

# IAAPA PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

Many state legislatures have begun to adjourn for the year. But with the introduction of more than 70,000 individual pieces of legislation across the country, IAAPA Public Affairs continues our defensive monitoring and proactive engagement. The following will bring you up to speed on priority issues.

## **State Legislative Briefs**

Employee leave and minimum wage related bills account for nearly two-thirds of our current legislative tracking. Most of these have yet to gain momentum except in Maryland, who passed last minute language expediting their minimum wage increase before they adjourned.

Workforce recruitment and retention challenges continue to be the number one issue impacting IAAPA members. For that reason, we are pleased states such as Ohio, Iowa, and Utah are considering bills that would allow workers under the age of 18 to work more hours. Connecticut is weighing attractions-specific legislation that would allow workers 14 and older to work non-hazardous jobs. We support this type of legislation given ongoing workforce challenges and our industry's history of teen employment opportunities. We are advocating for more of its kind around the country.

As you know, our team continues to engage in federal rulemaking involving heat injury and illness. Because of OSHA's inherently slow process and timeline, certain Western states are moving forward with their versions. For example, members of the Nevada Senate Government Affairs Committee recently introduced a bill mandating new heat mitigation requirements. Additionally, California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CAL/OSHA) released rulemaking language to implement a 2016 law mandating indoor heat illness prevention regulations. CAL/OSHA's public comment period will remain open until May 18, 2023. Our team is working with the California Attractions and Parks Association (CAPA) to engage on this issue consistent with how we are engaging with OSHA. We maintain that the attractions industry maintains an excellent record with respect to heat-related illness, and states should avoid imposing a one-size-fits-all program.

On the ride safety regulatory front, Massachusetts and Utah both have acted on new rulemaking. On April 1, Utah implemented new regulations based on its 2019 ride safety legislation. IAAPA members were involved in the development of these regulations. Representatives of the public affairs team also participated in related meetings for both states.

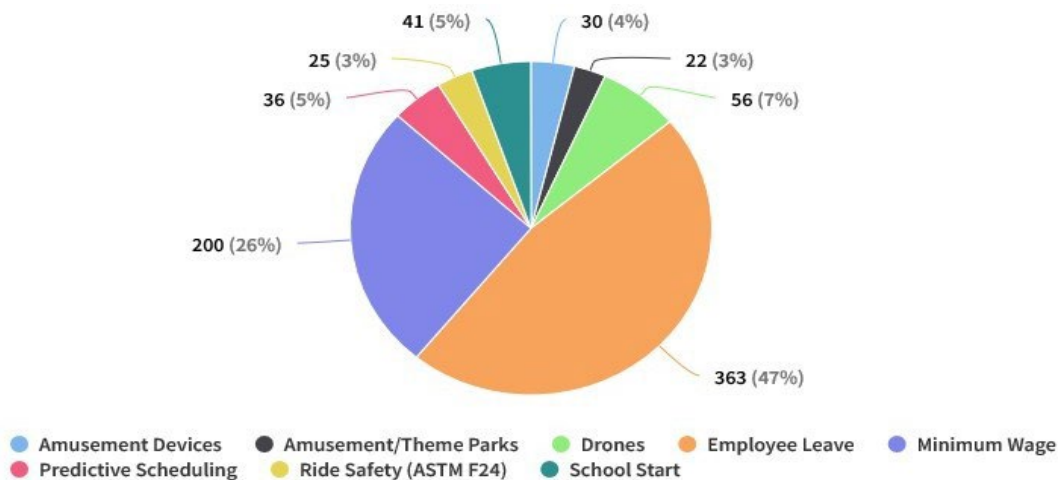
We continue proactive efforts to introduce favorable ride safety legislation in Alabama and Montana. We will provide more details along both fronts soon.

### Florida Subcommittee Moves Anti-Tourism Bill

On Tuesday, March 28, the Florida House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee voted on a bill that would end state funding for Visit Florida - the state's official tourism marketing organization - and expand the use of the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) well beyond travel and tourism promotion purposes. With just 24 hours' notice, working in conjunction with the Florida Attractions Association (FAA), IAAPA sent out a call to action to our advocates that resulted in more than 350 emails sent to the 15 subcommittee members urging them to oppose the bill. Fortunately, the bill is unlikely to gain momentum in the Senate or with the governor given their support of these programs. Thank you to all who engaged in opposition!

### Legislative Monitoring by Issue

The graph below provides a breakdown of bills we are tracking in real time on behalf of IAAPA members. Click [here](#) for more detailed information about our priority bills.



While the graph above is comprehensive, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or tips on current legislation and regulations.

Thank you,

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