



## Good Morning!

Today is the start of Daylight Savings Time, please remember to update your clocks to "Spring Forward" one hour.

This past week the Florida Senate also took a great step "Forward" in protecting and restoring water quality throughout our state. The Florida Senate approved the Clean Waterways Act, which expedites the restoration of Florida's water bodies that have been adversely affected by blue-green algae blooms.

The Clean Waterways Act, SB 712, addresses significant sources of nutrient pollution that are contributing to these blooms by transforming policy related to onsite sewage treatment and disposal (septic) systems, overflows and discharges from Waste Water Treatment facilities, and stormwater runoff. This important legislation has been sent to the House of Representatives for consideration.



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!

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## Legislation Update

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

[SB 630: Smoking in Public Parks](#) passed the Senate Floor. This legislation allows municipalities and counties the ability to restrict smoking within the boundaries of any of their own public parks. This legislation has been sent to the House of Representatives (House) for consideration.

[SB 1414: Fish and Wildlife Activities](#) increases the number of free fishing days from 4 to 6 days, to allow more anglers to get out and experience our state's natural resources. This legislation also expands the list of Conditional Nonnative species to include the Green Iguana and Black & White Tegou. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 666: FDFC](#) passed the Senate Floor. This legislation redesigns the board of directors, adds additional annual reporting requirements, and sets a sunset provision for the Florida Development Finance Corporation (FDFC). This legislation has now been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 1742: Home Medical Equipment Providers](#) was approved on the Senate Floor. This bill exempts licensed physicians and chiropractic physicians who sell or rent electrostimulation medical equipment supplies to their patients, from the requirement of an additional sales license. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

The following legislation **passed on the Senate Floor**:

[SB 294: Florida Veterans Protection Act](#) fights back against scammers by ensuring swift action for those attempting to commit fraud against our veterans. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 662: Education and the Military](#) gives greater flexibility to transitioning students from military families by considering a student a resident of the school district at the point in time in which the parent is transferred to a military installation within the state, for purposes of enrollment and preferential treatment in special programs. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[HB 879: Surviving Spouse Ad Valorem Tax Reduction](#) authorizes surviving spouses of certain permanently disabled veterans to carry over their discount on ad valorem taxes on homestead property. The bill will now be sent to the Governor for his signature.

[HB 171: Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel](#) requiring specified postsecondary institutions to waive the transcript fee for active duty members of the United States Armed Forces, certain veterans, and their spouses and dependents. This bill will now be sent to the Governor for his signature.

[HB 7011: K-12 Student Athletes](#) protects students health while they are participating in extracurricular activities and athletics. Specifically, the bill requires each public school that is a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association make an automated external defibrillator (AED) available in a clearly marked location for each athletic contest, practice, workout, or conditioning session. And that a school employee or volunteer with current training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of an AED be present at each athletic event or practice. This bill will now be sent to the Governor for his signature.

[SB 88: Child Safety Alarm Act](#) requires vehicles used by child care facilities be equipped with an alarm that prompts the driver to inspect the vehicle for the presence of children before leaving the area. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration. This bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 70: Alyssa's Law](#) requires each public school, beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, to implement an interoperable mobile panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responders. The bill is named after Alyssa Alhadeff, a student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, who was among the 17 killed on February 14, 2018. This bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 7020: Emergency Staging Areas](#) provides for the plan, design, and construction of permanent Staging Areas for Emergencies (SAFE) as part of Florida's Turnpike System to facilitate prompt emergency assistance in response to a declared state of emergency. This bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[HB 43: Jordan's Law](#) makes a number of changes to the laws related to the child welfare system in an attempt to address issues that were identified in the case of Jordan Belliveau, a two-year old boy who was killed by his mother in Pinellas County. The bill requires specified child welfare professionals, Guardian ad Litem program staff, and law enforcement officers to receive training on the recognition of and response to head trauma and brain injury in children under six years old. This bill has been sent back to the House for consideration.

[SB 994: Guardianship](#) reforms the state's guardianship program to better protect elderly individuals no longer able to care for themselves. This legislation adds additional factors for a court to consider when appointing a guardian, revises the requirements for a petition for the appointment of a guardian, and prohibits a guardian from consenting to or signing a Do Not Resuscitate order or taking other serious

actions on behalf of a ward without court approval. These additional safeguards are in response to a case in Orlando where a guardian signed Do Not Resuscitate orders against the wishes of the wards and without the knowledge of the wards' families. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 828: Florida ABLE Program](#) saves the Florida ABLE Program from repeal. The Florida ABLE Program was created in 2015 to encourage and assist individuals and families with tax-free savings and an investment to support individuals with unique abilities in maintaining health, independence, and quality of life. The program serves over 4,000 Florida families and helps families with children with unique abilities to better prepare for the future. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 1286 Contraband in Specified Facilities](#) prohibits bringing cellular phones, vapor generating electronic devices, and any medical marijuana or hemp products onto the grounds of state correctional institutions, county detention facilities, juvenile detention facilities juvenile commitment programs, and facilities operated by the Department of Children and Families, and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 1362: Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act](#) provides that a person who acquires a foreclosure property must give the tenant at least 90 days notice before evicting him or her. And if the tenant signed a lease before foreclosure, the successor in interest must allow him or her to remain for the term of the lease, even if that exceeds 90 days, unless the successor in interest sells to a person who intends to occupy the property as a primary residence. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 100: Dispensing Medicinal Drugs](#) authorizes a hospital, that operates a Class II or Class III pharmacy, to dispense a 72-hour supply of medicinal drugs, rather than a 48-hour supply, to patients during a declared state of emergency. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SB 7016: Statewide Office of Resiliency](#) establishes the Statewide Office of Resiliency within the Executive Office of the Governor. The bill creates the Statewide Sea-Level Rise Task Force to recommend consensus projections of the anticipated sea-level rise and flooding impacts along Florida's coastline. The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.

Please follow me on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for live updates from the Capitol.

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## Coronavirus Update

Governor Ron DeSantis recently issued an Executive Order, which allowed the state to establish a Coronavirus Response Protocol as part of a declared Public Health Emergency. In coordination with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Florida Department of Health (DOH) has been providing local medical providers with the most up to date COVID-19 treatment protocols. There are now three labs that can conduct Coronavirus testing, located in Jacksonville, Miami and Tampa. Local labs allow results to be available 24-48 hrs instead of 3-5 days from Federal labs.

*"While the threat COVID-19 poses to Florida remains low, I applaud the Governor for his immediate action to coordinate the statewide response which will be required to successfully contain the spread of the virus in Florida,"* said Florida State Surgeon General Dr. Scott A. Rivkees. *"As of today, we are only seeing isolated cases without any cases resulting from community transmission. Those who remain most at risk are elderly individuals and those with underlying medical conditions. I urge everyone to practice good hygiene including thorough handwashing after shaking hands or touching surfaces as one of the easiest and most effective measures to prevent illness from COVID-19 and other viral infections."*

According to the CDC, the flu is showing much more of an impact on Americans than COVID-19. You can find up-to-date information on COVID-19 at [www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/COVID-19/](http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/COVID-19/). The COVID-19 Call Center 1 (888) 779-6121 is available 24/7 to answer your questions. Questions may also be emailed to [COVID-19@flhealth.gov](mailto:COVID-19@flhealth.gov).

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## District 17 Highlights

### Rebuild Florida Workforce Development Grants Awarded

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) recently announced recipients of the Rebuild Florida Workforce Recovery Training Program grant. The program is designed to train Floridians in construction trades necessary to support disaster recovery efforts, including roofing, masonry, carpentry, concrete finishing, plumbing, HVAC, electricity, heavy equipment operations, carpet laying, window installation, plastering and welding.

Both Career Source Brevard and Indian River State College were among those organizations that were awarded the funding:

- [Career Source Brevard](#) (\$2,049,784) – To expand existing CareerSource programs to provide training in construction trades, including roofing, masonry, carpentry, concrete finishing, plumbing, HVAC, electricity, heavy equipment operations, carpet laying, glass/window installation, plastering and welding.
- [Indian River State College](#) (\$2,236,673) – To expand existing programs for HVAC, construction and solar panel technician training.

Rebuild Florida is a partnership of DEO and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Launched in September 2018, Rebuild Florida uses federal funding for Florida's long-term recovery efforts from the devastating impacts of natural disasters. For more information, visit [www.RebuildFlorida.gov](http://www.RebuildFlorida.gov).

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### Space Coast Honor Flight

On Saturday, March 14th the [Space Coast Honor Flight](#) will be hosting their Annual Stars & Stripes Fundraiser at the American Muscle Car Museum (3500 Sarno Rd in Melbourne). VIP tickets are \$200 and General Admission tickets are \$100.

Space Coast Honor Flight is a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring the service and sacrifices of military veterans. Their mission is to take a group of qualified military veterans on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Washington DC to visit most of the war memorials representing the wars in which these veterans served. Approximately 1,300 veterans have gone on Honor Flight trips since 2010, many of which served in World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War.

My husband and I have previously had the opportunity to serve as guardians to escort veteran Bill Nelles and Corporal John Coutsouros on the 45th trip of Space Coast Honor Flight. This program provides such a wonderful opportunity to thank those who have fought for and protected the freedoms we hold so dear.

If you are a WWII, Korean or Vietnam War Veteran and would like to participate in a future trip to Washington DC, please call (888) 750-2522. For more information, or to make your reservation, contact Teri at (321) 759-1063 or email [treasurer@schonorflight.org](mailto:treasurer@schonorflight.org).

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## Gifford Youth Achievement Center

The Gifford Youth Achievement Center (GYAC) will be hosting an Open House for the community to learn more about their programs and how those interested can get more involved.

[GYAC Open House](#)

Wednesday, March 18th from 3:30-5:00 PM  
GYAC 4875 43rd Avenue, Vero Beach

GYAC offers quality programs for children of all ages that help develop self-esteem, teach character, and encourage each individual to reach his or her ultimate potential. Through partnerships with cities and community organization in Indian River County, GYAC seeks to increase high school and college graduation rates, parental involvement and the positive sense of worth within every individual they serve. For more information contact GYAC (772) 794-1005.

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Follow me on Facebook and Twitter, and visit my [Senate website](#)



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