

2025 SB1040 Testimony Against 2025-04-03.pdf

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Position: UNF

Testimony Against SB1040

Honorable Senators

Please enter an unfavorable report against SB1040.

I am against:

- Establishing the Expedited Hiring Program in the Department of Budget and Management for the purpose of hiring eligible applicants for vacant positions in the State Personnel Management System, subject to certain requirements;
- authorizing an appointing authority to recruit for certain vacant positions in State government under certain circumstances; and
- authorizing the Secretary of Budget and Management to contract with a certain entity to assist with the implementation of the Program.

If the State had a surplus, I could understand being generous and hiring the downsized Federal workers. Most are talented and hard-working and would be an asset to the state government. As a retired federal worker I sympathize with those who suddenly find themselves unemployed.

However, at a time when the State has at least a \$3.5 billion budget deficit, the Assembly should be cutting back its expenses to help reduce the budget deficit. When a family finds itself in debt, it tries to rein in its expenses and not charge even more on its credit cards.

Instead, the Assembly is abandoning its fiscal responsibilities to the taxpayers and increasing expenses to hire these ex-Federal employees. Consequently, the Assembly needs to expand its revenue sources and intends to make the taxpayers and businesses pay even more via taxes and fees such as the new mattress tax, the new tire tax, and the new business sales tax on the technology industry.

No State or Country has ever taxed its way to prosperity. Especially during bad economic times, raising taxes and fees will just drive away the rich, the businesses, and the retirees who can afford to leave. This will reduce your tax base and cause future budget deficits.

Please enter an unfavorable report against HB1040.

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