of duty. Deputy Hernandez survived; however, he sustained physical, mental, emotional, and financial damages. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 stands with Deputy Hernandez and seeks the passage of this Claim Bill in order to help make him whole.

Filed in the House as House Bill 6003

House Bill Sponsors: Representatives Tom Fabricio and Alex Rizo

Filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 20

Senate Bill Sponsor: Senator Tom Wright

Additional Mental Health Counseling for First Responders

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 supports House Bill 169 and Senate Bill 314 which seek to expand upon existing mental health counseling resources for first responders. House Bill 169 and Senate Bill 314 seek to require employers to cover the cost of requested mental health counseling for first responders and to prohibit the employing agency from requiring the first responder to use their own leave accruals to attend the counseling sessions.

Filed in the House as House Bill 169

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Vicki Lopez

Filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 314

House Bill Sponsor: Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez

Additional Rights for Law Enforcement Officers Faced with Brady List Placement

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 is supporting House Bill 95 which would require prosecuting agencies to establish written policies which establish the criteria used to place a law enforcement officer on the Brady Giglio list, to provide a law enforcement officer written notice prior to being placed on the Brady Giglio list, and

to allow the law enforcement officer to review and provide input prior to being placed on the Brady Giglio list.

Filed in the House as House Bill 95

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Wyman Duggan

Expansion of Homestead Exemption to Spouses of Federal First Responders Killed in the Line of Duty

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 supports House Bill 101 and Senate Bill 184 which seek to expand the homestead exemption to spouses of federal first responders who are killed in the line of duty. The current verbiage in the Florida state statute excludes federal first responders.

Filed in the House as House Bill 101

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Marie Woodson

Filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 184

House Bill Sponsor: Senator Tina Polsky

Increased Penalty for Trafficking in Fentanyl

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 supports House Bill 355 and Senate Bill 354 which seek to increase the minimum term of imprisonment for an offender trafficking in 4 grams of more but less than 14 grams of fentanyl from 7 years to 15 years. House Bill 355 also seeks to increase the fine for trafficking in 4 grams of more but less than 14 grams of fentanyl from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

Filed in the House as House Bill 355

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Brad Yeager

Filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 354

House Bill Sponsor: Senator Danny Burgess

Increased Penalty for Religious Hate Crimes

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 supports House Bill 269 which seeks to make it a third-degree felony if an individual projects hateful images onto private property, stalks or harasses someone based on their religious attire, or blocks access to places of worship, such as churches and synagogues.

Filed in the House as House Bill 269

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Mike Caruso

Increased Penalty for Obscene or Harassing Telephone Calls

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 supports House Bill 67 and Senate Bill 174 which seek to have the penalty for obscene or harassing phone calls increased from a 2nd degree misdemeanor to a 3rd degree felony.

Filed in the House as House Bill 67

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Michael Gottlieb

Filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 174

Senate Bill Sponsor: Senator Tina Polsky

Increased Penalty for Attempted 2nd Degree Homicide

- The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 supports the penalty for attempted 2nd degree homicide to be increased to a life felony in order to strengthen the penalty against some of the most violent individuals among our society.

Bill is currently in drafting

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Kevin Chambliss