



# BOYD'S EYE *View*

*District 21 Newsletter - March 19, 2021*

**Senator Jim Boyd**



COMMITTEES: Banking and Insurance (Chair), Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development, Criminal Justice, Judiciary, Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

## SB 72 Delivers Covid-19 Liability Protections

*Florida Senate Provides Liability Protections for Businesses and Healthcare Providers*

From day one of the COVID-19 pandemic, Florida's devoted health care providers put their own health at risk to serve their fellow Floridians and Florida's business owners have worked tirelessly making their best efforts to stay open and adhere to changing safety guidance and regulations. The Florida Senate passed Senate Bill 72: Civil Liability for Damages Relating to COVID-19, by Senator Jeff Brandes, to shield businesses from fraudulent or opportunistic lawsuits related to the COVID-19 pandemic and offer strong protections from civil liability for health care providers working to serve Floridians during the pandemic.

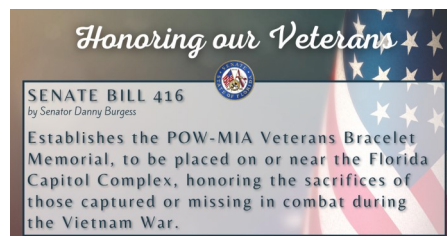
When a business makes a good faith effort to adhere to changing safety guidelines to reopen during a period of extreme uncertainty, our laws should protect them and our legal system should not be a place where they face frivolous and costly litigation.

We must also work to ensure that health care providers, who do the right thing amidst continually fluctuating and conflicting guidelines, are not threatened with unmerited lawsuits that hinder their ability to serve their patients. Especially in a situation like COVID-19, where "elective" medical procedures were temporarily suspended, every situation cannot be anticipated and many health care providers were faced with making difficult judgement calls.

As our state continues to fully reopen and recover, Senate Bill 72 works to separate the serious and merited claims from the fraudulent and unfair claims brought against a Florida business or health care provider.

## Vietnam Veterans Honored by FL Senate

To memorialize the sacrifices and experiences of those captured or missing in combat during the Vietnam War, the Florida Senate unanimously approved Senate Bill 416: POW-MIA Veterans Bracelet Memorial, by Senator Danny Burgess. The legislation establishes the memorial, which will be funded and administered by the Big Bend Chapter 96, Vietnam Veterans of America, and will be placed on or near the Florida Capitol Complex.



The Florida Senate is committed to ensuring Florida remains the number one state in the nation for our military and veteran communities, and their families.

### Contact Us:

#### District 21:

Manatee and a portion of Eastern Hillsborough County

#### District Office

717 Manatee Ave. W.  
Suite 100  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
(941) 742-6445

#### Tallahassee Office

312 Senate Office Building  
404 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 487-5021

## Women's History Month



March is Women's History Month, which gives us an opportunity to honor the bold and groundbreaking accomplishments of the women in our state.

- Electa Arcotte Lee (1807 to 1860) taught in the first school in Manatee County during the 1840s and 1850s, for five dollars a term.

- Senator Toni Jennings was the first Republican woman Senate President, with 25 years in the Florida Legislature. She also served as the first female Lieutenant Governor in Florida.



[flsenate.gov/Senators/S21](http://flsenate.gov/Senators/S21)



Twitter: @JimBoydFL

Email: [boyd.jim.web@flsenate.gov](mailto:boyd.jim.web@flsenate.gov)