



## Good Morning!

As Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment and General Government, I recently had the opportunity to speak to the Florida Association of Counties Water Policy Committee with Representative Holly Raschien. Together we discussed the policy initiatives that were passed during the 2019 Legislative Session to improve water quality throughout the state of Florida.

Some of these initiatives include:

- Creating the Red Tide Mitigation and Technology Development Initiative.
- To protect against spills, pollution and bad actors, HB 5401 was passed to further empower the Department of Environmental Protection to protect and defend Florida's unique environment.
- To improve the beach restoration process, the Legislature passed the Coastal Management bill, sponsored by myself and Representative Chip LaMarca.

The Legislature also made critical investments to restore and conserve Florida's environment by appropriating more than \$686 million for water quality and protection. This includes \$149 million for water quality improvements like septic to sewer and wastewater improvement programs.

During event, I was honored to receive the Legislative Appreciation Award from the Small County Coalition. This award was presented for my efforts to "*consistently address the needs of small counties and rural areas.*"

I consider it a great honor to represent all of the citizens and visitors of 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!

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## Biosolids Rulemaking

This past session Representative Grall and I sponsored legislation to regulate the application of biosolids in order to reduce the migration of harmful nutrients that pollute our water bodies. [SB 1278: Biosolids Management](#) was unanimously passed by the Senate, but its companion bill unfortunately did not pass the House floor before the end of session.

The bill specified regulation for biosolids management and also called for innovative technologies in biosolids processing to be implemented as a means of protecting our

water resources and water quality. The legislation also required the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to adopt rules for biosolids management to include stringent land application rates and monitoring requirements. This would ensure that harmful nutrients, like nitrogen and phosphorus, that leach out of the sewage sludge do not impair our water quality.

I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in the upcoming session to address this pollution source in Florida's waters. Meanwhile, DEP will be holding three public rulemaking workshops this week to gather public comment on the proposed draft rulemaking language. The dates, times, and locations for each workshop are as follows:

Tuesday, June 25, 2019, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bob Martinez Center  
2600 Blair Stone Road, Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Conference Room 609  
[Webinar Registration](#)

Wednesday, June 26, 2019, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection Central District Office  
3319 Maguire Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32803  
[Webinar Registration](#)

Thursday, June 27, 2019, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Location: Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southeast District Office  
3301 Gun Club Rd MSC 7210-1, West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
[Webinar Registration](#)

Each workshop will also be broadcast via webinar. Parties can register to attend the webinar via their personal computers with audio by telephone or by speakers connected to their computer. DEP asks that you please register for the webinars in advance at the links provided above.

For a copy of the draft language, please see the [Biosolids Rulemaking page](#) or contact Stephanie Gudeman at [Stephanie.Gudeman@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:Stephanie.Gudeman@dep.state.fl.us).

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## **Governor Ron DeSantis Signs 2019-2020 State Budget**

Governor Ron DeSantis signed the [2019-2020 General Appropriations Act](#) on Friday, just one week after the Legislature sent it to him for review. The \$90.98 billion fiscal plan is the largest in the state's history, and provides nearly \$400 million in tax relief.

*"When I took office, I wanted to ensure that we would present a bold budget to Floridians that is both aspirational and attainable," said Governor DeSantis. "I am pleased that we have accomplished this goal with the Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget that includes the highest level of per student spending ever, record investments in our Everglades and water resources, and much needed funding for hurricane recovery, mental health, opioid abuse, public safety, and transportation and infrastructure."*

The budget made historic investments in Everglades restoration and initiatives to protect the state's water resources. The budget includes more than \$400 million for Everglades restoration, \$100 million for springs restoration, \$40 million for alternative water supply, and \$25 million to combat blue-green algae and red tide.

The budget also includes:

- Key investments in K-12 education, including per student funding of \$7,672, an increase of \$242 per student.
- More than \$123 million was included in the budget to fight the opioid epidemic.
- \$106 million to provide services to children and families who depend on Florida's child welfare system.
- \$70 million to serve individuals on the Agency for Persons with Disabilities home and community-based waiver program.
- \$9.7 billion for the State Transportation Work Program.
- \$2.9 billion for hurricane preparedness and recovery.

As the Governor does have line-item veto authority, he did eliminate approximately \$131.3 million worth of line items. For a complete list of vetoed line items, please visit [FLGov.com](http://FLGov.com).

The Governor also **signed** the following bills into law this week:

[HB 549: Continuing Education for Dentists](#), sponsored by Representative Sirois and myself, requires dentists to complete two hours of continuing education on the safe and effective prescribing of controlled substances during every biennial license renewal period.

[SB 168: Immigration Enforcement](#) makes great strides in protecting the public from illegal aliens who unlawfully reside in our state by prohibiting state and local entities from adopting policies that prohibit or impede law enforcement from cooperating with the federal immigration agency. The bill requires any sanctuary policies already enacted to be repealed, and gives both the Governor and Attorney General the authority to initiate enforcement actions against entities who violate the bill's provisions. This bill makes Florida's communities safer by requiring county jails to enter into agreements with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to temporarily house persons subject to immigration detainers. This will ensure that criminals who are in the United States unlawfully are not released back into our communities.

[SB 1552: Florida Red Tide Mitigation and Technology Development Initiative](#) established a partnership between the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute and Mote Marine Laboratory to develop technologies and approaches to control and mitigate red tide and its impacts. The Initiative is required to submit an annual report to the Legislature, beginning January 15, 2021.

[HB 311: Autonomous Vehicles](#) removes unnecessary obstacles that hinder the development of autonomous vehicle technology and solidifies Florida's position as a leading state for transportation innovation. This bill embraces the future of transportation by removing barriers to the advancement of autonomous vehicles and establishes a statewide statutory framework.

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## District 17 Highlights

### Indian River County An Age-Friendly Community

This past week I attended the Indian River County Commission meeting with Florida Department of Elder Affairs Secretary Ken Prudom, and the Senior Resource Alliance Chair Karen Deigl to support Indian River County working toward attaining the Age Friendly Community designation.

This designation demonstrates Indian River County's commitment to building a community that enriches the lives of people of all ages, especially our senior population. Age Friendly communities are those that develop and implement plans that address transportation, housing, public spaces, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, social participation, community and health services, and communication and information.

*"Throughout the next decade, the population of older Floridians is expected to increase by nearly 40%, so it is essential that communities are prepared. Our efforts continue as we work to make Florida a place where we can all live and live well."* said Florida Department of Elder Affairs Secretary Richard Prudom.

Earlier this year Florida earned the designation as an Age-Friendly State, making Florida the fourth state in the nation to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities.

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## Manufacturing in Brevard County

I had the opportunity to tour Mack Technologies in West Melbourne this week. Mack Technologies is a leading supplier of printed circuit board assembly, systems assembly, and electronics contract manufacturing services for the defense, communications, industrial, energy, and medical industries.

Modern manufacturing bears little resemblance to the tired stereotypes of poor working conditions and dirty environments. Today's manufacturing floors are high tech, and demand a highly skilled workforce to support these refined and robust manufacturing processes.

There are more than 500 manufacturing companies in Brevard County, employing approximately 25,000. To support this growing industry, the Florida Legislature expanded educational opportunities for Floridians by passing HB 7071 during the 2019 Legislative Session. This bill creates alternative pathways in high school for apprenticeships and increases career opportunities. The Legislature also appropriated \$40 million for the Florida Jobs Growth Grant Fund to support state and technical colleges in providing workforce skills to students.



The Delegation also secured funding for local workforce development programs to help meet the critical demand for high-skilled high-wage labor. This includes \$500,000 for Astronaut High School's New Welding Technology Program; \$100,000 for Cocoa High School's New Construction Program; and \$350,000 for the Space Coast Economic Development Council Talent Asset Pipeline.

I look forward to continuing to work with the community to support this growing industry in District 17.

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## 4th Annual Ruck March for Veterans

On June 29th at 8:00 AM the [4th Annual Ruck March](#) will take place at Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary to honor and remember those military members and veterans who have lost their lives at home and on the battlefield.

The "Ruck for Veterans" March is a 5-mile walk where participants will carry 15 to 30 pounds of non-perishable foods in ruck sacks to raise funds for Next Generation Veterans and the Words from War Monument. All food proceeds will go to the Indian River Charitable Trust Pantry.

The Words from War Monument will pay homage to the combat veterans that served in the Middle East. The monument is being created by sculptor, Ross Power, and when finished will stand 9-feet tall with a diameter of 18 feet. More than 44,000 lbs of precision cast concrete is being used to replicate T-Walls, the symbol of safety known by all desert combat veterans.

For more information contact please Bruce Cady at (772) 559-7774 or email [bruce.cady@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.cady@gmail.com).

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