



Good Morning!

This past week the legislature hosted the first-ever Brevard County Day in the Capitol, where advocates walked the halls to raise awareness about our historic, cultural and economic contributions to the state.

I also had the pleasure of visiting with friends from home about their legislative priorities. Thank you Melbourne Regional Chamber, International Space Station Center for Advancement of Science, NASA Kennedy Space Center, Craig Technologies, Brevard Women United, Brevard Tourist Development Council, and students from Brevard Public Schools for visiting with me in the Florida Senate.

If you are traveling to the state Capitol, please stop by my office – I always enjoy seeing my constituents.

I consider it a great honor to represent District 17. Please share [this link](#) with your friends and family so that they too can sign up for the [Mayfield Minute](#).

If you or someone you know needs my assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office. My staff and I are here to serve you!



Legislation Update

This week I **presented** the following legislation:

[SB 712: The Clean Waterways Act](#) was unanimously approved by the Senate Agriculture, Environment and General Government Appropriations Committee this week. This comprehensive legislation incorporates recommendations from the Blue-Green Algae Task Force to expedite improvements and restoration of Florida's water bodies that have been adversely affected by blue-green algae blooms. The Clean Waterways Act addresses significant sources of nutrient pollution that are contributing to these blooms including onsite sewage treatment and disposal (septic) systems, overflows and discharges from Waste Water Treatment facilities, and stormwater runoff. It also establishes a matching grant program for local wastewater improvements. The bill will now go to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration.

[SB 676: The High Speed Passenger Rail Safety Act](#) was unanimously approved by the Senate Infrastructure and Security Committee this week. This important legislation enhances the safe operation of high-speed passenger rail systems in Florida by ensuring that rail corridors and railway operating equipment are safe and well maintained, pedestrian and road crossings are properly gated, high-risk corridors are fenced, and local emergency service providers are properly trained for increased risks

resulting from high speed train accidents. This bill will now go to the Senate Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations Committee for consideration.

[SB 666: Florida Development Finance Corporation](#) was approved by the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee this week. Every entity that we create should be transparent and have a sunset provision in place to ensure accountability. This legislation applies this to the Florida Development Finance Corporation. This legislation will now go to the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee for consideration.

The following Resolutions were **approved on the Senate Floor** this week:

[Senate Resolution 420: VA Mission Act of 2018](#) urging Congress and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure that the VA MISSION Act of 2018 is implemented in a manner consistent with the legislative intent and purpose of the act. The purpose of the VA MISSION Act of 2018 is to overhaul existing law on veteran health care to improve access for veterans, consolidate many community care programs, and expand eligibility for comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of veterans. This memorial expresses to Congress that Florida is committed to supporting and protecting the more than 1.5 million veterans living in Florida.

[Senate Resolution 546: Oppression of the Nicaraguan People](#) condemning the oppression of the Nicaraguan people under President Daniel Ortega. The resolution specifies that this oppression includes a violent crackdown on 2018 protests that were sparked by reforms to the social security system. Captured protesters were abused and tortured. Moreover, the Ortega regime has since raided offices of the news media, prosecuted journalists, and expelled human rights monitors and foreign journalists.

Made In Space HQ Relocates to Florida

Governor Ron DeSantis recently announced that Made In Space is relocating their corporate headquarters and satellite manufacturing operations from California to Florida. The headquarters relocation and expansion effort will involve more than \$3 million in new capital investment for Jacksonville.

“As a global leader for in-space manufacturing and assembly, Made In Space has a proven track record of delivering innovative space technology demonstrations at an industry-leading pace,” said Governor DeSantis. *“Made In Space’s move to Florida is more evidence of Florida’s success and growth in the aerospace industry. My administration remains committed to supporting that growth and ensuring we maintain and economic climate that allows companies like Made In Space to prosper.”*

“This is an exciting moment and relocating our headquarters to Jacksonville is a strategic step to position the company for long-term growth,” said MIS President and CEO Andrew Rush. *“By expanding our presence in Florida, we can leverage a skilled aerospace workforce, large scale infrastructure to support our growth, and key strategic partners like Space Florida that will accelerate our momentum as we continue to develop world-class space technology.”*

Founded in Silicon Valley in 2010, Made In Space has flown 8 different missions to the International Space Station. NASA awarded them a \$73.7 million contract to develop Archinaut One, the world’s first self-assembling satellite and will help NASA with long-term goals for missions from the Moon to Mars.

District 17 Highlights

McKee Botanical Garden

In 1932, Arthur McKee and Waldo Sexton opened McKee Jungle Gardens on an 80-acre tropical hammock in Vero Beach, Florida. The two land developers employed landscape architect William Lyman Phillips to design the basic infrastructure of streams, ponds and trails while they focused their efforts on assembling an outstanding collection of waterlilies and orchids surrounded by native vegetation with ornamental plants and exotic specimens from around the world. By the 1940's, more than 100,000 tourists were visiting the Gardens each year, deeming it one of Florida's earliest and most popular natural attractions.

McKee Botanical Garden also recently completed a Children's Garden which features a pond, boardwalk, whimsical mushroom sculptures, bamboo huts, a Grand Discovery Tree and Shipwreck play area. The Children's Garden came to fruition due to the dedication of a long list of supporters, including our First Lady of Vero Beach Alma Lee Loy.

McKee Botanical Garden has garnered national attention and is featured on the front cover of Southern Living Magazine for the January/February 2020 issue. The Garden is located at 350 US Highway 1 in Vero Beach and is open Tuesday- Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Sundays Noon-5:00 PM. For more information visit McKeeGarden.org or call (772) 794-0601.

Brevard Schools Foundation Scholarship Opportunities

The Brevard Schools Foundation (BSF) has awarded more than 902 scholarships to graduating seniors, with a value of more than \$700,000. Brevard Public School graduating seniors may apply for these scholarships beginning Monday, January 27th via the on-line portal BrevardSchoolsFoundation.AwardSpring.com. Applications will be accepted through Sunday, March 8, and must be submitted through the website.

Brevard Schools Foundation fills educational funding and opportunity gaps at 83 of Brevard Public Schools for 74,000 students and 5,000 teachers by supporting innovation, engaging communities, and changing lives. Funds come from private contributions, corporate support, public matching funds, fundraising and endowments.

For more information regarding the Brevard Schools Foundation scholarship program, please contact Linda at (321) 633-1000 *454 or filippini.linda@brevardschools.org.

United Against Poverty Indian River County

United Against Poverty Indian River County (UP) recently opened their new 46,000 square-foot Center at 1400 27th Street in Vero Beach. The UP Center will serve as a community hub where diverse social service partners can collaborate to provide critical services to help those in need regain economic self-sufficiency.

Originally founded in 2003, UP serves those in poverty by providing case management services, education, food and household subsidy, employment training and placement, and active referrals to other collaborative social service providers. The new center features a Health Clinic, Crisis Care, Education Center, Success Training Employment Program, Member Share Grocery Program and Collaborative Partner Space.



For more information about UP's programs, please visit UPIRC.org or call (772) 770-4142.

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