

PALM BEACH COUNTY 2015 LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION REPORT



Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Office

Rachael Ondrus,
Executive Director

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Message from the Delegation Chair, Rep. Lori Berman

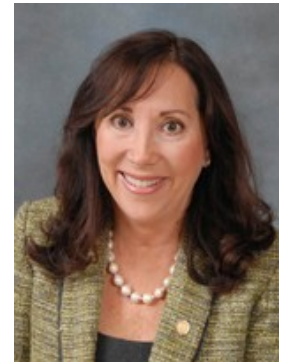
It is my pleasure to present the 2015 Palm Beach County Legislative wrap-up report.

Inside, you will find highlights of legislation and appropriations that members of the delegation worked diligently on during the 2015 Regular and Special Budget Legislative Sessions. Also included in the report are the contact information and committee assignments for each of the thirteen members of our delegation.

During the Budget Special Session we passed an extensive \$78.2 billion budget, while setting aside \$3 billion in reserves. Unfortunately, \$461.4 million of the final budget was vetoed by the Governor, including \$12 million in projects for Palm Beach County.

All local bills that were approved by the Delegation passed the Legislature, including one that would allow for an expansion of a parcel of land that is slated to be the future site of the two-team baseball spring training stadium in West Palm Beach.

It has been an honor to serve as Chair of the Delegation this past Session. It is a privilege to be one of the thirteen who serve Palm Beach County in the Legislature, and I am very proud to serve with my colleagues on behalf of Palm Beach County's residents.



Rep. Lori Berman,
Delegation Chair



The Great Budget Battle of 2015

In one of the most dramatic legislative sessions in Florida history, the House and Senate's battle over Medicaid expansion weighed heavily on the budget process. The Senate argued that expanding Medicaid was the best solution for providing coverage to Florida's uninsured population, as well as mitigating the state's loss of Low Income Pool (LIP) funding. The House and Governor Scott vigorously opposed expansion and demanded that the federal government continue providing the LIP funds. The federal government announced last year that the funding was going to expire in 2015. Those funds are provided to hospitals and clinics that care and treat uninsured and underinsured patients to reimburse some of their expenses. In the coming year, that would have meant a loss to Florida hospitals of up to \$1.3 billion.

With the House and Senate's respective budgets \$4 billion and one Medicaid plan apart, the impasse was too great to resolve before the regular session concluded. The House adjourned sine die without warning days before the end of the regular session, and the Senate, without the ability to conduct legislative business with the House, adjourned with an empty rotunda.

Since the legislature is constitutionally mandated to produce a budget by July 1st, a special session was called for June, during which a compromise needed to be reached. Ultimately, the three-week special session saw the legislature negotiate and pass a budget that did not expand Medicaid but did compromise on LIP funding. The legislature allocated \$400 million in general funds to reimburse hospitals, which will draw down \$600 million in federal matching funds. This compromise meant, however, that Governor Scott did not get the full tax cut package he sought. Next year, with the federal LIP funding dropping even further, the legislature will face yet another complication in constructing the budget.

Inside the Legislative Report

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Executive Director's Report



As the Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation, I have had the pleasure of working closely with the thirteen members of the delegation and their staff both in Palm Beach County and Tallahassee.

We've composed this report to help you better understand the efforts and successes that each member of the delegation has worked on over the past year.

These legislators have been elected to represent something greater than themselves, a constituency that depends on their willingness to serve and give hundreds of hours of their time in what can only be called, "The Most Time-Consuming Part-Time Job, Ever."

These hours consisted of individual meetings with constituents and groups, numerous public hearings throughout the County (including joint workshops with the local League of Cities, School Board and Board of County Commissioners), several weeks of committee hearings, the annual 60-day Legislative Session in Tallahassee, and now 3 Special Sessions.

It has been an absolute privilege to work with every member of this delegation. And behind every successful legislator stands talented, skilled and efficient staff. They have humored me with my numerous emails, phone calls and random pop-ins to their offices. Thank you for always receiving me with a smile and willingness to assist.

Also, I need to thank Todd Bonlarron, PBC Legislative Affairs Director, Joseph Sophie, PBC Legislative Affairs/Delegation Aide, and so many others with whom we work with locally. I couldn't ask for a better team.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to our Delegation Chair, Representative Lori Berman, for her guidance, dedication, commitment and patience. Chair Berman, you have been a wonderful leader and mentor. It has truly been a pleasure.



2015 Public Hearing Schedule and Workshops *

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR AND PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, September 9, 2015
Palm Beach State College – Lake Worth Campus
Public Safety Training Center, Room PSD 108
4200 S Congress Ave, Lake Worth
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

LOCAL BILL AND PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, October 15, 2015
Florida Atlantic University – Jupiter Campus
Student Resources Building, Room SR 149
5353 Parkside Dr, Jupiter
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, December 8, 2015
Lakeside Medical Center
39200 Hooker Hwy, Belle Glade
9:30 am – 11:30 am

WORKSHOPS

JOINT MEETING WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Wednesday, September 30, 2015
Forest Hill Community High School
6901 Parker Avenue, West Palm Beach
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

JOINT MEETING WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION

Monday, November 9, 2015
Palm Beach County Convention Center
650 Okeechobee Boulevard, West Palm Beach
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

JOINT MEETING WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES

Wednesday, December 16, 2015
Florida Atlantic University – Boca Raton Campus
Football Stadium, Acura Club Room
777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton
10:00 am – 12:00 pm (Noon)

** Schedule subject to change*



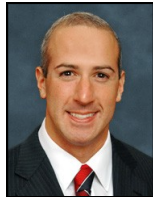
Palm Beach County's State Senators

Sen. Joseph Abruzzo

District # 25 (D) - Minority Whip

Wellington City Hall
12300 West Forest Hill Blvd.
Suite 200
Wellington, FL 33414-5785
Phone: 561/ 791-4774
Fax: 888/ 284-6495

abruzzo.joseph.web@flsenate.gov



Staff: Shreya Kuntawala; Ben Durgan;
Christine DonFrancesco

Committee Assignments:

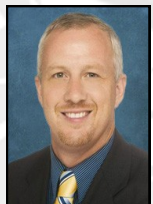
Finance and Tax, **Vice Chair**; Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services; Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Community Affairs; Fiscal Policy; Regulated Industries; Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, **Alternating Chair**

Sen. Jeff Clemens

District # 27 (D)

508-C Lake Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33460
Phone: 561/ 540-1140
Fax: 561/ 540-1143

clemens.jeff.web@flsenate.gov



Staff: Evelyn DuPlec; Chauncey Graham;
Melissa Santoro

Committee Assignments:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development, **Vice Chair**; Banking and Insurance; Criminal Justice; Education Pre-K-12; Ethics and Elections; Fiscal Policy

Sen. Joe Negron

District # 32 (R)

3500 SW
Corporate Pkwy.
Suite 204
Palm City, FL 34990
Phone: 772/ 219-1665
Fax: 772/ 219-1666

negron.joe.web@flsenate.gov



Staff: Holly Demers; Carrie Lira

Committee Assignments:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice, **Chair**; Appropriations; Banking and Insurance; Ethics and Elections; Higher Education; Regulated Industries; Rules

Sen. Maria Lorts Sachs

District # 34 (D) - Deputy Minority Whip

Delray Beach City Hall
100 NW 1st Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444
Phone: 561/ 279-1427
Fax: 561/ 279-1429

sachs.maria.web@flsenate.gov



Staff: Matthew Damsky; Gladys Ferrer;
Victoria Nowlan

Committee Assignments:

Higher Education, **Vice Chair**; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Fiscal Policy; Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security; Regulated Industries



Palm Beach County's State Representatives

Rep. Kevin Rader

District # 81 (D)

9045 La Fontana Blvd
Suite 117
Boca Raton, FL 33434
Phone: 561/ 218-5010
Fax: 561/ 218-5012



kevin.rader@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Alexis Andrés; Barbara Davis; Kathleen Roe

Committee Assignments:

Business & Professions Subcommittee, **Democratic Ranking Member;** Appropriations; Government Operations Subcommittee; Local & Federal Affairs Subcommittee; Local Government Affairs Subcommittee

Rep. Mark Pafford

District # 86 (D) - Minority Leader

2240 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd
Suite 102
West Palm Beach, FL 33409
Phone: 561/ 682-0156
Fax: 561/ 682-0158



mark.pafford@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Audrey Piedra; Susan Holmes

Committee Assignments:

Appropriations Committee; Rules, Calendar & Ethics Committee

Rep. MaryLynn Magar

District # 82 (R)

11700 Southeast Dixie Hwy
Hobe Sound, FL 33455
Phone: 772/ 545-3481
Fax: 772/ 545-3483



marylynn.magar@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Ann Bolduc; Sheila Fallon; Chelsey Lucas

Committee Assignments:

Economic Affairs Committee, **Vice Chair;** Health & Human Services Committee, **Vice Chair;** Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee; Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

Rep. Dave Kerner

District # 87 (D)

226 Cypress Lane
Suite 250
Palm Springs, FL 33461
Phone: 561/ 641-3406
Fax: 561/ 357-4811



dave.kerner@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: David Shane; Elaine Higgins

Committee Assignments:

Judiciary Committee, Democratic Ranking Member; Criminal Justice Subcommittee; Higher Education & Workforce Subcommittee; Highway & Waterway Safety Subcommittee

Rep. Patrick Rooney

District # 85 (R)

3970 RCA Blvd
Suite 7001
Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Phone: 561/ 625-5176
Fax: 561/ 625-5178



pat.rooney@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Andrew Watt; Sheri Healy

Committee Assignments:

Transportation & Ports Subcommittee, **Chair;** Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee; Economic Affairs; Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee; Health Quality Subcommittee

Rep. Bobby Powell

District # 88 (D)

2715 North Australian Avenue
Suite 105
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Phone: 561/ 650-6880
Fax: 561/ 650-6882



bobby.powell@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Tradrick McCoy; Delano Allen

Committee Assignments:

Transportation & Ports Subcommittee, **Democratic Ranking Member;** Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; Economic Affairs; Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee



Palm Beach County's State Representatives

Rep. Bill Hager

District # 89 (R)

301 Yamato Road
Suite 1240
Boca Raton, FL 33431
Phone: 561/ 470-6607
Fax: 561/ 470-6609



bill.hager@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Beth Lerner; Troy Gras

Committee Assignments:

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight, **Chair**; Insurance & Banking Subcommittee, **Vice Chair**; Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee, Education; Transportation & Ports Subcommittee

Rep. Lori Berman Delegation Chair

District # 90 (D)

2300 High Ridge Road
Suite 161
Boynton Beach, FL 33426
Phone: 561/ 374-7850



lori.berman@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Abby Ross; Irena Sas

Committee Assignments:

Civil Justice Subcommittee; Finance & Tax; Health & Human Services; Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight; Rules, Calendar & Ethics

Rep. Irv Slosberg

District # 91 (D)

7499 West Atlantic Ave.
Suite 200
Delray Beach, FL 33446
Phone: 561/ 496-5940
Fax: 561/ 496-5942



irv.slosberg@myfloridahouse.gov

Staff: Lawrence Victoria

Committee Assignments:

Highway & Waterway Safety Subcommittee, **Democratic Ranking Member**; Choice & Innovation Subcommittee; Education Appropriations Subcommittee; Regulatory Affairs; State Affairs





TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Transportation Economic Development

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Inland Port Road Infrastructure – South Bay Park of Commerce (Inland Logistics Center) | (VETOED) \$470,900 |
| City of Belle Glade Gateway Redevelopment Roadway Improvement | \$506,000 |
| Glades Area Street Resurfacing/Reconstruction Phase 2 – Belle Glade | \$1,000,000 |
| Lake Worth Park of Commerce | (VETOED) \$3,500,000 |
| Village of Tequesta Transportation Alternatives | (VETOED) \$200,000 |
| Broadway Corridor/15 th Street Infrastructure/Beautification – Riviera Beach | (VETOED) \$500,000 |
| Small County Transportation Fund [Rural Area of Opportunity] | \$9,000,000 |
| Pahokee Marina Enhancements | (VETOED) \$1,000,000 |
| Pahokee Marina - FEMA | (VETOED) \$107,321 |
| Transportation Disadvantaged | \$52,783,704 |

Aviation Development Grants

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|---|-------------|
| Belle Glade State Airport Runway Rehab | \$1,567,000 |
| Palm Beach County Glades Airport Runway/Taxiway Rehab | \$1,200,000 |
| Palm Beach Int'l Airport Arff Facility Improvements | \$1,000,000 |
| Palm Beach Int'l Airport Taxiway and Drainage | \$1,367,450 |

Bridge Construction

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|-----------------------------|--------------|
| SR 80/Southern Blvd Bridges | \$78,567,025 |
|-----------------------------|--------------|

Road Construction Inspections

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|---|--------------|
| SR 7 from SR 704/Okeechobee Blvd to 60th Street | \$2,654,548 |
| SR 710/Beeline Hwy from West of Australian to Old Dixie Highway | \$2,502,379 |
| SR 80 /Southern Blvd Bridges | \$10,476,102 |

County Transportation Program

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|---|-------------|
| Congress Ave Ext. from Northlake to Alt A1A | \$1,365,909 |
|---|-------------|

Highway Maintenance

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|--|-------------|
| I-95 Asset Management Palm Beach County | \$3,415,000 |
| Palm Beach County ITS Management | \$1,400,000 |
| Palm Beach County JPA's for Maintenance Lighting | \$2,178,396 |
| SR25/US 27 Asset Management and Belle Glade Area | \$1,549,778 |

Highway Safety Grants

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|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| SR882/Forest Hill Blvd at Kirk Road | \$1,325,173 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|

Intrastate Highway Construction

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Glades Rd Intersection Improvements | \$2,633,454 |
| Glades Rd Nb Ramp Improvements | \$5,589,222 |
| PGA Blvd/TPK Interchange Improvements | \$1,090,941 |
| SR 7 from 704/Okeechobee Blvd to 60th street | \$15,711,401 |
| SR 710/Beeline Hwy from West of Australian Ave to old Dixie Hwy | \$22,388,082 |
| SR 9/I-95 @ SR 706/ Indiantown Road | \$2,263,409 |

TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED

Preliminary Engineering Roads

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|--|-------------|
| Resurface TPK Mainline | \$1,204,534 |
| SR5/US1 Federal Highway from A1A to Beach Road | \$2,000,000 |
| SR7 from 60th Street to Northlake Blvd | \$8,000,000 |
| SR 9/I-95 @ PGA Blvd/Central Blvd. | \$2,500,000 |
| SR9/I-95 from S of 45th Street to N of 45th Street | \$1,500,000 |
| SR 9/I-95 from S of Linton to Palm Beach/Martin Co. Line | \$1,650,000 |
| Widen TPK from Atlantic to Boynton Beach | \$8,000,000 |
| Widen TPK from Glades to Atlantic | \$8,000,000 |
| Widen TPK from Lake Worth Road to SR 710 | \$9,650,000 |
| Widen TPK from PB County Line to Glades Road | \$6,500,000 |

Public Transit Development

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|--|-------------|
| Palm Beach County Block Grant Operating Assistance | \$5,027,484 |
|--|-------------|

Rail Development

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|---|-------------|
| Northwood Connection from CSX to FEC | \$2,275,456 |
| Quiet/Safety Improvements FEC Crossings – Countywide | \$5,399,543 |
| SFECC Corridor Transit Alt, from West Palm Beach to Jupiter | \$1,350,000 |

Resurfacing

| | |
|---|-------------|
| SR5/US1 /Quadrille Blvd from Clematis to Dixie | \$1,308,500 |
| SR 715/SW-NW 16th Street/Canal St. to SR 15 | \$9,609,817 |
| SR 882/Forest Hill from E. of Olive Tree Blvd. to River Bridge Center | \$1,013,633 |

Right of Way Land Acquisition

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|--|-------------|
| SR 80 W of Lion Country Safari Rd to Forest Hill | \$2,193,000 |
|--|-------------|

Traffic Engineering

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|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Palm Beach County Signal Maintenance | \$1,562,256 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|

Transportation Planning Grants

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|--|---------------|
| Palm Beach FY14/15 and FY 15/16 | \$1,077,086 |
| Affordable Housing Programs | \$70,000,000 |
| State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP) | \$101,000,000 |
| State Apartment Incentive Loan Program (SAIL) | \$48,000,000 |
| Homeless Challenge Grants – recurring | \$4,000,000 |
| Palm Beach County SHIP Total Allocation | \$6,521,710 |
| (County Breakdown Below) | |
| Palm Beach County | \$4,961,065 |
| Boca Raton | \$415,433 |
| Boynton Beach | \$343,042 |
| Delray Beach | \$300,651 |
| West Palm Beach | \$501,519 |

Economic Development

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|---|----------------------|
| Florida Atlantic University Tech Runway | (VETOED) \$1,000,000 |
| Scripps Florida | (VETOED) \$1,500,000 |

EDUCATION

Florida Atlantic University

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|--|---------------|
| Florida Atlantic University – Education and General Activities | \$238,341,065 |
| Florida Atlantic University – Grants & Aid | \$19,994,203 |
| Florida Atlantic University – Medical School | \$22,609,751 |
| Florida Atlantic University – STEM Life Sciences Initiative | \$3,531,815 |
| Florida Atlantic University – Max Planck Scientific Fellowship Program | \$1,250,000 |
| Florida Atlantic University - Autism Program | \$1,011,807 |

Palm Beach State College

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|---|--------------------|
| Palm Beach State College - Lottery Funds | \$12,297,220 |
| Palm Beach State College - Program Funds | \$43,931,556 |
| Voluntary PreKindergarten Program | \$27,327,286 |
| School Readiness Program | \$33,858,992 |
| Glades Career Readiness Roundtable/WestTech Construction Academy | (VETOED) \$500,000 |
| Public Schools Workforce Education | \$17,014,911 |
| Palm Beach County Schools K-12 Operating (including local effort) | \$1,377,785,069 |

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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|---|-----------------------------|
| Jerome Golden Center for Behavioral Health Services | \$575,000 |
| Community Based Providers of Child Welfare Services (Risk Pool) | \$13,000,000 |
| Florida Prescription Drug Monitoring Program | \$500,000 |
| Alzheimer's Community Care – Palm Beach, Martin | \$500,000 |
| Recovery Residence Certification Funding | \$200,000 |
| Palm Beach Habilitation Center for Mentally Disabled | (VETOED) \$649,111 |
| PACE (Morse) Expansion for Elderly | \$3,024,139 |
| LIP, DSH, and Rate Enhancement Funding | \$2,160,745,638 (Statewide) |
| Bethesda Memorial | \$5,339,024 |
| Columbia Hospital | \$1,651,213 |
| Delray Medical | \$1,743,792 |
| Lakeside Hospital | \$3,875,956 |
| Good Samaritan Medical | \$622,363 |
| JFK Medical | \$7,566,372 |
| Jupiter Medical | \$190,897 |
| Palm Beach Gardens Medical | \$304,203 |
| Palms West Hospital | \$4,592,717 |
| St. Mary's Hospital | \$31,263,270 |
| West Boca Medical | \$876,664 |
| Wellington Regional | \$2,261,815 |

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS

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|---------------------------------|-------------|
| PILT – South Bay Correctional | \$275,560 |
| PILT – Sago Palms South Bay | \$142,900 |
| South Bay Correctional Facility | \$2,908,779 |
| Sago Palm Work Camp | \$1,473,375 |

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|---|--------------|
| 4 th DCA Courthouse Construction | \$12,008,689 |
| State Attorney – Office Furniture | \$76,006 |
| 15 th Circuit Prosecution of PIP Fraud | \$272,075 |
| 15 th Circuit Workers Comp Fraud | \$276,558 |

PARKS AND RECREATION

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|---|-------------|
| <u>FRDAP</u> | \$5,491,500 |
| Pelican Lake Park (Juno Beach) | \$50,000 |
| Bill Moss Hillcrest Paseo Rec. Improvements (West Palm Beach) | \$50,000 |
| Constitution Park (Tequesta) | \$50,000 |
| Torrey Island Marina – Observation Tower (Belle Glade) | \$50,000 |

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|---|--------------------|
| <u>Historic Preservation Grants – Special Category</u> | \$8,281,323 |
| Boynton Woman’s Club – Window and Door Repair and Restoration | (VETOED) \$140,000 |
| Loxahatchee River Historical Society – Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Keepers Exhibit | \$70,000 |

ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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|---|--------------------|
| <u>Water Projects</u> | \$73,343,000 |
| Belle Glade SW 3 rd Street Storm Water Improvements | (VETOED) \$400,000 |
| Boynton Beachfront Park Sewer Treatment Plant Replacement | \$300,000 |
| Lake Region Water Infrastructure Improvement | (VETOED) \$500,000 |
| Lake Worth Stormwater and Wastewater | (VETOED) \$500,000 |
| Lantana Sea Pines Drainage | (VETOED) \$100,000 |
| Palm Beach Gardens Stormwater System Reconstruction | \$250,000 |
| Seminole Improvement District Drainage Alternative Water Supply & Quality Project | \$2,000,000 |

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|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| <u>Beach Restoration</u> | \$32,106,500 |
| Central Boca Raton Beach Nourishment | \$1,700,000 |
| Jupiter Carlin Monitoring | \$1,000,000 |
| North Boca Raton Monitoring | \$127,500 |
| Ocean Ridge Monitoring | \$51,300 |
| Petroleum Tanks Cleanup | \$125,000,000 |

CULTURE & FINE ARTS

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|--|----------------------|
| <u>Cultural Facilities Grants (Statewide)</u> | \$18,839,581 |
| South Florida Science Center and Aquarium - Renovation | \$425,000 |
| Center for Creative Education - Renovation | \$500,000 |
| Cultural Council of PBC - Renovation | \$500,000 |
| Living Arts Foundation – Renovation | \$141,000 |
| Els for Autism Foundation – New Construction | \$500,000 |
| Village of Royal Palm Beach – Renovation | \$300,000 |
| Indian Trail Improvement District – New Construction | \$200,000 |
| Norton Museum of Art | (VETOED) \$1,000,000 |
| Boynton Woman’s Club | \$140,000 |
| <u>Cultural and Museum Grants (Statewide)</u> | \$12,764,187 |
| Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center | \$10,604 |
| Aequalis | \$10,924 |
| Ballet Palm Beach | \$13,598 |
| Boca Ballet Theatre Company | \$42,962 |

CULTURE AND FINE ARTS CONTINUED

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|---|----------|
| Boca Raton Museum of Art | \$71,132 |
| Boca Raton Philharmonic Symphonia | \$18,882 |
| Creative City Collaborative | \$11,929 |
| Cultural Council of Palm Beach County | \$73,010 |
| Delray Beach Center for the Arts | \$52,245 |
| Expanding and Preserving Our Cultural Heritage | \$9,989 |
| Florida Atlantic University – University Galleries | \$13,937 |
| Lighthouse ArtCenter | \$43,948 |
| Loxahatchee River Historical Society | \$39,936 |
| Lynn University | \$20,837 |
| Maltz Jupiter Theatre | \$72,900 |
| Norton Museum of Art | \$73,581 |
| Palm Beach Dramaworks | \$71,574 |
| Palm Beach Opera | \$75,458 |
| Palm Beach State College Professional Guest Artist Season | \$70,746 |
| Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts | \$73,194 |
| School of the Arts Foundation | \$71,795 |
| Sol Children Theatre | \$2,576 |
| South Florida Science Center and Aquarium | \$65,333 |
| Sunfest of Palm Beach County | \$69,844 |
| The Armory Art Center | \$67,576 |
| The Boca Raton Historical Society | \$36,438 |
| The Children's Museum | \$12,528 |
| The Henry Morrison Flagler Museum | \$71,905 |
| The Jerusalem Group Theatre | \$11,469 |
| The Lake Worth Playhouse | \$36,184 |
| The Zoological Society of the Palm Beaches | \$68,426 |
| Young Singers of the Palm Beaches | \$32,960 |

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|---|-------------|
| <u>Cultural Endowment Grants</u> | \$1,680,000 |
| Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens | \$240,000 |

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|--|----------|
| <u>Culture Builds Florida</u> | |
| Inspirit, Inc./Belle Glade Performance Program | \$5,000 |
| St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Arts | \$12,000 |
| Street Beat, Inc./Reclaiming the City through Arts for Underserved Teens | \$25,000 |
| The Children's Coalition/Believe & Achieve/The Veterans History Project | \$1,125 |



Local Bills & Legislation Sponsored by Delegation Members

LOCAL BILLS

HB 1167 – WEST PALM BEACH FIREFIGHTERS PENSION FUND

REP. DAVE. KERNER

This legislation amends the City of West Palm Beach Firefighters Pension Fund Special Act. The changes made by this bill are the result of a collective bargaining agreement between the City of West Palm Beach and International Association of Firefighters Local 727. The bill allocates a percentage of the Chapter 175 money to offset employee contributions, which reduces the expected employee contribution, and modifies the use of premium tax proceeds allocated to creating lower actual employee contribution rates. It also amends the special act creating the Fund to define “Fire Chief” and to provide the chief with modified pension benefits.

The bill was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2015; Chapter 2015-195. The effective date of this law is June 10, 2015.

HB 1213 – WEST PALM BEACH WATER CATCHMENT AREA

REP. LORI BERMAN

This bill reduces a boundary of the West Palm Beach Water Catchment Area which assists to move forward plans for a new two-team baseball spring training facility on land that was a former landfill in the City of West Palm Beach.

The bill was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2015; Chapter 2015-198. The effective date of this law is June 10, 2015.

HB 1253 – SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

REP. PAT ROONEY, JR.

This legislation establishes the School District of Palm Beach County Business Partnership Program, removing the need for periodic renewal of the pilot program that was established by the Legislature in 2008. This will continue to allow schools in the unincorporated areas of Palm Beach County to recognize its business partners by displaying the names of the partners on school property. In return for having their names publicly displayed, the partners provide funds for school programs, including Project Graduation and extracurricular activities.

The bill was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2015; Chapter 2015-201. The effective date of this law is June 10, 2015.

OTHER LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY DELEGATION MEMBERS

HB 3 – CLOSING THE GAP GRANT PROGRAM

REP. BOBBY POWELL, JR.

The Reducing Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities: Closing the Gap Grant Program was created by the Legislature in 2000 to stimulate the development of community and neighborhood based projects to eliminate health disparities among racial and ethnic groups in morbidity and mortality rates. This bill allows the Florida Department of Health to include sickle cell disease among its priority project programs.

*This legislation passed as SB 94, which was signed by the Governor on May 14, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-10.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

HB 21 / SB 326 – SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

REP. BILL HAGER / SEN. JEFF CLEMENS / SEN. MARIA SACHS

This bill defines a sober home, also known as a recovery residence, as a transitional living home that is a residential dwelling unit that provides a peer-supported, peer-managed, alcohol and drug-free living environment for one or more persons. Due to Federal Fair Housing Laws and the Americans with Disabilities Act, sober homes cannot be regulated or zoned by municipalities.

The legislation establishes a program for the voluntary certification of sober homes and sober home administrators. It requires the



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Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) to approve at least one credentialing entity by December 1, 2015, for the development and administration of the certification programs. The credentialing entity or entities must establish procedures for the certification of recovery residences and recovery residence administrators.

DCF is also required to publish a list of all sober homes and sober home administrators on its website, but the bill also allows for a recovery residence or recovery residence administrator to be excluded from the list under certain circumstances.

The bill also requires that all certified sober home administrators pass a Level II background screening. By setting up a voluntary registry for sober homes with a designated agency, and mandating that treatment centers can only refer their patients to registered sober homes, it is estimated that between 80% and 90% of residents would find themselves in registered sober homes.

*This legislation passed as HB 21, which was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-100.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

HB 41 – HAZARDOUS WALKING CONDITIONS

REP. IRV SLOSBERG

This bill, also known as “Gabby’s Law for Student Safety”, creates a safer environment for students traveling to and from school by requiring district school boards to identify hazardous walking conditions. The bill was named after Gabby Mair, a 12-year old girl who died after being struck by a car while crossing the road after coming off of her school bus. This legislation was an idea that originated with Tina Korn of Coral Lakes in Boynton Beach, Florida. It was shared with the Coalition of Boynton West Residential Association (COBWRA) and communicated to Rep. Slosberg by Palm Beach County School Board Member, Karen Brill.

The bill provides that each district school board may implement a safe driver toll-free telephone hotline to be displayed on the back of school buses to report improper driving or operation by a school bus driver.

Entities with jurisdiction over hazardous roads are required to include correction of a hazardous condition in their annual 5-year capital improvements program, and inform district school board superintendents of the projected correction date.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-101. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.

HB 111 – TRANSITIONAL LIVING FACILITIES

REP. MARYLYNN MAGAR

This legislation creates part XI of Chapter 400, F.S., to consolidate the oversight, care and services of clients of transitional living facilities (TLFs) under specific licensure requirements of the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). TLFs provide specialized health care services to individuals who sustain brain or spinal cord injuries.

The bill promotes coordination between various state agencies involved in the regulation of TLFs by requiring AHCA, the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, and the Department of Children and Families to develop an electronic database to ensure relevant client data is communicated timely and effectively. The bill also:

- Requires TLFs to maintain accreditation by an accrediting organization specializing in evaluating rehabilitation facilities;
- Adds specific admission requirements and requires a client to be admitted by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner;
- Adds specific discharge requirements and clarifies the conditions that a client must meet to be eligible for discharge;
- Adds care and service plan requirements detailing orders for medical care, client functional capability and goals, and transition plans;
- Requires TLFs to provide specific professional services directed toward improving the client’s functional status;
- Enables TLF clients to manage their funds and personal possessions, and have visitors;
- Requires TLFs to establish grievance procedures and a system for investigating, tracking, managing, and responding to complaints, which must include an appeals process;



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- Provides standards for medication management, assistance with medication, use of restraints, seclusion procedures, infection control, safeguarding clients' funds, and emergency preparation;
- Adds provisions to protect clients from abuse including proper staff screening, training, prevention, and investigation; and sanitation requirements;
- Provides AHCA the authority to develop rules for physical plant standards and personnel;
- Provides standard licensure criteria, including compliance with local zoning and laws, liability insurance, fire-safety inspection,
- Creates sanctions for violations of statute or rule and provides authority to place a court-ordered receiver if the licensee fails to take responsibility for the facility and places clients at risk;
- Clarifies that providers already licensed by AHCA, who serve brain and spinal-cord injured persons, are not required to obtain a separate license as a TLF;
- Revises the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Council's rights to entry and inspection of TLFs;
- Requires a TLF licensed on June 30, 2015, to be licensed under the existing statute and licensed under part XI of chapter 400, F.S., by July 1, 2016; and
- Requires all TLFs licensed on or after July 1, 2015, to be licensed under part XI of chapter 400, F.S.

*The legislation passed as SB 682, which was signed by the Governor on May 14, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-25.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

SB 112 – WOMEN VETERANS AND NAVY SUBMARINER'S LICENSE PLATES

SEN. MARIA SACHS

This bill creates a category of special license plates. Senator Sachs worked closely with the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs and the sponsor of this bill to get the language for Women Veterans and Navy Submarine's license plates included in this specialty license plate omnibus bill. It authorizes the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue Woman Veteran, World War II Veteran, Navy Submariner, Combat Action Ribbon, Air Force Combat Action Medal, and Distinguished Flying Cross license plates. The bill also requires that any revenue generated from the sale of Woman Veteran license plates be deposited into the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund to be used solely for the purpose of creating and implementing programs to benefit women veterans.

*This legislation passed as HB 329, which was signed by the Governor on June 2, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-91.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

HB 137 – CIVIL LIABILITY OF FARMERS

REP. KEVIN RADER

This legislation removes the term "after harvest" from statute to expand civil liability exemptions for farmers who gratuitously allow gleaning on their land. Gleaning is the practice of allowing individuals or organizations to remove produce or crops from a farmer's land to be given away for free to those in need. Generally, gleaning is practiced by humanitarian groups which distribute the gleaned food to the poor in an attempt to resolve issues of societal hunger.



*This legislation passed as SB 158, which was signed by the Governor on May 21, 2015;
Chapter No. 2015-38. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

SJR 208 – RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

SEN. JEFF CLEMENS

This resolution proposed an amendment to the State Constitution to automatically restore the right to vote and hold office of a person convicted of a felony, other than a sexual offense or homicide, upon completion of sentence.

SJR 208 died in the Senate Ethics and Elections Committee.



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SB 214 / HB 977 – DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT SCREENING

SEN. JEFF CLEMENS / REP. BOBBY POWELL, JR.

This legislation addressed two issues of statewide concern: reducing barriers to employment for people who have a criminal history and lowering unemployment rates in communities that have concentrated numbers of people who have a criminal history.

It would have restricted an employer from inquiring into or considering an applicant's criminal history on an initial employment application, unless required by law. The legislation would have increased employment opportunities for those who have a criminal history, thereby reducing the rate of recidivism and improving economic stability.

SB 214 died in the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee. HB 977 died in the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

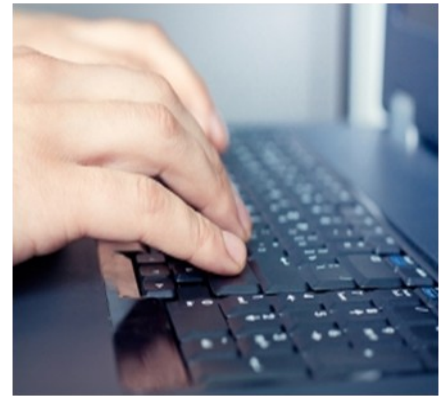
SB 228 – ONLINE VOTER APPLICATIONS

SEN. JEFF CLEMENS

This bill directs the Division of Elections in the Department of State to develop an operational, online voter registration application system by October 1, 2017. The online voter registration application system must be designed to submit a voter registration application and update voter registration information and obtain information sufficient to establish an applicant's eligibility to vote.

The bill was a collective effort by the State House and Senate members and staff, the Florida Association of Supervisors of Elections, and over the past two years, the Department of State.

*This bill was signed by the Governor on May 15, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-36.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*



SB 246 / HB 1313 – TEXTING WHILE DRIVING

SEN. MARIA SACHS / REP. IRV SLOSBERG

This legislation would have made a violation of the Texting While Driving Law a primary offense, allowing state or local law enforcement agencies to enforce the prohibition on texting while driving without the necessity of another violation related to motor vehicles. It would also have doubled the amount of the fine for a violation committed in a legally posted school zone or designated school crossing.

This bill passed out of the Senate Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities Committee but died in the Senate Transportation Committee. HB 1313 died in the House Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee.

HB 277 – PUBLIC LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS

REP. BILL HAGER

This bill requires hotels, motels, and bed & breakfast establishments with minimum age requirements to waive them for active members of the military. There are hotels in Florida with age requirements as high as 25 years old, and a member of our military service on vacation with their family or simply passing through on their way to their next service station would be unable to check in to that hotel should they not meet the age requirement. Florida is already one of the most military-friendly states in our nation, and this is just another step towards maintaining that status.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 11, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-139. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.

HB 283 – TRANSFERS TO MINORS

REP. LORI BERMAN

This legislation allows individuals to voluntarily extend the age of the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act from 21 to 25. The Uniform Gifts to Minors Act creates a simple legal custodianship, in an adult or appropriate institution, of property that would otherwise transfer directly to a minor. The purpose of the custodianship is to avoid the expense and complexity required by a formal trust or a legal guardianship to manage property of a minor.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 11, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-140. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.



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SB 368 – RIGHTS OF GRANDPARENTS

SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill allows a grandparent or great-grandparent of a minor child to petition the court for visitation rights under specific circumstances. These circumstances include if a child's parent is deceased, missing, or in a persistent vegetative state; or if a child's parent is deceased, missing, or in a persistent vegetative state and whose other parent has been convicted of a felony or an offense of violence.

The foundation for this piece of legislation was derived from a Central Floridian missing person's case, Ms. Michelle Parker. Michelle's mother, Ms. Yvonne Stuart worked tirelessly to see its passage over the years after her daughter's mysterious disappearance has kept her from seeing her grandchildren despite her involvement in raising them before the incident.

This legislation was passed as HB 149, which was signed by the Governor on June 11, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-134. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.

HB 369 – HUMAN TRAFFICKING

REP. DAVE KERNER

This legislation requires the Florida Department of Transportation, Department of Health, and certain employers to display human trafficking public awareness signs in rest areas, turnpike service plazas, weigh stations, primary airports, passenger rail stations, welcome centers, emergency rooms at general acute care hospitals, strip clubs or other adult entertainment establishments, and businesses or establishments offering massage or bodywork services not owned by a health care profession, respectively. The public awareness sign instructs anyone who is being forced to engage in an activity and is being held against their will to call or text the National Trafficking Awareness Center.

The bill authorizes the county commission to adopt an ordinance to enforce provisions related to this bill, with a violation being a noncriminal violation and punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 16, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-172. The effective date of this law is January 1, 2016.

HB 401 – PUBLIC LODGING & FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

REP. MARYLYNN MAGAR

Under current law, public food service establishments are inspected one to four times per year, based on a risk-based inspection frequency. Establishments' inspection frequency is determined annually. This bill enables the Division to reassess a public food service establishment's inspection frequency more than once annually.

Currently, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) is required to provide each inspected establishment operator and event sponsor of proposed temporary food service events with the food-recovery brochure. The bill requires DBPR only to notify the inspected establishment or temporary event sponsor of the food-recovery brochure.

Public food service establishments holding current licenses from the Division of Hotels and Restaurants may operate at temporary food service events without obtaining a separate license only if the event is three days or less in duration. The bill allows public food service establishments holding current licenses to operate at all temporary food service events without a separate license, regardless of the duration of the event.

The bill allows the Division to deliver electronic copies of lodging and food service establishment inspection reports to operators. Also, the bill requires operators to make copies of inspection reports available to the Division at the time of inspection. Thus, according to DPBR, the bill allows operators to maintain the inspection report in any format, including electronic, on the premises, so long as the inspection report can be readily retrieved upon public request or inspection by the Division.

The bill sets a flat rate delinquent license renewal fee of \$50 for all license renewals within 60 days after expiration.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 11, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-143. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.



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HB 505 / SB 514 – BAKER ACT

REP. LORI BERMAN / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill would have created a work group to evaluate methods to improve the operational effectiveness of the “Florida Mental Health Act” – otherwise known as the “Baker Act.” These recommendations would have then been provided in a report to the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families, Secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

HB 505 died in the House Children, Families and Seniors Subcommittee. SB 514 passed the Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee by a unanimous vote but died in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services.

HB 523 – NOTARIES PUBLIC

REP. DAVE KERNER

This legislation revises the methods available for verifying documents and defines the term “reliable electronic means.” Most of the paperwork that law enforcement officers, correctional officers, correctional probation officers, traffic accident investigation officers, and traffic infraction enforcement officers handle on a daily basis requires an attestation or oath. The cumbersome process of requiring oaths to be notarized in-person takes away from the efficiencies of having an electronic system. Allowing for electronic oaths will save law enforcement officers time and resources by allowing reports to be notarized remotely.

*This legislation passed as SB 526, which was signed by the Governor on May 14, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-23.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

SB 560 – VETERANS’ TUITION FEE WAIVER

SEN. MARIA SACHS

This bill would have revised the persons eligible to receive a waiver for out-of-state tuition fees to include a spouse or child eligible for veterans’ education benefits by the United State Department of Veterans Affairs or the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship.

This bill died in the Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security Committee.

HB 591/ SB 1256 – EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT GAIN TIME

REP. DAVE KERNER / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This legislation would have incentivized more inmates to apply for and get a high school equivalency diploma or vocational certificate by increasing the amount of incentive gain-time an inmate may be awarded for certain educational achievements. This measure would have helped inmates land more jobs after being released from incarceration, resulting in the inmate’s rehabilitation with society.

Both bills died in their respective Criminal Justice Committees.

HB 613 & HB 35A – EXEMPTION FROM SALES & USE TAX FOR CERTAIN MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

**REP. MARYLYNN
MAGAR**

Since April 30, 2014, the state has exempted purchases of industrial machinery and equipment made by eligible manufacturers from the state sales and use tax. Also included in the exemption are mixer drums affixed to mixer trucks and parts & labor required to affix a mixer drum to a mixer truck. This exemption is scheduled to expire on April 30, 2017.

This bill repeals the expiration date for the exemption on purchase of industrial machinery and equipment made by eligible manufacturers, thus permanently extending the exemption.

HB 613 passed the House Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee by a unanimous vote but died in the Finance & Tax Committee. Its Senate companion passed the Senate Commerce and Tourism and Finance and Tax Committees unanimously but died in the Appropriations Committee. HB 35A, was filed during Special Session A, but was never heard in a Committee.



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HB 625 – FLORIDA CIVIL RIGHTS ACT

REP. LORI BERMAN

This legislation amends the Florida Civil Rights Act (FCRA) to include women who are pregnant. As a protected class, pregnant women would be protected from discrimination in employment, education, dining, entertainment, lodging, and public accommodation.

*This legislation passed as SB 982, which was signed by the Governor on May 21, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-68.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

HB 711 / SB 1016 – CARE FOR RETIRED ENFORCEMENT DOGS

REP. DAVE KERNER./ SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill would have created the “Care for Retired Law Enforcement Dogs Program.” The program would have provided a stable funding source for handlers and adopters of retired law enforcement dogs for their veterinary services. Stemming from the loss of a local K9 hero, Drake, who lost his life defending the home of his handler from armed burglars, law enforcement dogs have become an integral part of law enforcement efforts, and this program would have assisted in their care after their great service to our state. The program would have been administered through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE).

*HB 711 died in its second to last committee of reference, House Justice Appropriations Subcommittee.
SB 1016 passed all of its committees of reference and the full Senate unanimously but died in Messages in the House.*

SB 732 – SENTENCING

SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This legislation redefines “victim” for purposes of restitution provisions to include governmental entities and political subdivisions.

The bill requires a judge to order a public official convicted of certain criminal offenses to make restitution to the victim for damages or losses caused by the offense and requires a specified number of community service hours. These offenses include but are not limited to bribery, misuse of public office, corruption, fraud, extortion, etc.

*This bill passed as HB 115, which was signed by the Governor on June 11, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-132.
The effective date of this law is October 1, 2015.*

HB 747 – FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

REP. PAT ROONEY, JR.

This bill modifies community service requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, including Florida Academic Scholars (FAS), Florida Medalion Scholars (FMS), and the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (FGSVS) awards.

It altered the requirements to include clarification that community service must be done on a volunteer basis and prohibits any student from receiving remuneration or academic credit, except for credit earned through service-learning courses. It expanded volunteer service areas to include a civic issue or a professional area of interest. It also clarified that volunteer work may include direct involvement in a specific volunteer or community service project with a business or nonprofit community service organization. Additionally, it included accountability requirements for student volunteer work that includes documentation in writing by the student, the student’s parent, and a representative of the organization for which the student volunteered. Lastly, it provided an extended period of time for those who had a committed service period.

HB 747 passed both the full House and Senate, but was then retained and placed on hold in the Senate. It passed as a one year pilot program in proviso language of the budget and signed into law by the Governor on June 23, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-232. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.





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HB 775 – APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM

REP. BOBBY POWELL, JR.

This bill authorizes a court to appoint an attorney, administrator, or guardian ad litem for a party upon whom service of process by publication is made if the party fails to file or serve any paper in the action. The ad litem has the responsibility to ensure that the absent party's interests are considered by the court, even if the person cannot ultimately be located. The court:

- May not appoint an ad litem to represent an interest for which a personal representative, guardian of property, or trustee is serving;
- May not require an ad litem to post a bond or designate an agent to serve; and
- Must discharge the ad litem upon entry of the final judgment unless otherwise ordered by the court.

This measure clarifies a court's authority to appoint an ad litem to protect the rights of people who may otherwise have their rights extinguished without having been personally served notice in connection with litigation.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 2, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-95. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.

SB 804 – VIOLATION OF AN INJUNCTION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill would have increased the penalty for a third or subsequent violation of an injunction for protection against domestic violence, stalking or cyberstalking, and repeat violence if a person has two or more prior convictions for the same offense.

Currently, violating an injunction for protection is a 1st degree misdemeanor, regardless of how many times a person is convicted of this offense, resulting in up to 1 year in jail or 1 year probation. This bill would have increased the penalty to a third degree felony.

The bill was amended to include injunctions of protection against the following:

- Domestic Violence
- Repeat Violence
- Sexual Violence
- Dating Violence
- Stalking or Cyberstalking

Language from SB 804 and its companion bill, HB 443, was amended onto HB 133; however, the language was stripped out of HB 133 on the House Floor on their final day of the regular Session.

HB 951 – DIETETICS AND NUTRITION

REP. MARYLYNN MAGAR

This bill revises the definition of "dietetics and nutrition practice" to include the ordering of therapeutic diets and states that the Dietetics and Nutrition Practice Act does not preclude a licensed dietitian/nutritionist (DN) from independently ordering a therapeutic diet if otherwise authorized to order such a diet in Florida.

Additionally, the bill allows DNs to become licensed without an examination when applicants for such licensure meet all the licensure requirements under s. 468.509, F.S., and are:

- Registered with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (Commission);
- Certified as nutrition specialists by the Certification Board for Nutrition Specialists; or
- Diplomats of the American Clinical Board of Nutrition.

This bill was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-125. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.



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HB 955 / SB 1132 – TRANSMISSION OF CHILD PORN

REP. DAVE KERNER / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This legislation would have amended current statute to provide that each act of sending or delivering child pornography would be considered a separate third degree felony offense. Currently, these offenses are cumulative to existing offenses and arise if a person:

In this state, knowingly transmits child pornography to another person in this state or in another jurisdiction.

In any jurisdiction other than this state, knowingly or reasonably should have known transmits, an image to minors to a known minor or a person believed to be a minor in this state.

Both bills died in their respective Criminal Justice Committees.

HB 1095 / SB 1430 – DISCOUNTS ON PUBLIC PARK ENTRANCE FEES AND TRANSPORTATION FARES

REP. PAT ROONEY, JR. /

SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill would have required counties and municipalities to provide partial or full discounts on park entrance fees for the following: military servicemembers; veterans; spouses and parents of certain deceased military members, law enforcement officers, or firefighters. This legislation would have also required regional transportation authorities to provide disabled veterans with partial or full discounts on fares for use of fixed-route transportation systems.

Both bills passed all their committees of reference unanimously, and HB 1095 passed the full House by a unanimous vote; however, the legislation died in Messages in the Senate.

SB 1116 – LITERACY JUMP START PILOT PROJECT

SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill requires the Office of Early Learning to establish a 5-year Literacy Jump Start Pilot Program in St. Lucie County to assist low-income, at-risk academically challenged pre-school children in developing emergent literacy skills to ensure their future success. The Program was funded from the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund for \$110,000.

Excerpt from SB 2500A Appropriations Act:

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 81, \$110,000 from the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund is provided for the Literacy Jump Start Program in St. Lucie County to provide at-risk academically challenged pre-school children, residing within high risk federally subsidized housing, a chance at success. The children will be immersed with a strong support system and an instructional approach designed to foster emergent literacy skills. This will be accomplished via (a) early literacy development in participating children; (b) parent engagement and literacy development; and (c) care coordination to ensure a smooth transition to voluntary prekindergarten and kindergarten.



The bill passed as HB 153, which was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-104.

The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.

The Appropriations Act, SB 2500A, was passed during Special Session A, which was signed by the Governor on June 23, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-232.

The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.



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SB 1112 – SEXTING

SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This bill will provide jurisdiction to juvenile court to enforce a child's first offense to a noncriminal violation for sexting. It will also clarify the acceptance of a citation for a minor's first violation and provide other methods in lieu of appearing in court through participation in community service, paying a civil penalty, or participating in a cyber-safety program.

It amends the punishment schedule for sexting to provide for the following:

- 1st Violation: Civil Citation & Options
- 2nd Violation: Civil Citation or Misdemeanor
- 3rd Violation: Felony

This piece of legislation serves as a glitch bill to the 2011 version which changed a minor's first offense from a felony and having to register as a sex offender to receiving a misdemeanor. However, the courts, as seen in the recent January 2015 case within Broward County, were unable to enforce the law because of the lack of jurisdiction in the way that the 2011 version had been written. This alters that original piece of legislation and allows for a judge to enforce the violation.

*Language from this bill was added to HB 133, which was signed by the Governor on June 11, 2015; Chapter No. 2015-133.
The effective date of this law is July 1, 2015.*

HM 1171 / SM 1426 – SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY PROGRAM

REP. DAVE KERNER / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This memorial would have urged Congress to restore adequate funding to the federal Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program. While funding has decreased drastically, the population of seniors throughout the United States, and especially in Florida, is increasing rapidly. Nationwide, the population of seniors is expected to reach 70 million by 2030. Over 3.4 million seniors are currently living in Florida, many of whom are in immediate, desperate need of low-cost housing. Thousands of low-income seniors in Florida are already on waiting lists for years prior to receiving assistance.

HM 1171 died in the House Local & Federal Affairs Committee. SM 1426 passed the Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs and Community Affairs Committees unanimously but died in the Senate Rules Committee.

HB 1283 – INSPECTORS GENERAL

REP. KEVIN RADER

This bill would have required that the Chief Inspector General, Agency Inspectors General, and Local Government's Inspectors General post their findings on their respective websites within 10 days of finalizing their investigations. This legislation was filed in an effort to increase transparency and accountability.

HB 1283 passed its first two committees of reference unanimously but died in the House State Affairs Committee. Its Senate companion died in the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee.

HM 1285 / SM 1422 – IRAN / ECONOMIC SANCTIONS

REP. KEVIN RADER / SEN. JOSEPH ABRUZZO

This memorial urges Congress and the President of the United States to pass and enact new economic sanctions against Iran if Iran fails to reach an acceptable agreement with the United States by the dates set forth in the November 2014 Joint Plan of Action. This Plan of Action has been set forth to negotiate an amicable agreement with Iran to prevent further development of nuclear weapons that constitute a threat to international peace and security.

This memorial passed as SM 1422, which was signed by Officers and filed with the Secretary of State on May 7, 2015.



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The Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Office is a non-partisan office that serves all thirteen members of the Florida Senate and House of Representatives representing Palm Beach County in Tallahassee.

The delegation office is responsible for: scheduling and coordinating all delegation meetings in Palm Beach County and Tallahassee; developing the delegation's legislative program including local bills, appropriation requests, and county and municipal legislative priorities; providing legislative assistance and research to the delegation during the legislative session; and serving as a liaison between the delegation and local governments and community organizations.

At the end of each legislative session, this comprehensive report is published by the delegation for all county, municipal and federal offices, as well as other parties interested in all local bills and appropriations affecting Palm Beach County, and general bills passed by Palm Beach County Delegation members.

For more information, or to be put on our mailing list, please call the delegation office at 561/355-2406.

