2015 Legislative Session Update



End-of-Session Edition

The 2015 Florida Legislative Session came to a dramatic close with the House of Representatives adjourning a full 3 days before the Senate. Both chambers left Tallahassee without having finalized the state's budget for the coming year and are at a standstill in their negotiations. The biggest point of contention is the health care budget and, more specifically, a program called the Low Income Pool, which reimburses hospitals for charity care provided to low-income patients. There is also a larger debate over expanding access to health care through the Affordable Care Act.

Without a state budget, there are not many things to report in relation to our priorities. However, we wanted to give you, our soldiers in the fight against cancer, an update as to where things stood at the close of session.

We are anticipating a special session this summer, most likely in June. During that time, the legislature will come back together in Tallahassee to work through their differences to finalize the budget for the 2015-16 budget year.

Our work is not finished! Please stay tuned to learn how you can help us shape the state's health care budget, making cancer a statewide priority! Updated information on our legislative priorities can be found at <u>www.acscan.org/florida</u>. You can follow the action in real-time on Twitter at <u>@ACSCAN_Florida</u> and please be sure to click <u>here</u> to "like" us on Facebook.

Yours in the fight, Heather