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July 1, 2025

ROUNDUP: Florida Senate Democrats on DeSantis's Budget Vetoes

Tallahassee, FL — On Monday, Governor DeSantis vetoed nearly \$600 million from the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Many Senate Democrats have spoken out about line-item vetoes that impact their communities, and their quotes are assembled below.

Senate Democratic Leader Lori Berman:

“So much money in educational services, after-school care, and support for people with special needs was cut from this budget. I understand that vetoes are part of the budget process, but I can’t understand the thought process behind cutting so many projects that help our kids. For example, the Governor vetoed a previously funded project that provides support to teenagers who are in the unfortunate position of being primary caregiver to their parents. We shouldn’t be sacrificing our kids at the altar of fiscal conservatism.”

Leader Pro Tempore Tracie Davis:

“While I’m thrilled to bring so many projects back to Jacksonville, it is disappointing to see so many programs cut for social services, behavioral health, early learning, and youth activities. Our state budget should be setting people up for success, not targeting communities that need support the most.”

Senator Shevrin Jones (to [Florida Politics](#), on the veto for *One Hundred Black Men of South Florida*):

“I’m not the least bit surprised. Look at the name of the organization — 100 Black Men. Look at the track record of this Governor. That alone should tell you everything you need to know. This veto is consistent with an administration that has shown us time and again exactly what it thinks about investing in Black communities. It’s disappointing, but sadly, it’s not out of character.”

Senator Rosalind Osgood:

“As lawmakers, we labor, negotiate, and advocate on behalf of the communities we serve — only to see much of that work vetoed and dismissed. I am deeply disappointed by the unnecessary political tension that overshadowed this year’s budget decisions. But I know our value isn’t measured by what survives a line-item veto, but by the faithful service we provide to our constituents every day. I will not retreat — I will reimagine, reengage, and recommit. These vetoes are not the final word; they are a refining fire. I move forward with an even greater determination to turn partisanship into partnership. God bless America, and God bless Governor DeSantis.”

Senator Carlos Guillermo Smith:

“The Governor’s heavy-handed vetoes of community projects we worked hard to secure in the state budget will hurt both Republican and Democratic constituencies alike. His decision to eliminate funding intended to address soaring utility costs, homelessness, and HIV prevention was shortsighted and will cost our state more, financially, in the long run.”

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