



# Daytona Regional CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## ADVOCACY IN ACTION

### *Florida Special Session- COVID-19*

Governor Ron DeSantis has called for a special session on Thursday, October 21, 2021. The call for the legislature to return to Tallahassee will take aim at COVID, mandates, and protecting employees from those mandates. The special session does not need approval from Speaker Chris Sprowls nor Senate President Wilton Simpson to move forward.

Two months ago, President Joe Biden directed The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to create rules requiring private companies that employ 100 or more people to have their workers vaccinated or tested weekly. The OSHA rules have yet to be published and likely will never be, but Governor DeSantis is adamant about protecting Floridians from federal government overreach.

Governor DeSantis said, "We want to provide protection for people, we want to make it clear that, in Florida, your right to earn a living is not contingent upon whatever choices you're making in terms of these injections," he said. "If we can get legal redress where we can get that enjoin, then we're going to be able to have all those jobs saved, but I think it's going to require both. I think if a hospital, for example, is told that Florida wants to protect the nurses, but that the federal government wants to force the injections, then the question is, 'Are they going to risk all their Medicare and Medicaid funding over that?'"

No, dates have been confirmed yet, but it will likely be early November.

The Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce will continue to watch for updates on the special session and report on how they will affect our members and local business.