



**State Senator
Audrey
Gibson
District 6**



**Session in
Review
Week 3
March 20-24,
2017**

Dear Constituent and Friend,

This week, we observed Military Day in the Senate, saluting all those who served in the various branches of our military and the Florida National Guard. As Chair of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security, and on behalf of the Senate, I was honored to host the program including recognition of the Northeast Florida Women Veterans, a nonprofit organization that advocates for our women veterans and helps them succeed in life after the military and the Montford Point Marines.

The Montford Point Marines were the first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps and trained between 1942-1949 at Camp Montford Point, a segregated base near camp Lejeune North Carolina. Nearly 20,000 Montford Point trained there, of which more than 13,000 served overseas. There are 450 living Montford Point Marines nationwide, 20 of whom reside in Florida and 4 traveled to Tallahassee to participate in our program. The Montford Point Marines are the recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor, while in Tallahassee, received recognition, a gift of appreciation from the Senate President, and the Governor's Veterans Service Award medal.

Thank you to all current and former military members for your courageous service to this country. Words cannot express our gratitude!

On the Senate Floor:

SR 1786: United States Air Force F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter Aircraft.

I was happy to present this resolution expressing support for basing United States Air Force F-35A Lightning II joint strike fighter aircraft at the Florida Air National Guard at Jacksonville International Airport. The resolution was unanimously adopted by the Senate.

CS/SB 60: Children Obtaining Driver Licenses expands the "Keys to Independence" program that provides motor vehicle insurance and driver licenses to children in foster care whether in relative or non-relative placement. The program is authorized to pay costs for a driver education program and the obtaining of a driver license. I was delighted to support this bill which helps our foster care youth on the road to independence. There are other technical components of the legislation and I encourage you to contact my office for details.

CS/CS/SB 106: Vendors Licensed Under the Beverage Law revises current statute to allow for the sale of other than beer and wine without having a separate entrance from the main store, in certain stores holding a liquor license. What has been referred to as the "wall" bill, includes a 5-year phase in of the repeal the current statute. During committee hearing on the bill, I filed an amendment to prohibit issuing or transferring any new liquor licenses for facilities located within 1,000 feet of any school. This language is also part of the bill. The legislation now moves to the House.

As we continue through Session, I will keep you informed on various issues of impact. If you have questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact my office.

As always, it is an Honor and a Pleasure to serve you in the Florida Senate!

Sincerely,

Audrey Gibson
State Senator
District 6

Tune into these stations between 6 am-6 pm Mon to Fri to watch legislative action: www.flsenate.gov/offices/minority or WJCT-TV-Comcast channel 212, or WJCT-DT 7.4 or WUFT-TV-Comcast channel 210, Digital Channel 5.2 or Cox 13.

Session Snapshots



Montford Point Marines and Senate President Joe Negron



Delta Days at the State Capital



PACE Center for Girls and Councilman Matt Schellenberg



Florida Fraternal Order of Police



Florida Young Democrats



The ARC of Jacksonville

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