



## Florida AFL-CIO • United Labor Lobby Legislative Alert!

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### **ACT NOW – CALL YOUR SENATOR BEFORE THURSDAY!**

AFTER 4 YEARS OF FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHTS OF FLORIDIANS IT HAS ALL COME  
DOWN TO THIS!

The Florida Chamber of Commerce and their allies pulled a last minute trick yesterday to move a bill forward that will eliminate the citizen's ballot initiative by making petition gathering impossible. The bill is headed to the Senate for a final vote tomorrow. We have been fighting to protect the citizen ballot initiative for over 4 years. Just when we thought we had a final victory, our fortunes have changed. **WE NEED YOU HELP.**

### **- CALL YOUR SENATOR NOW - TELL THEM YOU WANT TO PROTECT THE CITIZEN BALLOT INITIATIVE AND VOTE NO ON SB 900.**

- If this language is adopted, Florida's Citizen Initiative process will end because it will be impossible for grass-roots organizations to collect signatures and adhere to the law.
- Popular constitutional amendments such as Class Size, Smoke-free restaurants, Universal Pre-K, Everglades Protection, minimum wage and Public Disclosure laws **would have never been on the ballot** if the language in SB 900 were in law.
- The initiative process has already been weakened substantially through constitutional amendments, approved by the voters, which have increased the threshold for passage to 60% and shortened the time period citizen groups have to qualify for ballot placement. **This will wipe out the**

**process once and for all and the people will never have the chance to vote on it.**

- The Florida AFL-CIO has worked with a broad coalition of grass-roots groups for over 4 years to find a compromise on this issue. Prior agreements that have been made **have all been broken** with the House action.
- **A vote for SB 900 is a vote against the Constitutional Rights of all Floridians.** Protecting these rights is one of the highest priorities for Florida's labor movement.

**A VOTE FOR SB 900 AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE IS A VOTE TO ELIMINATE THE RIGHTS OF FLORIDIANS TO AMEND THEIR CONSTITUTION – IT IS THAT SIMPLE**

**To Find your Senator on the web visit**

**<<http://www.flsenate.gov/Legislators/index.cfm?Mode=Find%20Your%20Legislators&Submenu=3&Tab=legislators&CFID=28099927&CFTOKEN=90182712>>**