

News You Can Use from State Senator Audrey Gibson



**2019 Legislative
Session in Review
Week 4
March 25-29,
2019**



**101 E. Union Street, Suite 104 Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 359-2553**

Dear Constituent and Friend,

The fourth week of session has concluded and we are heading towards getting started on the state budget. Even as we continue in committee meetings discussing policy that impacts our state, the most important meetings for me are those with constituents and stakeholders who come to visit and talk about their concerns and priorities. I am working towards addressing many issues that have been discussed with me through legislation that I filed as you will see below. Please don't hesitate to weigh in on these as well as other policy bills making their way through the process.

My bills in committee this week:

SB 452: Elder Abuse Fatality Review Teams: As discussed last week the bill authorizes the establishment of elder abuse fatality review teams, composed of volunteer members, in each of the 20 judicial circuits. The teams will review fatal incidents of elder abuse and neglect, and make policy or other recommendations to help prevent future incidents of elder abuse-related fatalities to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The bill now goes to its last committee before the floor for a full Senate vote!

SB 990: Unemployment Compensation, allows employees who are victims of domestic violence to become eligible for reemployment benefits when they must leave work because of a reasonable fear that they will be the victim of a future act of violence at, in transit to, or departing from work. Providing this assistance, for a limited time, increases protections for victims of domestic violence and allows individuals to seek safer employment either in a different department at their current job or at a new job. The bill passed the committee unanimously.

SB 1436: Closing the Gap Grant Proposals: The bill adds a priority focus area for the "Closing the Gap" grant projects to include Alzheimer's disease and dementia. The "Closing the Gap" program provides grants for activities designed to reduce racial and ethnic disparities. After unanimous passage SB 1436 heads to its next committee.

SB 1466: Protection for Vulnerable Investors: There is nothing more heartbreaking than to hear of a senior lose their life savings because of a broken trust. SB 1466 addresses this type of financial exploitation. The legislation adds financial securities dealers and investment advisers to the list of specified persons who must report to the central abuse hotline. Securities dealers and investment advisers will be able to place a temporary hold on financial transactions when exploitation of a vulnerable adult is suspected and must notify the Office of Financial Regulation of the hold.

Other bills of interest this week:

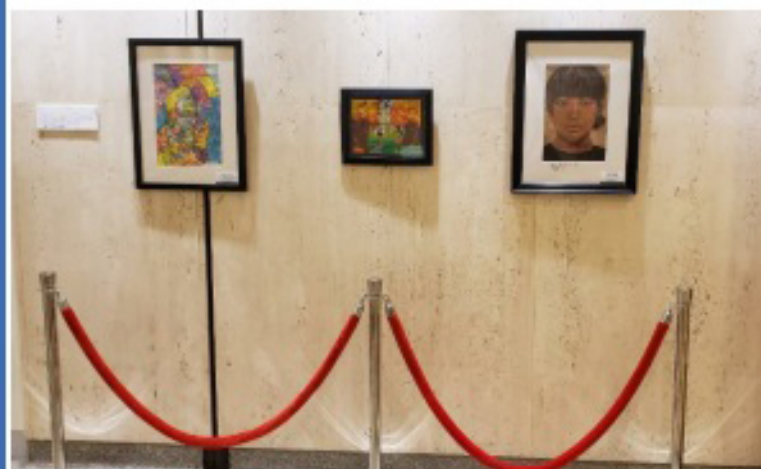
SB 1136: Cyberharassment by Senator Gayle Harrell-Martin County, expands Florida Statutes to include the prohibition and criminal punishment for willfully and maliciously publishing by electronic means, a sexually explicit image of another person without the depicted person's consent. This expands previous language that was restricted to the internet and offers more privacy protection. I supported this bill which passed unanimously.

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

Sincerely,

**Audrey Gibson
State Senator
District 6**

Weeks 4 in the Senate!



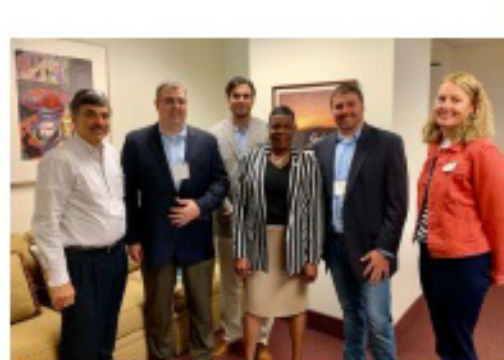
**2019 Jacksonville Art in the Capitol Winner Cielo Bessa
with her parents Reiko Nakajima and Michael Bynum**



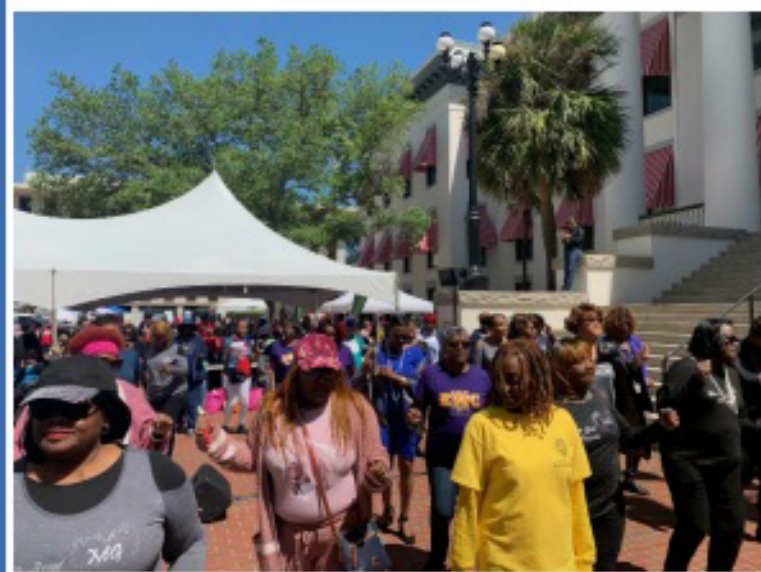
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Florida Youth Shine**



**Members of the
Jacksonville Florida Bar**



**Members of the National
Utility Contractors
Association**



**Enjoying Jacksonville Seniors at the Capitol
-Senior Day 2019-**