

**The Florida Senate**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON PRE-K - 12**

**EDUCATION**

**Senator Burgess, Chair**

**Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Wednesday, February 18, 2026

**TIME:** 8:30—10:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** *Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Burgess, Chair; Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair; Senators Bradley, Calatayud, Gaetz, Jones, Massullo, Osgood, Simon, and Yarborough

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Review and Discussion of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget Issues Relating to Department of Education		Discussed
2	<b>CS/SB 1062</b> Education Pre-K - 12 / Brodeur (Compare CS/H 1059)	<p>Speech and Debate Education; Citing this act as the "Florida Speech and Debate Education Act"; creating the Florida Speech and Debate Hall of Fame; requiring the Department of Management Services to set aside an area on a specified level in the Capitol Building; designating Florida Speech and Debate Week annually in February; designating the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc., (FDI) as the official statewide speech and debate organization; requiring the Florida Virtual School to establish the Institute for Speech and Debate Innovation; providing duties of the institute, etc.</p> <p>ED      01/27/2026 Fav/CS            AED    02/18/2026 Fav/CS            FP</p>	Fav/CS Yea 9 Nays 0
3	<b>SB 1718</b> Calatayud (Identical CS/H 561, Compare CS/S 7036)	<p>Educator Preparation and Certification; Authorizing an educator preparation institute to allow certain program participants to enroll in introductory coursework; revising the criteria for the award of a temporary educator certification to include certain persons with expired professional certificates; requiring that subject area coverages and endorsements for a certificateholder be reinstated with the certificateholder's professional certificate; requiring the Florida Center for Teaching Excellence to collaborate with the David C. Anchin Center for the Advancement of Teaching for specified purposes, etc.</p> <p>ED      01/27/2026 Favorable            AED    02/18/2026 Favorable            RC</p>	Favorable Yea 9 Nays 0

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Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education  
Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 8:30—10:00 a.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
4	<b>SB 7038</b> Education Postsecondary (Compare CS/H 1279, S 1052)	Education; Requiring each Florida College System institution and state university to waive tuition and fees for members of the Florida State Guard if certain conditions are met; requiring entities that offer fee-based services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to disclose in writing whether the service may be obtained elsewhere at no cost; authorizing school district career centers to use alternative methods adopted by the board in lieu of common placement tests to assess students in basic communication and computation skills; providing that a fee waiver only applies to a full-time undergraduate student, beginning with a specified academic year, etc.	Fav/CS Yea 9 Nays 0
AED 02/18/2026 Fav/CS RC			

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**5 Other Related Meeting Documents**

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