

# **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

Wednesday, January 11, 2012 11:30 AM 404 HOB

**Action Packet** 

# Civil Justice Subcommittee 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

**Summary:** 

# **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

Wednesday January 11, 2012 11:30 am

HB 243	Favorable		Yeas:	11	Nays:	4
HB 313	Favorable		Yeas:	13	Nays:	0
HB 671	Favorable		Yeas:	14	Nays:	0
HB 929	Favorable With Cor	nmittee Substitute	Yeas:	11	Nays:	4
An	nendment 584141	Adopted Without Objection				
HB 971	Favorable With Cor	nmittee Substitute	Yeas:	10	Nays:	5
· An	nendment 223757	Adopted Without Objection				
An	nendment 252811	Adopted Without Objection				
An	nendment 535253	Withdrawn				
An	nendment 932625	Withdrawn				
HB 4155	Favorable		Yeas:	15	Nays:	0
HB 4157	Favorable		Yeas:	15	Nays:	0
PCS for H	B 823 Favorable		Yeas:	14	Nays:	0

# **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

Print Date: 1/11/2012 4:29 pm

# Attendance:

	Present	Absent	Excused
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	x		
Joseph Abruzzo	X		
Mack Bernard	X		
Matt Gaetz	X		
Bill Hager	X		
Shawn Harrison	X		
Martin Kiar	X		
Larry Metz	X		
Jose Oliva	X		
Kathleen Passidomo	X		
Scott Plakon	X		
Darren Soto	X		
Kelli Stargel	X		
Richard Steinberg	X		
Michael Weinstein	×		
Totals:	15	0	0

# Civil Justice Subcommittee 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

HB 243 : Expert Testimony

X Favorable

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Joseph Abruzzo		X			
Mack Bernard	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Shawn Harrison	X				
Martin Kiar		X			
Larry Metz	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Scott Plakon	X				
Darren Soto		X			
Kelli Stargel	X				
Richard Steinberg		X			
Michael Weinstein	X				
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
	Total Yeas: 11	Total Nays: 4			

#### **Appearances:**

HB 243

Rafferty, Troy (General Public) - Opponent

Florida Justice Association

316 S. Bayles

Pensacola FL

Phone: 850-435-7163

HB 243

Large, William (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Florida Justice Reform Institute

210 S Monroe St

Tallahassee FL 32301-1824

Phone: (850)222-0170

HB 243

Pitts, Brian - Opponent

Justice-2-Jesus

1119 Newton Ave. S.

St. Petersburg FL 33705

Phone: 727-897-9291

HB 243

Perdue, Tammy (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Associated Industries of Florida

516 N. Adams St.

Tallahassee Florida 32301

Print Date: 1/11/2012 4:29 pm

Phone: 224-7173

#### **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

HB 243 : Expert Testimony (continued)

**Appearances: (continued)** 

HB 243

Reeves, Teye (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Florida Chamber of Commerce

136 S. Bronough Street

Tallahassee FL

Phone: 850-521-1235

HB 243

Meros, George (Lobbyist) - Proponent

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

301 S. Bronough

Tallahassee FL 32302

Phone: 850-577-5487

HB 243

Iles, Thomas (General Public) - Waive In Support

Director, State Public Affairs

801 17th Street, NW, Suite 200

Washington DC 20006

HB 243

Van Itallie, Theodore (General Public) - Proponent

Johnson & Johnson

35 Battle Rd

Princeton NJ 08540

Phone: 609-252-9455

HB 243

Miller, Holly (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Florida Medical Association

PO Box 10269

Tallahassee FL 32302

Phone: (850)224-6496

HB 243

Winn, Stephen (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

2007 Apalachee Pky

Tallahassee FL 32301

Phone: (850)878-7463

Print Date: 1/11/2012 4:29 pm

Committee meeting was reported out: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 4:29:02PM

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# **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

**HB 313**: Premises Liability

X Favorable

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Joseph Abruzzo	X				
Mack Bernard	X				
Matt Gaetz			X		
Bill Hager	X				
Shawn Harrison			X		
Martin Kiar	. X				
Larry Metz	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Scott Plakon	X				
Darren Soto	X				
Kelli Stargel	X				
Richard Steinberg	X				
Michael Weinstein	X				
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
	Total Yeas: 13	Total Nays:	0		

### **Appearances:**

HB 313

Ard, Samual (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support Florida Cattlemen's Association

PO Box 421929

Kissimmee FL 34742-1929 Phone: (850)577-6500

HB 313

Jess, Paul (Lobbyist) - Information Only Florida Justice Association

218 S Monroe St

Tallahassee FL 32301 Phone: (850)224-9403

HB 313

Pitts, Brian - Opponent Justice-2-Jesus 1119 Newton Ave. S.

St. Petersburg FL 33705 Phone: 727-897-9291

HB 313

Stephens, Lane (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Future of Hunting in Florida 201 S Monroe Street, Suite 300

Tallahassee FL 32301 Phone: 850-513-0004

# Civil Justice Subcommittee 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

HB 313 : Premises Liability (continued)

Appearances: (continued)

HB 313

Perdue, Tamela (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Associated Industries of Florida

PO Box 784

Tallahassee FL 32302 Phone: (850)224-7173

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# Civil Justice Subcommittee 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

HB 671 : Liens on Real Property

X Favorable

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Joseph Abruzzo	X				
Mack Bernard	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Shawn Harrison	X				
Martin Kiar	-		X		
Larry Metz	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X			·	
Scott Plakon	X				
Darren Soto	X				
Kelli Stargel	X				
Richard Steinberg	X				
Michael Weinstein	X				
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
	Total Yeas: 14	Total Nays: (	)		

# **Appearances:**

HB 671
Fields, Alan (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support
Florida Land Title Association
249 E. Virginia Street
Tallahassee Florida
Phone: 727-773-6664

HB 671
Pitts, Brian - Waive In Support
Justice-2-Jesus
1119 Newton Ave. S.
St. Petersburg FL 33705
Phone: 727-897-9291

# **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

## HB 929 : Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices Involving Motor Vehicles

X Favorable With Committee Substitute

	Total Yeas: 11	Total Nays: 4			
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
Michael Weinstein	X	_			
Richard Steinberg		X			
Kelli Stargel	X				
Darren Soto		X		-	
Scott Plakon	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Larry Metz	X				
Martin Kiar	X				
Shawn Harrison	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Mack Bernard		X			
Joseph Abruzzo		X			
	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay

#### **HB 929 Amendments**

#### Amendment 584141

X | Adopted Without Objection

#### **Appearances:**

HB 929

Farmer, Gary (General Public) - Opponent Florida Justice Association 425 N Andrews Ave, #2 Ft. Lauderdale FL 33301

HB 929

Goldsmith, Glen (General Public) - Proponent Goldsmith & Atlas 9350 S Dixie Hwy, #930 Miami FL

Phone: 305-670-5500

Phone: 954-524-2820

HB 929

Pitts, Brian (General Public) - Information Only

Justice-2-Jesus 1119 Newton Ave. S. St. Petersburg FL 33705 Phone: 727-897-9291

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# **Civil Justice Subcommittee** 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

HB 929 : Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices Involving Motor Vehicles (continued)

**Appearances: (continued)** 

HB 929

Vickers, Alice (Lobbyist) - Opponent Florida Consumer Action Network 623 Beard Street Tallahassee FL 32303

Phone: 850-556-3121

HB 929

Forehand, John (Lobbyist) - Proponent Florida Automobile Dealers Association 400 N Meridian St Tallahassee FL 32301

Phone: (850)391-5060

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMIT	TEE ACTION	
ADOPTED	(Y/N)	10
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)	Joursable
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)	1000
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)	V 1st
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)	
OTHER		

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Civil Justice Subcommittee Representative Gaetz offered the following:

## Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 501.975, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

501.975 Definitions.—As used in this part s. 501.976, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- (1) "Customer" includes a customer's designated agent.
- (2) "Dealer" means a motor vehicle dealer as defined in s. 320.27, but does not include a motor vehicle auction as defined in s. 320.27(1)(c)4.
- (3) "Replacement item" means a tire, bumper, bumper fascia, glass, in-dashboard equipment, seat or upholstery cover or trim, exterior illumination unit, grill, sunroof, external mirror and external body cladding. The replacement of up to three of these items does not constitute repair of damage if each item is replaced because of a product defect or damaged due 584141 h0929-strike.docx

to vandalism while the new motor vehicle is under the control of the dealer and the items are replaced with original manufacturer equipment, unless an item is replaced due to a crash, collision, or accident.

- (4) "Threshold amount" means 3 percent of the manufacturer's suggested retail price of a motor vehicle or \$650, whichever is less.
- (5) "Vehicle" means any automobile, truck, bus, recreational vehicle, or motorcycle required to be licensed under chapter 320 for operation over the roads of Florida, but does not include trailers, mobile homes, travel trailers, or trailer coaches without independent motive power.

Section 2. Section 501.98, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

### 501.98 Demand letter.-

- (1) As a condition precedent to initiating any civil litigation arising under this part or part II of this Chapter against a motor vehicle dealer, a claimant must give the dealer written notice of the claimant's intent to initiate litigation against the dealer not less than 15 days before initiating the litigation.
- (2) The notice, which must be completed in good faith, must:
- (a) State that it is a demand letter under "s. 501.98, Florida Statutes";
- (b) State the name, address, and telephone number of the claimant;
- (c) State the name and address of the dealer; 584141 h0929-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:12:08 PM

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(d) Provide the date and a description of the transaction, event, or circumstance that is the basis of the claim;

- (e) Describe with specificity the underlying facts and how they give rise to an alleged violation of this part or part II;
- (f) To the extent applicable, be accompanied by all transaction or other documents upon which the claim is based or upon which the claim; and
- (g) Include a comprehensive and detailed statement describing each item of actual damage demanded by the claimant and recoverable under this part or part II and the amount claimed for each item of damage, including, if applicable, the formula or basis by which each item of damage was calculated.
- (3) (a) The notice of the claim must be delivered to the dealer by certified United States mail, return receipt requested. The postal costs shall be reimbursed to the claimant by the dealer if the dealer pays the claim and if the claimant requests reimbursement of the postal costs in the notice of claim.
- (b) If the dealer is a corporate entity, the notice of claim must be sent to the registered agent of the dealer as recorded with the Department of State and, in the absence of a registered agent, any person listed in s. 48.081(1).
- (4) Notwithstanding any provision of this part or part II to the contrary, a claimant may not initiate litigation against a dealer for a claim arising under this part or part II related to, or in connection with, the transaction or event described in the notice of claim if the dealer pays the claimant within 15 business days after receiving the notice of claim:

- (a) The amount requested in the demand letter as specified in paragraph (2)(g); and
- (b) A surcharge of 10 percent of the amount requested in the demand letter, not to exceed \$500.
- is deemed paid on the date a draft or other valid instrument that is equivalent to payment is placed in the United States mail, or other nationally recognized carrier, in a properly addressed, postpaid envelope, or, if not so posted, on the date of delivery.
- (6) The claimant is not entitled to a surcharge in any proceeding initiated against a dealer under this part or part II if the dealer rejects or ignores the notice of claim.
- (7) Notwithstanding any provision of this part or part II to the contrary, a dealer is not required to pay the attorney's fees of the claimant in any civil action brought under this part or part II if:
- (a) The dealer, within 15 business days after receiving the claimant's notice of claim, notifies the claimant in writing, and a court or arbitrator agrees, that the amount claimed is not supported by the facts of the transaction or event described in the notice of claim or by generally accepted accounting principles or includes items not properly recoverable under this part or part II; or
- (b) The claimant fails to substantially comply with this section.
- (8) Payment of the actual damages or an offer to pay actual damages as set forth in this section:

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- (a) Does not constitute an admission of any wrongdoing by the dealer;
  - (b) Is protected by s. 90.408; and
  - (c) Serves to release the dealer from any suit, action, or other action that could be brought arising out of or in connection with the transaction, event, or occurrence described in the notice of claim.
  - (9) The applicable statute of limitations for an action under this part or part II is tolled for 15 business days, or such other period of time as agreed to by the parties in writing, by the mailing of the notice required by this section.
    - (10) This section does not apply to:
  - (a) Any claim for actual damages brought and certified as a maintainable class action; or
    - (b) Any action brought by the enforcing authority.
  - (11) The Department of Legal Affairs shall prepare a form demand letter to incorporate the information required by subsection (2) and an explanation of this part or part II and make it available to the public and provided to the customer at the time of transaction. The form shall provide the address where the demand letter must be sent.
  - (12) If a claimant initiates civil litigation under this part or part II without first complying with the requirements of this section, the court, upon a motion by the claimant, may abate the litigation, without prejudice, to permit the claimant to comply with the provisions of this part and allow the dealer the opportunity to accept or reject the demand in accordance

131 with subsection (4).

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(13)	Failure	to provide	the in	formation :	required	in	
subsection	(11) by	the dealer	, shall	constitute	e waiver	of	the
notice rea	uired un	der this pa	rt.				

Section 3. Section 501.99, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 501.99 Application.—Section 501.98 does not apply to:
- (1) A claim for personal injury or death or a claim for damage to property other than the property that is the subject of the consumer transaction.
- The sale of any motor vehicle service agreement as defined in s. 634.011(8), F.S.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

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## TITLE AMENDMENT

Remove the entire title and insert: An act relating to deceptive and unfair trade practices; amending 501.975, F.S.; applying the definitions to the new provisions; creating s. 501.98, F.S.; providing written notice requirement; providing for the content of the notice; providing method of delivery of the notice; providing conditions for settling claims; providing for the effective date of payment; limiting availability of surcharge; limiting attorneys fees under certain circumstances; providing effect of payment; providing tolling of statute of limitations; limiting applicability of the section; requiring the Department of Legal Affairs to prepare a form; providing an additional opportunity 584141 - h0929-strike.docx

# COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 929 (2012)

	Amendment No. 1
160	for claimants to comply with the statute; providing condition
161	constituting waiver of notice; creating s. 501.99, F.S.;
<sup>6</sup> 162	providing application of certain provisions; providing an

163 effective date.

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# **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB
HB 971 : Judiciary

X Favorable With Committee Substitute

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Joseph Abruzzo		X			
Mack Bernard		Х			
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Shawn Harrison	X				
Martin Kiar		X			
Larry Metz	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Scott Plakon	X				
Darren Soto		X			
Kelli Stargel	X				
Richard Steinberg		X			
Michael Weinstein	X				
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
	Total Yeas: 10	Total Nays: 5			

#### **HB 971 Amendments**

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X	Adopted	Without	Objection

#### Amendment 252811

X Adopted Without Objection

### Amendment 535253

X Withdrawn

#### Amendment 932625

X Withdrawn

# **Appearances:**

HB 971, Amendment 223757
Martin, Douglas (Lobbyist) - Opponent
AFSCME Florida Council 79
3064 Highland Oaks Ter
Tallahassee FL 32301
Phone: (850)222-0842

# **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

HB 971 : Judiciary (continued)

Appearances: (continued)

HB 971

Stargel, John (State Employee) - Waive In Support

Conference of Circuit Judges

2626 Collins Avenue

Lakeland FL

Phone: 863-534-4910

HB 971

Schiff, Louis (State Employee) - Waive In Support Conference of County Court Judges of Florida 1600 W Hillsboro Boulevard

Deerfield Beach FL 33442 Phone: 954-831-7839

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMI	TTEE ACTION	
ADOPTED	(Y/N)	10
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)	) alabor
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)	Javorable
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)	76 1.11.
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)	
OTHER		

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Civil Justice Subcommittee Representative Gaetz offered the following:

## Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 25.073, Florida Statutes, to read:

25.073 Retired justices or judges assigned to temporary duty; additional compensation; appropriation.—

- (4) For a retired judge who has reached normal retirement age or date under ch. 121 and who has consented to temporary duty in any court, as assigned by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in accordance with s. 2, Art. V of the State Constitution:
- (a) The definition of the term "termination" in s. 121.021 does not apply, and termination occurs when the judge ceases all non-temporary, active duty as a judge and retires from the Florida Retirement System.

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- (b) Section 121.091(9)(c) does not apply, and such temporary duty is not considered reemployment or employment after retirement for purposes of chapter 121 and renewed membership in the Florida Retirement System is not permitted.
- Section 2. Subsections (1), (3), and (5) of section 43.291, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 43.291 Judicial nominating commissions.
- (1) Each judicial nominating commission shall be composed of the following members:
- (a) Four members of The Florida Bar, appointed by the Governor, who are engaged in the practice of law, each of whom is a resident of the territorial jurisdiction served by the commission to which the member is appointed. The Board of Governors of The Florida Bar shall submit to the Governor three recommended nominees for each position. The Governor shall select the appointee from the list of nominees recommended for that position, but the Governor may reject all of the nominees recommended for a position and request that the Board of Governors submit a new list of three different recommended nominees for that position who have not been previously recommended by the Board of Governors.
- (b) Five members appointed by the Governor who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, each of whom is a resident of the territorial jurisdiction served by the commission to which the member is appointed, of which at least two are members of The Florida Bar engaged in the practice of law. Notwithstanding any other law, each current member of a judicial nominating commission appointed by the Governor, other than those selected 223757 h0971-strike.docx

from a list of nominees provided by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar, shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

- (c) Each expired term or vacancy shall be filled by appointment in the same manner as the member whose position is being filled.
- (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, each current member of a judicial nominating commission selected from a list of nominees provided appointed directly by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar shall serve the remainder of his or her term, unless removed for cause. The terms of all other members of a judicial nominating commission are hereby terminated, and the Governor shall appoint new Members selected from a list of nominees provided by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar shall serve terms to each judicial nominating commission in the following manner:
- (a) One appointment Two appointments for a term terms ending July 1, 2012 2002, one of which shall be an appointment selected from nominations submitted by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar pursuant to paragraph (1)(a);
- (b) Two appointments for terms ending July 1,  $\underline{2014}$   $\underline{2003}$ ; and
- (c) One appointment Two appointments for a term terms ending July 1, 2015 2004.

Every subsequent appointment of a member selected from a list of nominees provided by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar, except an appointment to fill a vacant, unexpired term, shall be for 4 years. Each expired term or vacancy shall be filled by

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appointment in the same manner as the member whose position is being filled.

- (5) A member of a judicial nominating commission may be suspended for cause by the Governor <del>pursuant to uniform rules of procedure established by the Executive Office of the Governor</del> consistent with s. 7, of Art. IV of the State Constitution.
- Section 3. Subsection (39) of section 121.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.021 Definitions.—The following words and phrases as used in this chapter have the respective meanings set forth unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:
- (39)(a) "Termination" occurs, except as provided in paragraphs paragraph (b) or (d), when a member ceases all employment relationships with participating employers, however:
- 1. For retirements effective before July 1, 2010, if a member is employed by any such employer within the next calendar month, termination shall be deemed not to have occurred. A leave of absence constitutes a continuation of the employment relationship, except that a leave of absence without pay due to disability may constitute termination if such member makes application for and is approved for disability retirement in accordance with s. 121.091(4). The department or state board may require other evidence of termination as it deems necessary.
- 2. For retirements effective on or after July 1, 2010, if a member is employed by any such employer within the next 6 calendar months, termination shall be deemed not to have occurred. A leave of absence constitutes a continuation of the employment relationship, except that a leave of absence without 223757 h0971-strike.docx

(2012)

Amendment No.

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pay due to disability may constitute termination if such member makes application for and is approved for disability retirement in accordance with s. 121.091(4). The department or state board may require other evidence of termination as it deems necessary.

- (b) "Termination" for a member electing to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Program occurs when the program participant ceases all employment relationships with participating employers in accordance with s. 121.091(13), however:
- For termination dates occurring before July 1, 2010, if the member is employed by any such employer within the next calendar month, termination will be deemed not to have occurred, except as provided in s. 121.091(13)(b)4.c. A leave of absence shall constitute a continuation of the employment relationship.
- 2. For termination dates occurring on or after July 1, 2010, if the member becomes employed by any such employer within the next 6 calendar months, termination will be deemed not to have occurred, except as provided in s. 121.091(13)(b)4.c. A leave of absence constitutes a continuation of the employment relationship.
- Effective July 1, 2011, "termination" for a member receiving a refund of employee contributions occurs when a member ceases all employment relationships with participating employers for 3 calendar months. A leave of absence constitutes a continuation of the employment relationship.
- (d) Effective July 1, 2012, a retired judge who has reached normal retirement date and consents to temporary employment as a senior judge in any court, as assigned by the Chief Justice of 223757 - h0971-strike.docx

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the Supreme Court in accordance with s. 2, Art. V of the State constitution, meets "termination" when all non-temporary employment as a judge ceases and the judge retires under this chapter.

Section 4. Subsection (9) of section 121.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

not be paid under this section unless the member has terminated employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(a) or begun participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program as provided in subsection (13), and a proper application has been filed in the manner prescribed by the department. The department may cancel an application for retirement benefits when the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the information and documents required by this chapter and the department's rules. The department shall adopt rules establishing procedures for application for retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application when the required information or documents are not received.

- (9) EMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT; LIMITATION.-
- (a) Any person who is retired under this chapter, except under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4), may be employed by an employer that does not participate in a state-administered retirement system and receive compensation from that employment without limiting or restricting in any way the retirement benefits payable to that person.
- (b) Any person whose retirement is effective before July 1, 2010, or whose participation in the Deferred Retirement 223757 h0971-strike.docx

Option Program terminates before July 1, 2010, except under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4) or as provided in s. 121.053, may be reemployed by an employer that participates in a state-administered retirement system and receive retirement benefits and compensation from that employer, except that the person may not be reemployed by an employer participating in the Florida Retirement System before meeting the definition of termination in s. 121.021 and may not receive both a salary from the employer and retirement benefits for 12 calendar months immediately subsequent to the date of retirement. However, a DROP participant shall continue employment and receive a salary during the period of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program, as provided in subsection (13).

1. A retiree who violates such reemployment limitation before completion of the 12-month limitation period must give timely notice of this fact in writing to the employer and to the Division of Retirement or the state board and shall have his or her retirement benefits suspended for the months employed or the balance of the 12-month limitation period as required in subsubparagraphs b. and c. A retiree employed in violation of this paragraph and an employer who employs or appoints such person are jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement trust fund, including the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund, from which the benefits were paid. The employer must have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Retirement 223757 - h0971-strike.docx

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benefits shall remain suspended until repayment has been made. Benefits suspended beyond the reemployment limitation shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

- a. A district school board may reemploy a retiree as a substitute or hourly teacher, education paraprofessional, transportation assistant, bus driver, or food service worker on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. A district school board may reemploy a retiree as instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), on an annual contractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. Any member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. District school boards reemploying such teachers, education paraprofessionals, transportation assistants, bus drivers, or food service workers are subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2.
- b. A community college board of trustees may reemploy a retiree as an adjunct instructor or as a participant in a phased retirement program within the Florida Community College System, after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. A member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. Boards of trustees reemploying such instructors are subject to the retirement contribution required in subparagraph 2. A retiree may be reemployed as an adjunct instructor for no more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement. A retiree reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of 223757 h0971-strike.docx

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retirement must give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the Division of Retirement or the state board of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the 12 months of retirement. Any retiree employed in violation of this sub-subparagraph and any employer who employs or appoints such person without notifying the division to suspend retirement benefits are jointly and severally liable for any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. The employer must have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by the retiree while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement must be repaid to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retiree's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

c. The State University System may reemploy a retiree as an adjunct faculty member or as a participant in a phased retirement program within the State University System after the retiree has been retired for 1 calendar month. A member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. The State University System is subject to the retired contribution required in subparagraph 2., as appropriate. A retiree may be reemployed as an adjunct faculty member or a participant in a phased retirement program for no more than 780 hours during the 223757 - h0971-strike.docx

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first 12 months of his or her retirement. A retiree reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement must give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the Division of Retirement or the state board of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the 12 months. Any retiree employed in violation of this sub-subparagraph and any employer who employs or appoints such person without notifying the division to suspend retirement benefits are jointly and severally liable for any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. The employer must have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a stateadministered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by the retiree while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement must be repaid to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retiree's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

d. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind may reemploy a retiree as a substitute teacher, substitute residential instructor, or substitute nurse on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. Any member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind reemploying such teachers,

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residential instructors, or nurses is subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2.

- e. A developmental research school may reemploy a retiree as a substitute or hourly teacher or an education paraprofessional as defined in s. 1012.01(2) on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. A developmental research school may reemploy a retiree as instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), on an annual contractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month after retirement. Any member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month voids his or her application for retirement benefits. A developmental research school that reemploys retired teachers and education paraprofessionals is subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2.
- f. A charter school may reemploy a retiree as a substitute or hourly teacher on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. A charter school may reemploy a retired member as instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), on an annual contractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month after retirement. Any member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month voids his or her application for retirement benefits. A charter school that reemploys such teachers is subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2.
- 2. The employment of a retiree or DROP participant of a state-administered retirement system does not affect the average final compensation or years of creditable service of the retiree 223757 h0971-strike.docx

or DROP participant. Before July 1, 1991, upon employment of any person, other than an elected officer as provided in s. 121.053, who is retired under a state-administered retirement program, the employer shall pay retirement contributions in an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial liability portion of the employer contribution which would be required for regular members of the Florida Retirement System. Effective July 1, 1991, contributions shall be made as provided in s. 121.122 for retirees who have renewed membership or, as provided in subsection (13), for DROP participants.

- 3. Any person who is holding an elective public office which is covered by the Florida Retirement System and who is concurrently employed in nonelected covered employment may elect to retire while continuing employment in the elective public office if he or she terminates his or her nonelected covered employment. Such person shall receive his or her retirement benefits in addition to the compensation of the elective office without regard to the time limitations otherwise provided in this subsection. A person who seeks to exercise the provisions of this subparagraph as they existed before May 3, 1984, may not be deemed to be retired under those provisions, unless such person is eligible to retire under this subparagraph, as amended by chapter 84-11, Laws of Florida.
- (c) Any person whose retirement is effective on or after July 1, 2010, or whose participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program terminates on or after July 1, 2010, who is retired under this chapter, except under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4) or as provided in s. 223757 h0971-strike.docx

121.053, may be reemployed by an employer that participates in a state-administered retirement system and receive retirement benefits and compensation from that employer. However, a person may not be reemployed by an employer participating in the Florida Retirement System before meeting the definition of termination in s. 121.021 and may not receive both a salary from the employer and retirement benefits for 6 calendar months after meeting the definition of termination, except as provided in paragraph (f). However, a DROP participant shall continue employment and receive a salary during the period of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program, as provided in subsection (13).

- 1. The reemployed retiree may not renew membership in the Florida Retirement System.
- 2. The employer shall pay retirement contributions in an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial liability portion of the employer contribution that would be required for active members of the Florida Retirement System in addition to the contributions required by s. 121.76.
- 3. A retiree initially reemployed in violation of this paragraph and an employer that employs or appoints such person are jointly and severally liable for reimbursement of any retirement benefits paid to the retirement trust fund from which the benefits were paid, including the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund, as appropriate. The employer must have a written statement from the employee that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Retirement benefits shall 223757 h0971-strike.docx

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remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retiree's 6-month reemployment limitation period shall apply toward the repayment of benefits received in violation of this paragraph.

- (d) This subsection applies to retirees, as defined in s. 121.4501(2), except as provided in paragraph (f), of the Florida Retirement System Investment Plan, subject to the following conditions:
- 1. A retiree may not be reemployed with an employer participating in the Florida Retirement System until such person has been retired for 6 calendar months.
- 2. A retiree employed in violation of this subsection and an employer that employs or appoints such person are jointly and severally liable for reimbursement of any benefits paid to the retirement trust fund from which the benefits were paid. The employer must have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system.
- (e) The limitations of this subsection apply to reemployment in any capacity irrespective of the category of funds from which the person is compensated, except as provided in paragraph (f).
- (f) Effective July 1, 2012, a retired judge who has reached normal retirement date and consents to temporary employment as a senior judge in any court, as assigned by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in accordance with s. 2, Art. V of the State constitution, is not subject to paragraphs (c), (d), or (e).

Amendment No	١.
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Section 5.	Paragraph	(m) is	added	to	subsection	(2)	of
section 121.4501.	Florida S	tatutes	to r	ead	1:		

- 121.4501 Florida Retirement System Investment Plan.-
- (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this part, the term:
- (m) "Normal retirement date" means the date a member
  attains normal retirement age and is vested. "Normal retirement
  age" is attained on the "normal retirement date." The normal
  retirement date is determined as follows:
- 1. If a Regular Class member, a Senior Management Service Class member, or an Elected Officers' Class member initially enrolled before July 1, 2011:
- a. The first day of the month the member attains age 62; or
- b. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age.
- 2. If a Regular Class member, a Senior Management Service Class member, or an Elected Officers' Class member initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011:
- a. The first day of the month the member attains age 65; or
- b. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 33 years of creditable service, regardless of age.
- 3. If a Special Risk Class member initially enrolled before July 1, 2011:
- a. The first day of the month the member attains age 55 and completes the years of creditable service in the Special 223757 h0971-strike.docx

410	Risk	Class	equal	to	or	greater	than	the	years	of	service
411	requ:	ired f	or ves	ting	a;						

- b. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 25 years of creditable service in the Special Risk Class, regardless of age; or
- c. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 25 years of creditable service and attains age 52, which service may include a maximum of 4 years of military service credit if such credit is not claimed under any other system and the remaining years are in the Special Risk Class.
- 4. If a Special Risk Class member initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011:
- a. The first day of the month the member attains age 60 and completes the years of creditable service in the Special Risk Class equal to or greater than the years of service required for vesting;
- b. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 30 years of creditable service in the Special Risk Class, regardless of age; or
- c. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 30 years of creditable service and attains age 57, which service may include a maximum of 4 years of military service credit if such credit is not claimed under any other system and the remaining years are in the Special Risk Class.
- Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 121.591, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.591 Payment of benefits.—Benefits may not be paid under the Florida Retirement System Investment Plan unless the 223757 h0971-strike.docx

438 member has terminated employment as provided in s. 439 121.021(39)(a) or is deceased and a proper application has been 440 filed as prescribed by the state board or the department. Before 441 termination of employment, benefits, including employee 442 contributions, are not payable under the investment plan for 443 employee hardships, unforeseeable emergencies, loans, medical 444 expenses, educational expenses, purchase of a principal 445 residence, payments necessary to prevent eviction or foreclosure 446 on an employee's principal residence, or any other reason prior 447 to termination from all employment relationships with 448 participating employers. The state board or department, as 449 appropriate, may cancel an application for retirement benefits 450 if the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the 451 information and documents required by this chapter and the rules 452 of the state board and department. In accordance with their 453 respective responsibilities, the state board and the department 454 shall adopt rules establishing procedures for application for 455 retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application 456 if the required information or documents are not received. The 457 state board and the department, as appropriate, are authorized 458 to cash out a de minimis account of a member who has been 459 terminated from Florida Retirement System covered employment for 460 a minimum of 6 calendar months. A de minimis account is an 461 account containing employer and employee contributions and 462 accumulated earnings of not more than \$5,000 made under the 463 provisions of this chapter. Such cash-out must be a complete 464 lump-sum liquidation of the account balance, subject to the 465 provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, or a lump-sum direct 223757 - h0971-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:19:57 PM

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rollover distribution paid directly to the custodian of an eligible retirement plan, as defined by the Internal Revenue Code, on behalf of the member. Any nonvested accumulations and associated service credit, including amounts transferred to the suspense account of the Florida Retirement System Investment Plan Trust Fund authorized under s. 121.4501(6), shall be forfeited upon payment of any vested benefit to a member or beneficiary, except for de minimis distributions or minimum required distributions as provided under this section. If any financial instrument issued for the payment of retirement benefits under this section is not presented for payment within 180 days after the last day of the month in which it was originally issued, the third-party administrator or other duly authorized agent of the state board shall cancel the instrument and credit the amount of the instrument to the suspense account of the Florida Retirement System Investment Plan Trust Fund authorized under s. 121.4501(6). Any amounts transferred to the suspense account are payable upon a proper application, not to include earnings thereon, as provided in this section, within 10 years after the last day of the month in which the instrument was originally issued, after which time such amounts and any earnings attributable to employer contributions shall be forfeited. Any forfeited amounts are assets of the trust fund and are not subject to chapter 717.

- (1) NORMAL BENEFITS.—Under the investment plan:
- (a) Benefits in the form of vested accumulations as described in s. 121.4501(6) are payable under this subsection in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

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- 1. Benefits are payable only to a member, an alternate payee of a qualified domestic relations order, or a beneficiary.
- 2. Benefits shall be paid by the third-party administrator or designated approved providers in accordance with the law, the contracts, and any applicable board rule or policy.
- 3. The member must be terminated from all employment with all Florida Retirement System employers, as provided in s. 121.021(39).
- 4. Benefit payments may not be made until the member has been terminated for 3 calendar months, except that the state board may authorize by rule for the distribution of up to 10 percent of the member's account after being terminated for 1 calendar month if the member has reached the normal retirement date as defined in s. 121.021. Effective July 1, 2012, judges who have consented to temporary employment as a senior judge in any court pursuant to the provisions of section 25.073, F.S., may receive a regular distribution of their account as provided in this paragraph after providing proof of termination from their regularly established position.
- 5. If a member or former member of the Florida Retirement System receives an invalid distribution, such person must either repay the full amount within 90 days after receipt of final notification by the state board or the third-party administrator that the distribution was invalid, or, in lieu of repayment, the member must terminate employment from all participating employers. If such person fails to repay the full invalid distribution within 90 days after receipt of final notification, the person may be deemed retired from the investment plan by the 223757 h0971-strike.docx

state board and is subject to s. 121.122. If such person is deemed retired, any joint and several liability set out in s. 121.091(9)(d)2. is void, and the state board, the department, or the employing agency is not liable for gains on payroll contributions that have not been deposited to the person's account in the investment plan, pending resolution of the invalid distribution. The member or former member who has been deemed retired or who has been determined by the state board to have taken an invalid distribution may appeal the agency decision through the complaint process as provided under s. 121.4501(9)(g)3. As used in this subparagraph, the term "invalid distribution" means any distribution from an account in the investment plan which is taken in violation of this section, s. 121.091(9), or s. 121.4501.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

TITLE AMENDMENT

Remove the entire title and insert:

An act relating to the judiciary; amending s. 25.073, F.S.; providing that if a retired justice or judge is assigned to temporary duty, such assignment does not affect his or her eligibility for benefits under the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 43.291, F.S.; revising requirements for the appointment of members of judicial nominating commissions; providing that, with the exception of members selected from a list of nominees provided by the Board of Governors of The 223757 - h0971-strike.docx

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# COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 971 (2012)

# Amendment No.

Florida Bar, a current member of a judicial nominating
commission appointed by the Governor serves at the pleasure of
the Governor; providing for each expired term or vacancy to be
filled by appointment in the same manner as the member whose
position is being filled; deleting obsolete provisions; deleting
a requirement that the Executive Office of the Governor
establish uniform rules of procedure consistent with the State
Constitution when suspending for cause a member of a judicial
nominating commission; amending ss. 121.021, 121.091, 121.4501,
and 121.591, F.S., to conform to retirement system changes;
providing an effective date.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMIT	ree Action	
ADOPTED	(Y/N)	118
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)	2000
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)	100000113
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)	D 1-11
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)	
OTHER		

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Civil Justice Subcommittee Representative Gaetz offered the following:

Amendment to Amendment (223757) by Representative Gaetz
Remove lines 382-433 of the amendment

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION
ADOPTED (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED (Y/N)
ADOPTED (Y/N) ADOPTED AS AMENDED (Y/N) ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION (Y/N) FAILED TO ADOPT (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN (Y/N)
OTHER
Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Civil Justice Subcommittee
Representative Abruzzo offered the following:
Amendment to Amendment (223757) by Representative Gaetz
(with title amendment)
(with title amendment)
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:  Section 2. Section 43.291, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:  Section 2. Section 43.291, Florida Statutes, is repealed.  TITLE AMENDMENT
(with title amendment)  Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment and insert:  Section 2. Section 43.291, Florida Statutes, is repealed.  TITLE AMENDMENT  Remove lines 546-558 of the amendment and insert:

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Bill No. HB 971 (2012)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMIT	TTEE ACTION	
ADOPTED	(Y/N)	· war
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)	Wighthama,
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)	DO 1-11.12
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)	
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)	
OTHER	***************************************	
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and the same of the same		

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Civil Justice Subcommittee Representative Abruzzo offered the following:

Amendment to Amendment (223757) by Representative Gaetz
Remove lines 23-80 of the amendment

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# Civil Justice Subcommittee 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

**HB 4155**: Declaratory Judgments

X	Favorable
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	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Joseph Abruzzo	X				
Mack Bernard	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Shawn Harrison	X				
Martin Kiar	X				
Larry Metz	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X			,	
Scott Plakon	X				
Darren Soto	X				
Kelli Stargel	X				
Richard Steinberg	X				
Michael Weinstein	X				
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
	Total Yeas: 15	Total Nays:	0		

### **Appearances:**

HB 4155
Pitts, Brian (General Public) - Waive In Support
Justice-2-Jesus
1119 Newton Ave. S.
St. Petersburg El 33705

St. Petersburg FL 33705 Phone: 727-897-9291

# Civil Justice Subcommittee 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

HB 4157 : District Courts of Appeal

X Favorable

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Joseph Abruzzo	Х				
Mack Bernard	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Shawn Harrison	X				
Martin Kiar	X				
Larry Metz	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Scott Plakon	X				
Darren Soto	X				
Kelli Stargel	X		_		
Richard Steinberg	X				
Michael Weinstein	X				
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
	Total Yeas: 15	Total Nays: (	)		

## **Civil Justice Subcommittee**

1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

PCS for HB 823: Florida Uniform Principal and Income Act

X	Favorable
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	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Joseph Abruzzo	X				
Mack Bernard	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Shawn Harrison	X				
Martin Kiar			Х		
Larry Metz	X				
Jose Oliva	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Scott Plakon	X				
Darren Soto	X				
Kelli Stargel	X				
Richard Steinberg	X				
Michael Weinstein	X				
Eric Eisnaugle (Chair)	X				
	Total Yeas: 14	Total Nays: 0	)		

# **Appearances:**

PCS for HB 823
Edenfield, Martha (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support
Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section
c/o The Florida Bar 651 E Jefferson St
Tallahassee FL 32399
Phone: (850)222-3533

PCS for HB 823
Pitts, Brian (General Public) - Opponent
Justice-2-Jesus
1119 Newton Ave. S.
St. Petersburg FL 33705

Phone: 727-897-9291

# **Civil Justice Subcommittee** 1/11/2012 11:30:00AM

Location: 404 HOB

# **Presentation/Workshop/Other Business Appearances:**

Workshop on Foreclosures Goodner, Lisa (Lobbyist) (State Employee) - Information Only Administrator, State Courts System 500 S. Doval St. Tallahassee FL 32399

Phone: 850-922-5081

Committee meeting was reported out: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 4:29:02PM

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