



THE BOOK REPORT



PERSONS WITH EXCEPTIONALITIES

This past week I met with individuals from the **Ann Stork Center**, which works to help **developmentally disabled** individuals **discover their abilities** and **build independence**. Activities that build upon this mission include adult day training, hi-ability therapy services, nutrition services, and a mobility management program.

Mobility and transportation are a big concern for disabled individuals because they often do not have access to transportation needed to make it to appointments or attend therapy. After learning about these unique, unmet transportation needs, I filed **SB76 Transportation Disadvantaged**. This bill revises the duties of community transportation coordinators and coordinating boards so that the regional fare system is better able to provide cross-county mobility for disabled individuals that need to access employment, health care, education, shopping, etc.

Another bill that pertains to disabled individuals, **SB82**, has gained traction after passing its first two committees. This bill would bring changes to the **iBudget waiver**, such as revamping how people with disabilities obtain **access to support coordinators** and how they appeal decisions related to the amount of money they are allocated.

IN THIS ISSUE

DISABILITY DAY
IN THE CAPITAL

BILL ROUNDUP

IN THE NEWS

WHAT'S NEXT?

BILL ROUNDUP

SB1628 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

REMEMBERING THE PAST FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Monday February 10th, **SB1628** passed **favorably** in the Committee on Education to teach Florida's youth about the **Holocaust and Nazi atrocities**. This bill would illustrate the ramifications of **prejudice, racism, and stereotyping** for the purposes of **encouraging the tolerance of diversity** in a pluralistic society.



SB698 ASSISTED REPRODUCTION FACILITIES

FERTILITY FRAUD

Tuesday, February 11th, **SB698** passed **favorably** in the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs. This bill would protect individuals seeking fertility treatment by ensuring proper handling and storage of materials and providing recourse for predatory or negligent physicians.

SB1644 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PREVENTING ABUSIVE INCIDENTS

Monday February 10th, **SB1644** passed **favorably** in the Committee on Education. This bill prohibits the seclusion of students with disabilities and revises the circumstances and manner in which a student with disabilities may be restrained.



SB54 TAX EXEMPTION FOR DIAPERS & INCONTINENCE PRODUCTS

EASING FINANCIAL BURDEN

Tuesday, February 11th, **SB54** passed **favorably** in the Committee on Commerce and Tourism. This bill exempts the sale of diapers & incontinence products from state sales and use tax, which is a much needed measure for low income families struggling to make ends meet..

A photograph of three people sitting at a wooden table in what appears to be a courtroom or a formal hearing. On the left, a woman with dark hair is looking towards the center. In the middle, a woman with blonde hair and glasses is looking towards the right. On the right, a man with a beard and a grey suit is looking towards the center. The background is a wood-paneled wall.

IN THE NEWS

AP News

"Florida Bill would Require Consent to Perform Pelvic Exams"

By Brendan Farrington

Opposing Pelvic Exams

SB 1470 is leading the way in protecting patients

This bill would **ban medical students** from performing an examination on **unconscious women** without first obtaining **prior explicit consent**. Senator Book says that "women should give medical consent" before an examination that gives "**no medical benefit**" to the patient. This legislation is direly needed for the medical field because, as Senator Book pointed out, there is "**nothing in Florida law**" that prevents this bodily intrusion.

WFTS News

"Florida Bill would Require Minors to Have Parental Consent for Abortions"

By Associated Press

Parental Consent for Abortion

Senator Book joined with fellow **Senate Democrats** to strongly **oppose SB 404**, which would require girls under the age of 18 to get a **parent's permission** before having an abortion. This bill is **opposed by many medical organizations** such as the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, and the American Medical Women's Association. Despite already having a Florida law **requiring parental notification of abortion**, the bill sponsor feels this is not enough. Senator Book said that this bill "is **trying to legislate a family unit**" and "the judicial waiver process is one that is complicated, complex, making young girls feel afraid and nervous to engage with it, making them wait longer for **more costly** procedures and **more invasive** ones. I think **our young girls deserve better**".





WHAT'S NEXT?

ON THE BILL ROADMAP

SB70 ALYSSA'S LAW

FEB 25TH AT 9:00 AM
APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

SB1644 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN PUBLIC SCHOLS

FEB 25TH AT 9:00 AM
APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

SB698 REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

FEB 26TH AT 9:00 AM
COMMITTEE ON
RULES

