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The second Committee Week in preparation for the 2021 Florida Legislative Session is nearly here!

During the first week, I saw several presentations highlighting issues facing Florida, including updates on COVID-19 mitigation and vaccination efforts. We have also begun to examine the state budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, focusing on the pandemic's impact on personal income for Floridians, unemployment, population growth, the housing market, criminal justice and courts system, sales tax, and Florida's general revenue.

As always, it is a great honor to serve and represent you and the members of District 8. Share this newsletter with your friends and family so that they too can stay informed with our community updates, district-wide achievements, and future legislation.



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## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and  
Civil Justice, *Chair*  
Transportation, *Vice Chair*  
Agriculture  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,  
Tourism, and Economic Development  
Criminal Justice  
Environment and Natural Resources

SELECT COMMITTEE:  
Select Committee on Pandemic  
Preparedness and Response

**SENATOR KEITH PERRY**  
8th District

January 21, 2021

Dear Gator Community,

Thank you for taking the time to express your concerns to me regarding the accident that occurred Saturday night on West University Avenue. This accident is a tragedy in our community and has impacted one too many lives. As a parent whose children have both attended the University of Florida, I grieve with the university's student body, families, parents, and faculty and staff.

At this time, there is still a lot of unknown in regards to the nature of the crash. I am working closely with the Florida Department of Transportation, law enforcement officers, and city officials to thoroughly investigate the accident and determine what safety measures need to be in place.

As Vice Chairman of the Florida Senate Committee on Transportation, I will work to restore safety and prioritize viable solutions on this matter. Right now, I am drafting legislation to address traffic and pedestrian safety. This bill would require crosswalks to be coordinated with traffic control signal devices and require a vehicle to come to a complete stop before pedestrians are permitted to enter a crosswalk. I filed similar legislation last year and I am hoping to work closely with my colleagues in the Legislature to pass this bill.

I know that this accident has caused many heavy hearts for our community members and I will continue to fight for your voices and the safety of our collective community while in Tallahassee. My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Maggie Paxton, Sophia Lambert, and all students affected during this difficult time.

If you need support, or if I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office for help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Keith Perry".

Senator Keith Perry  
Florida Senate, District 8

# COMMUNITY UPDATES

## PUTNAM COUNTY DISTRICT OFFICE

My staff will be working from  
our Putnam County Satellite  
Office on Tuesday, January 26th

from 9am to 5pm. Come by to discuss any constituency matters, legislation, or items that we can further assist with.

2509 Crill Avenue  
Palatka, FL 32177



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## **BLUEGRASS & BBQ**

Come and enjoy this live musical performance by bluegrass musicians and local artists. There will be food provided from Big Lee's Serious About BBQ as well as public art and a backdrop of the historic Ocala Union Train Station. Tickets are \$5 and you can purchase tickets at the site of the event!

WHEN: January 22nd from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

WHERE: Tuscawilla Art Park  
223 NE Fifth St. Ocala, Florida 34470

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## **STATEWIDE UPDATES**

**CONNECTING EMPLOYERS AND VETERANS**

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## Profile Walkthrough

Walkthrough the process of creating a profile,  
sneak a peek of the business view,  
and ask your questions.

View Schedule and Register at  
<http://veteransascendweekly.eventbrite.com>

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## READING SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNTS



The Florida Department of Education Reading Scholarship Accounts application process is officially open. This scholarship focuses on helping students to read and offers \$500 for tutoring and other services. To learn more about this scholarship visit [here!](#)

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

**Florida High School Athletic Associations Public  
Liaison Advisory Committee**



**THE FLORIDA SENATE**  
**SENATOR WILTON SIMPSON**  
*President*

It is an honor to be appointed to the Florida High School Athletic Association Public Liaison Advisory Committee. I look forward to supporting our student-athletes and witness their successes in and out of the classroom. Thank you Senate President Wilton Simpson; it is a privilege to represent bright and competitive students across the state of Florida.

## NEWSWORTHY

### SENATOR KEITH PERRY IN THE NEWS

- [Senator Keith Perry is confident in law enforcement at the State Capitol.](#)
- [Senator Keith Perry files legislation to boost child restraints from 5 to 6 years old.](#)

Do you have events, accomplishments, or local news that you wish to share with members in District 8?

Please email your submissions to [Perry.Keith.Web@flsenate.gov](mailto:Perry.Keith.Web@flsenate.gov)

It's an honor to represent you in the Florida Senate. Thank you for your continued support, input, and patience as we work together to make lasting impacts in our community. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, concerns, or thoughts at any

time. We are here for you!

Sincerely,

*Keith Perry*

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