



# Governor’s Action Update

**Budget Action:** on Friday, March 16, 2018 [Governor Scott signed into law the General Appropriations Act](#). Included in this letter are his line-item vetoes, shown below in red.

**Opioid Bill:** today, [Governor Scott signed HB 21 Controlled Substances](#). The bill will help limit the chance of drug addiction, reduce the ability for dangerous drugs to spread in Florida’s communities and give vulnerable Floridians needed support by:

- Placing a three-day limit on prescribed opioids for acute pain, unless strict conditions are met for a seven-day supply;
- Requiring healthcare prescribers or dispensers of opioids to consult the Florida Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, a statewide database that monitors controlled substance prescriptions, to review a patient’s medication history prior to prescribing or dispensing a controlled substance;
- Requiring continuing education courses for healthcare practitioners on responsibly prescribing opioids;
- Increasing penalties for healthcare practitioners that provide medically unnecessary controlled substance to a patient by fraud, misrepresentation, or other deception; and
- Implementing additional reforms to fight unlicensed pain management clinics.

Issue	<a href="#">Conference Report on HB 5001</a>
James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program	<b>\$10 million</b>
Bankhead & Coley Cancer Research Program	<b>\$10 million</b> From the funds in Specific Appropriation 455, \$500,000 from the Biomedical Research Trust Fund is provided to maintain the statewide Brain Tumor Registry Program at the McKnight Brain Institute (recurring base appropriations project).
Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institutes Centers Program	<b>\$62,228,743</b> Funds in Specific Appropriation 457 are provided for the Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute (NCI) Centers Program established in section 381.915, Florida Statutes. Cancer centers are eligible for Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 designation to participate in the Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute (NCI) Centers Program as follows: H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute is eligible for Tier 1 designation as a NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center; and the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and the University of Florida Health Shands Cancer Hospital are eligible for Tier 3 designation in the Florida Consortium of NCI Centers Program.
Endowed Chair of Cancer Research – Mayo Clinic	<b>\$2 million</b> Funds in Specific Appropriation 458 are provided to the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center of Jacksonville to fund an endowed cancer research chair pursuant to section 381.922(4), Florida Statutes.

Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer’s Disease Research Program	<p><b>\$5 million</b></p> <p>Funds in Specific Appropriation 459 are provided for the Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer’s Disease Research Program established in section 381.82, Florida Statutes.</p>
Enterprise Florida	<p><b>\$16 million</b></p>
Economic Development “Tools”	<p><b>\$29.1 million</b></p> <p>Funds provided in Specific Appropriation 2231 are provided to make payments and tax refunds in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 for the following programs: Qualified Target Industry (QTI) Business Tax Refund; QTI Tax Refund - Brownfield Redevelopment Bonus; Brownfield Redevelopment Tax Refund; High-Impact Business Performance (HIPI) Grant; and Qualified Defense Contractor and Space Flight (QDSC) Business Tax Refund. Payments may only be made for projects that meet the statutory eligibility requirements. Funds may not be released for any other purpose and may only be disbursed when projects are certified to have met all contracted performance requirements. Funds provided in Specific Appropriation 2231 from the Economic Development Trust Fund represent local matching funds. The Department of Economic Opportunity must provide monthly reports, within 10 business days after the end of each month, to the Governor’s Office of Policy and Budget, the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and the chair of the House Appropriations Committee regarding all escrow activity relating to the Quick Action Closing Fund and the Innovation Incentive Fund programs. Such report must include information regarding any funds and interest earnings returned to the appropriate fund in the state treasury, and the anticipated payment date(s) of all funds held in escrow. The Department of Economic Opportunity shall provide monthly reports to the Governor’s Office of Policy and Budget, the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and the chair of the House Appropriations Committee on the status of economic development programs administered by the department under chapter 288, Florida Statutes.</p>
Tax Incentives	<p>On Sunday afternoon, the House and Senate reconvened to vote on the budget and associated bills as well as the tax package. <a href="#">HB 7087</a> is the tax package totals \$331 million and has two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retains the \$9 million base funding (but is \$16.5 million for 2018 calendar year),</li> <li>• Lowers the sales tax on rental of commercial real estate from 5.8% to 5.7%.</li> </ul>
Additional Biomedical Research Funding  (This is a general list, if any BioFlorida member has a	<p><b>\$1.5 million</b></p> <p><del>From the funds in Specific Appropriation 457A, \$1,500,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the purpose of supporting activities in relation to biomedical research through the Florida</del></p>

specific inquiry please reach out.)

~~Drug Discovery Acceleration Program at **Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies** (HB 2383)(Senate Form 1478).~~

~~Veto message: "the following is vetoed because this private entity did not satisfy existing contractual obligations with the Department of Economic Opportunity." (Pg. 32 of [Governor's Budget Review Letter](#))~~

**\$150,000**

~~From the funds in Specific Appropriation 457A, \$150,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the **Coalition for Medicinal Cannabis Research within the Moffitt Cancer Center** to conduct medical cannabis research pursuant to section 1004.4351, Florida Statutes.~~

~~Veto message: "the funding is duplicative of funds that will be provided by the Department of Health, pursuant to s.381.986(8)(b), Florida Statutes. (Pg. 32 of [Governor's Budget Review Letter](#))~~

**\$3 million**

Funds in Specific Appropriation 458A are provided for the **Live Like Bella Initiative** pursuant to section 381.922(2)(c), Florida Statutes, to advance progress toward curing pediatric cancer.

**\$600,000**

**Live Like Bella Childhood Cancer Foundation** (Senate Form 2038)

**\$500,000**

**University of Miami Miller School of Medicine - Florida Stroke Registry** (HB 3243)(Senate Form 1403)

**\$2 million**

The nonrecurring funds provided in Specific Appropriation 2361A shall be transferred to the **University of Miami- Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center** for the purpose of Firefighter Cancer Research. The funds shall be utilized to: expand firefighters access to cancer screenings across the state; enable prevention and earlier detection of the disease; identify exposures that account for increased cancer risk; and field test new technology and methods that measure exposure in the field. The University of Miami - Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center shall develop a report on cancer research outcomes and cancer mitigation efforts being examined. The report shall be submitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Governor by June 15, 2019 (HB 2915) (Senate Form 2407).