

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2026 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Ethics and Elections

CS/SB 572 — Ethics for Public Officers and Employees

by Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee and Senator Harrell

The bill revises the definition of the term “relative” in the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees to include current and former foster parents and foster children.

The bill provides an exception to the nepotism prohibitions for public officials under the Code of Ethics. Specifically, the bill adds an exception that does not prohibit the board, council, commission, or collegial body on which an elected official serves from appointing, employing, promoting, or advancing a relative who is an elected public official serving on the same board, council, commission, or collegial body to a leadership position.

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

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 113-0