

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 | CS/SB 1062 Education Pre-K - 12 / Brodeur (Compare CS/H 1059) | 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. ED 01/27/2026 Fav/CS AED 02/18/2026 Fav/CS FP | Fav/CS Yeas 9 Nays 0 |
| 3 | SB 1718 Calatayud (Identical CS/H 561, Compare CS/S 7036) | 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. ED 01/27/2026 Favorable AED 02/18/2026 Favorable RC | Favorable Yeas 9 Nays 0 |

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| 4 | SB 7038 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. AED 02/18/2026 Fav/CS RC | Fav/CS Yeas 9 Nays 0 |
| 5 | Other Related Meeting Documents | | |