



RADER READER

FLORIDA STATE SENATOR KEVIN RADER,
DISTRICT 29

DEAR FRIENDS:

This year marks the 243 birthday of the United States of America and I hope you all enjoy your Independence Day! As is tradition, many will be barbecuing by the pool and finishing the day with fireworks. It is important that we enjoy ourselves while still remaining safe, so in honor of National Firework Safety Month, I will be sharing some crucial information in this month's newsletter. Also, July 1, 2019 marks the implementation date for a number of new laws that were passed this Legislative Session. I will be highlighting some that I thought would interest our community.

Have plenty of fun this July and enjoy your sun filled days!

Kevin Rader



FIREWORKS QUICK FACTS

It is important that caution is used when handling fireworks. Thousands are injured each year and just as many fires are caused by fireworks.

- Most fireworks are capable of starting structure and vehicle fires in addition to outside fires.
- During these fires, civilians are injured and can directly cause property damage.
- Two-thirds of fires started due to fireworks are brush, grass, or forest fires.
- About half of the reported fires on Independence Day are due to fireworks.
- Over half of fireworks related injuries result in burns and contusions.
- About twenty percent result in injury to one's eyes, head, and face.

I urge you to be very careful!

WATER SAFETY TIPS

Popular summer activities for Floridians generally include cooling off by the pool or going to our beautiful beaches. If not properly attentive or prepared, a fun day can take a turn for the worst. Each year there are several drownings, of which over a hundred are fatal. More than half of the fatal drownings are children between the ages of 1-4, in fact, Florida leads the nation in the drowning rate of children. These catastrophes tend to occur in home swimming pools, whereas children age 5 or older are more likely to drown in natural bodies of water. For these reasons Florida's Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPPP) identifies three layers of safety: supervision, barriers, and emergency preparedness.



SUPERVISE

Designate an adult to watch the children when at the pool, beach, or lake.



BARRIERS

Make your home pool safe by using four-sided fencing, gates, pool alarms, and locks.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Always have a phone nearby to immediately call 911. Everyone should know the basics of swimming, including floating and moving through the water. When enjoying bodies of water, children should always wear life jackets, even if they know how to swim.



NEW LAWS EFFECTIVE JULY 1

SB 426-FIREFIGHTERS

It has been several years now that this bill has been introduced during Legislative Session. This year it was successfully passed unanimously by both Chambers and signed by the Governor. This new law allows Firefighters who were diagnosed with certain cancers to be eligible for disability and death benefits. It also provides them with a one-time payout of \$25,000 upon initial diagnosis and treatment at no cost to them.

SB 7098-DEATH BENEFITS

This new law originated from the 2018 Midterm Elections as Amendment 7. This also passed both the Senate and House Chambers unanimously and stipulates that survivors of law-enforcement officers, correctional officers, correctional probation officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, paramedics and Florida National Guard members lost while on-duty can be eligible for death benefits. This was signed into law on March 16, 2019 by Governor DeSantis.

SB 76-WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS WHILE DRIVING

This bill went through several versions during this year's Legislative Session. It was ultimately finalized and signed into law by the Governor. The final piece of legislation that is now effective makes it a primary offense to use wireless communications devices in a handheld manner while driving. Previously this was categorized as a secondary offense, but now law enforcement has the ability to enforce this as a motor vehicle violation. In addition, drivers must be totally hands-free when operating wireless devices in school zones and in construction zones when workers are present. This new law will go a long way to help keep Floridians safe.

SB 168-FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

After long contentious debates in the Senate and House, unfortunately, this bill was passed and signed into law June 14, 2019 by Governor DeSantis. Key points of this new law are its banning of "sanctuary cities" and its mandate of local law enforcement agencies to assist federal government officials to enforce immigration laws, more specifically Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Interestingly, no county or city in Florida has been found to not be in compliance.

HB 19-PRESCRIPTION DRUG IMPORTATION PROGRAMS

The bill addresses the increasingly high prescription drug prices. This is an issue that directly affects many in our community and this bill will create the "Canadian Prescription Drug Importation Program" and the "International Prescription Drug Importation Program." It would require safety standards to be consistent with the current federal requirements for the manufacturing and distribution of prescription drugs. However, the implementation of the program is contingent on authority granted by federal law or rule.

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DISTRICT 29 CITIES

CITY OF BOCA RATON
TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH
CITY OF PARKLAND
CITY OF COCONUT CREEK
CITY OF BELLE GLADE
CITY OF SOUTH BAY
VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON

INCLUDING PORTIONS OF:
CORAL SPRINGS
LAKE WORTH
BOYNTON BEACH
DELRAY BEACH