



2008 SCORECARD Legislative Session and Tax and Budget Reform Commission (TBRC)

MAF monitored 171 bills and lobbied issues pertaining to firearms, education, energy, sales taxes, working waterfronts, property tax, and more. MAF also participated in numerous coalitions to influence legislation. The Legislature passed 145 general bills, out of the 1,335 filed.

BOARD MEMBERS

Platinum

AT&T
CSX Transportation
Swisher International, Inc.

Silver

Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Florida Mfg Extension Partnership
Florida Power & Light
Hoerbiger Corporation of America
Progress Energy

Bronze

Crowe Chizek and Company, LLC
Fuchs Lubricants Co.
Knight's Armament Company
Lockheed Martin
Tropicana Products, Inc.

Associations

Bay Area Manufacturers Association
Capital Region Manufacturers
First Coast Manufacturers
Association
Florida Minerals & Chemistry
Council
Florida Sterling Council
Manufacturers Association of
Central Florida
Marion Regional Manufacturers
Association
Sarasota-Manatee Manufacturers
Association
South Florida Manufacturers
Association

PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS

Associated Industries of Florida, Inc.
FLATE Center for Manufacturing
Education
Florida United Tax Managers
Association
Space Florida

<i>Issue</i>	<i>MAF Position</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Firearms in Workplace	Defeat	Legislature passed with minor accommodations to business community such as liability limit and facility exemptions	MAF worked hard to defeat and amend this proposal. We took prominent role in a coalition with Chamber, FMCC, and Florida Retail Federation; AIF also opposed.
Property Taxation/Value Adjustment Boards (VAB)	Support	Legislature passed with many good reforms, but still did not incorporate taxation based on just value	This was three years in the making. MAF educated members and staff for three years and supported the bills as they made good progress.
Practical Arts	Support re-incorporation into high school curriculum	Legislature passed in compromise language that blends practical and fine arts	MAF worked on this off and on for two years. We worked in a loose coalition with FACTE, MAF members, FLATE, teachers and interested legislators to accomplish this.

Banner Center Funding	\$5 million for existing centers	Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million for existing centers	The Governor proposed funding existing and new Banner Centers. MAF lobbied for funding just the existing Banner Centers, given the budget restrictions. MAF was the primary lobbyist on this funding, with support from the Banner Centers, FLATE, Workforce FL, the Chamber, and MAF members.
Incumbent Worker Training Funds	\$2 million	Legislature appropriated \$2 million	MAF, Workforce FL, and EFI worked on this together.
Quick Response Training Funds	\$7 million	Legislature appropriated \$5 million	MAF, Workforce FL and EFI worked on this together.
Manufacturers Week Resolution	Pass House and Senate Resolutions	House and Senate passed resolutions	MAF worked with Senator Atwater and Rep. Meadows to accomplish this.
TBRC SR 0013 Just Valuation of Property	Support legislation to revise the statutory criteria for determining just value on all property. Support preponderance of the evidence burden of proof.	TBRC passed recommendation to Legislature to revise statutory criteria property appraisers must consider when determining the just value of property for ad valorem taxation. It further recommended that the burden of proof for a taxpayer to prevail in an assessment challenge be a preponderance of the evidence.	MAF, the Florida Chamber and AIF were a constant force in keeping the pressure on to do something about property assessments.

<p>TBRC SR 0029 Sales Tax Exemptions/Review</p>	<p>Oppose any statutory or constitutional review of sales tax exemptions.</p>	<p>TBRC passed recommendation for the creation of a joint legislative committee to review sales tax exemptions. Exemptions for modification or repeal identified by the committee must be submitted to a vote of each House of the Legislature.</p>	<p>MAF and FMCC worked to defeat this proposal.</p>
<p>TBRC CP 6, 8, 34 Working Waterfronts</p>	<p>Pass constitutional amendment to allow all manufacturers on waterfronts to have special tax consideration rather than highest and best use</p>	<p>TBRC passed constitutional amendment to allow boat and ship manufacturers on waterfronts to have special tax consideration.</p>	<p>MAF worked on behalf of all manufacturers in coalition with boat manufacturers, AIF and the Chamber</p>
<p>TBRC CP0002 Sales tax/property tax swap</p>	<p>Defeat statutory and constitutional proposals to repeal sales tax exemptions and tax services</p>	<p>TBRC passed constitutional amendment to lift school property taxes and cap business property tax increases at 5% increase/year. The proposal will replace school property taxes with sales taxes gained in a variety of ways such as repealing sales tax exemptions, raising the sales tax 1 cent, imposing a tax on services, realizing additional state revenues and more.</p>	<p>MAF, with FMCC, worked very hard for a year to defeat this proposal in all its forms. Our best ally was the nursing home community. In the end, the Coalition to Protect Florida's Economy, with which we worked to oppose a services tax, was divided. The realtors supported the amendment and the rest of the business community did not.</p>