

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
2023 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED  
**Special Master on Claim Bills**

**SB 4 — Relief of Maria Garcia by the Pinellas County School Board**

by Senators Rouson and Book

Maria Garcia was a 41-year-old woman who suffered physical injuries on February 13, 2019, when she was struck by a school bus in Pinellas County, Florida. The bus was negligently operated by an employee of the Pinellas County School Board. Maria Garcia and the school board agreed to a consent judgment in the amount of \$3 million. Of the total amount sought and agreed to by Maria Garcia and the school board, the school board has paid the \$200,000 statutory cap to Maria Garcia. The bill authorizes and directs the school board to pay the remaining \$2.8 million.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

*Vote: Senate 39-1; House 105-0*