



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MANUFACTURERS COMMEND FLORIDA HOUSE ON INNOVATIVE WORKERS COMP BILL**

The Manufacturers Association of Florida applauds Chairman Danny Burgess and the Florida House of Representatives for passing HB 7085 Workers Compensation Reform today. The bill strikes a delicate balance between injured workers, employers and lawyers while addressing the rising costs of workers compensation insurance.

The recent 14.5% increase in workers compensation costs for employers has a direct impact on manufacturers' ability to secure the necessary insurance for their workers and at the same time keep their businesses viable. The recent increase in workers comp insurance is estimated to cost employers \$552 million in the first year; money that could be better spent on growing the business and paying employee salaries. In the small percentage of workers compensation cases that are litigated, attorney's fees are a significant driver in increasing insurance rates. The reforms of HB 7085 are expected to save 5% or more in employers costs, driving that recent cost increase down again.

This is a good step forward in reducing workers comp insurance rates.

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**About the Manufacturers Association of Florida (MAF)**

The MAF was formed in 2006 to improve the business climate for manufacturers in Florida. There are more than 20,000 manufacturers in Florida investing in new technology, employing highly skilled workers and competing globally. For more information about MAF, visit [www.MAFMFG.com](http://www.MAFMFG.com)