

FLORIDA SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE



SENATOR WILTON SIMPSON
MAJORITY LEADER

THIS WEEK IN THE FLORIDA SENATE FEBRUARY 5 – 9, 2018

Senate Passes Balanced and Fiscally Responsible Budget with \$3.4 Billion in Total Reserves and NO NEW TAXES!

Protecting our Environment for Future Generations

The Senate continues our commitment to faithfully implement the voter-approved Water and Land Conservation Amendment with significant investments in Florida Forever and Everglades Restoration, as well as the restoration of our beaches and springs.



Opioid Abuse Prevention and Treatment Services

The opioid epidemic claims 16 lives per day in Florida, and the Senate is taking action to combat this crisis in our state. Our budget makes provisions for opioid abuse prevention and treatment services for individuals and families. We are taking steps in the right direction to end this devastating crisis.

Ensuring Access to World-Class Education Opportunities for Florida's Students

This budget reflects the Senate's strong commitment to supporting our students, and recognizes the link between education and our economy. From unprecedented per-student funding for our K-12 schools, to continuing historic investments in need and merit-based student financial aid and scholarships like Bright Futures, we understand that there is a significant return for taxpayers when we invest in Florida's future.

Pay Raises for State Law Enforcement Officers and State Firefighters

The Senate recognizes the selfless dedication of those who work so hard to keep our communities safe, and our budget reflects that by proposing a pay raise for state law enforcement officers and state firefighters. It is very important that we recruit and retain top talent for our state workforce, and this budget includes targeted pay raises in areas with high amounts of turnover, including state law enforcement officers and state firefighters.

Legislation Strengthening Florida's Support of Israel Passes Senate Committee

Senate Bill 780, Prohibition Against Contracting with Scrutinized Companies, sponsored by Senator Jeff Brandes, passed out of committee this week. Florida proudly stands with Israel and there will be zero tolerance for government-business relationships with companies engaged in boycotts of Israel. The bill prohibits a company that is on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, or that is engaged in a boycott of Israel, from bidding on, submitting a proposal for, or entering into or renewing a contract with an agency or local government entity for goods or services of any amount.