



Process for Legislative Support from the FBCB Advisory Council

Purpose:

To provide opportunities for faith, volunteer, and community organizations (organizations) in Florida to seek support from the Florida Faith Based and Community Based (FBCB) Advisory Council on their respective legislative project/funding request/initiative (initiative) during the annual legislative process.

Background:

Prior to each legislative session, Council members may propose a legislative initiative from organizations, or state agency, for consideration by the entire FBCB Advisory Council. To be considered, the organizations/state agency must meet the following criteria:

- Have a bill (and Local Funding Initiative Request [LFIR] for funding requests) sponsor in both the Florida House of Representatives (House) and Florida Senate (Senate),
- The bills (and LFIR if appropriate) are recorded within the respective House and Senate tracking systems and accessible through their public websites,
- The proposed legislative initiative aligns/advances the FBCB Advisory Council's purpose and statutory charge, and
- Obtain the support of a Council member who agrees to propose the legislative initiative for consideration by the FBCB Advisory Council during a scheduled meeting.

If a Council member is unsure at any point, they are encouraged to communicate with Office of Adoption and Child Protection within the Executive Office of the Governor (Office) for assistance.

Upon meeting the criteria, the Council member who agrees to propose a legislative initiative must be knowledgeable of the legislative initiative and able to effectively respond to questions/concerns from other Council members.

The Council member will work with the Office to provide an overview of the legislative initiative and necessary documentation. The Office will communicate information to the Chair and Vice Chair of the FBCB Advisory Council during scheduled planning sessions prior to the next scheduled FBCB Advisory Council meeting. Upon agreement of the Chair and Vice Chair, the Council member and the proposed legislative initiative will be added to the meeting agenda. Information and documentation will be provided to all Council members in advance of the next scheduled meeting to assist their preparation.

During the scheduled FBCB Advisory Council meeting, the Council member will be called upon to present information on the legislative initiative and respond to any questions/concerns raised. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chair, or Vice Chair, will seek a first and second motion by Council members, hear any additional discussion on the legislative initiative, and conduct a vote by the entire FBCB Advisory Council for approval. If no motion, second motion, or majority vote is provided, the legislative initiative will not move forward.



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With majority vote by Council members, the Office will work with the Chair and Vice Chair to draft letters of support from the FBCB Advisory Council to the bill (and LFIR) sponsors, committee chairs, and leadership of the House and Senate. If the bill (and LFIR) passes both chambers and goes to the Governor, a letter of support will be provided.

At the conclusion of the legislative session, the FBCB Advisory Council will provide the results of these efforts at the next scheduled FBCB Advisory Council meeting.

Proposed Action:

Information outlined in the *Background Section* of this document identifies the criteria and process for a legislative initiative to be considered by the FBCB Advisory Council for support. Discussions among the FBCB Advisory Council to approve or refine this approach, along with subsequent motions and voting, will formalize the opportunity for faith, volunteer, and community organizations in Florida to seek support from the Florida Faith Based and Community Based (FBCB) Advisory Council on their respective legislative project/funding request/initiative (initiative) during the annual legislative process.

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