



Senate Organizational Session for 2014-2016 Term



It was an honor to return to the Florida Senate to represent District 14 including East Orlando, Kissimmee, Poinciana and Haines City. We have many challenges facing our state including bringing more high paying jobs to the district, boosting education spending, protecting our environment and improving our infrastructure. I look forward to working with my constituents, community groups and fellow Senators to make these goals a reality. I was also honored to be named Senate Democratic Rules Chair with the responsibility of interpreting the rules, presenting objections and working on calendaring bills for our Caucus.

Senator Andy Gardiner Voted President of the Senate



Local Central Florida Senator Andy Gardiner was voted unanimously to be Senate President for the 2014-2016 term. He was born and raised in Orlando, has many years experience as a legislator and as Majority Leader in both the Florida House and Senate, and knows our area very well. I look forward to working with him on major Central Florida Projects like the Downtown UCF Campus, Sunrail Phase II and All Aboard Florida as well as restoration projects involving Lake Toho, the Kissimmee River and Wekiva Springs.

Senator Arthenia Joyner is Voted Democratic Leader



Our Democratic Caucus elected Senator Arthenia Joyner to serve as our Democratic Leader for the 2014-2016 term. Leader Joyner is a legendary civil rights leader with a history of fighting for equality dating back to the 1960's. As a FAMU student, she led protests against segregation at the Tallahassee Theater and other public venues. She went on to be a major activist involved in protesting Apartheid in South Africa. Senator Joyner was also the first African American woman to practice law in Hillsborough County and remains the longest practice female lawyer in Florida. I am proud to serve on her leadership team!

Senator Darren Soto

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