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# 2024 Legislative Session

Dear Residents,

Greetings from District 32! Since returning home from the Florida Capitol after the close of the 2024 Legislative Session, I am eager to provide a comprehensive recap of the entire sixty-day Session. As we dive into the key moments and decisions made during this time, it's crucial to reflect on how these actions will shape our community's future. Now, let's explore the significant highlights from the 2024 Legislative Session!

Although the 2024 Legislative Session has been completed, I'll continue sharing updates straight to your inbox, with valuable information on all things District 32!

I am grateful for the opportunity to represent you, and I am confident that together, we can make a positive impact on the lives of Floridians. Stay tuned for further updates and thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility of shaping a better future for our great state!

#### District 32 Secures Millions in Florida's Budget!

Entering this legislative session, I was highly aware of the remarkable programs and organizations within District 32 that were in need of financial support to better serve our community. With a firm commitment to addressing these needs, I worked tirelessly to secure funding in Florida's budget. I am pleased to announce that a total of \$6,964,640.000 has been secured for District 32, aiming to help the initiatives and services crucial to the well-being of residents in District 32. Below, you'll find a list of

the programs that successfully made it into the budget:

- Broward County Student Athlete Mentoring Expansion Program \$250,000
- Forever Family Foster Care & Adoption Services \$585,000
- Lauderdale Lakes Alzheimer's Care Center/Alzheimer Care Services Expansion
   \$101,449
- Lauderhill Lift Station #25 Reconstruction Relocation \$750,000
- Old Plantation Water Control District \$500,000
- Tamarac Canal Culvert Gate & Aluminum Headwall Improvements \$451,081
- Lauderdale Lakes Fire Station Walk-In Triage \$389,000
- Tamarac Park Safety & Health Enhancements & Upgrades \$271,577
- Sunrise Fire Rescue Regional Highway Response Equipment \$400,000
- North Lauderdale Regional Training & Emergency Operations Center \$250,000
- City of Fort Lauderdale Sidewalk Repairs & ADA Upgrades \$1,500,000
- 94th Avenue Traffic & Pedestrian Safety and Roadway Improvements Tamarac -\$716,533
- Senior Emergency Center at David Posnack Jewish Community Center -\$800,000

As I reflect on this legislative session, I am immensely proud to have had the opportunity to represent and advocate for the residents of District 32. It has been a privilege to work alongside dedicated colleagues and community members to secure vital funding for our district's programs and initiatives. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Senate President Passidomo (R- Collier) and Appropriations Chair Senator Broxson (R- Escambia) for their outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in crafting Florida's budget. Their commitment to serving our state is truly commendable, and I am grateful for their collaboration in advancing the interests of our constituents. As we eagerly await the Governor's signature on the final budget, I am hopeful that the projects we've championed will receive the funding needed to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. Together, we've reached a significant milestone, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact of these investments on our community.

#### **Session Wins!**

I'm thrilled to share that two of our bills, <u>SB 1688 - Career Themed Courses</u> and <u>SB 62 - Resident Status for Tuition Purposes</u>, passed in the Florida Legislature during the 2024 Session! <u>SB 1688</u> mandates that school districts must notify middle school students and their parents about available career and technical education opportunities. Additionally, it obligates school districts to develop strategies for promoting and informing students about career and technical education programs. By mandating districts to inform students about career options and promoting technical education programs, the bill ensures a more informed student body. It focuses on making information accessible and allowing every student to explore diverse career

possibilities.

SB 62 - Resident Status for Tuition Purposes allows individuals who have been incarcerated in a state or federal correctional facility in Florida not to lose his or her residency status. Geared towards education, this bill is a step forward for previously incarcerated students to either continue or start their education post-release. Affording formerly incarcerated individuals access to in-state tuition rates demonstrates a commitment to promoting a more forgiving educational environment that values rehabilitation and second chances.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to **Representative Dunkley (D-Broward County)** and **Representative Edmonds (D-Palm Beach)** for their untiring dedication to these causes over in the House. I would also like to thank my fellow legislatures for supporting these very important bills.

To view SB 62 - Resident Status for Tuition Purposes (left) and SB 1688 - Career Themed Courses (right) passing on the Senate Floor, please see the videos below!





## Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program

This Session, the Florida Legislature voted in favor of a \$20 million compensation to Dozier School victims who suffered abuse.

Historically, the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys in North Florida committed the most heinous actions, such as rapes and beatings, against its students. After more than a decade of seeking justice and sharing their stories, the victims of the Dozier School will finally have a chance to be compensated for the horrors they faced.

With the compensation attached to the 2024 bill, <u>SB 24 - Dozier School for Boys</u> and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program, the Florida Legislature was able to vote on <u>SB 24</u> so that the victims of this horrible abuse get the compensation that they not only need but deserve.



### **The Fight Continues**

Oftentimes in the Florida Senate, certain bills face challenges in making it to the Senate floor in order to become law, and unfortunately, two bills I proposed, <u>SB 64 - Landlords and Tenants</u>, and <u>SB 354 - Tash Force on Missing and Murdered African American Women</u>, didn't get a chance to be heard. Despite this setback, I remain committed to addressing these critical issues and will return to the drawing board to continue pursuing avenues for change.

<u>SB 64</u>, the Landlords and Tenants bill, was a crucial piece of legislation aimed at fostering fairness and stability in the rental housing market in Florida. At its core, the bill sought to address the needs and concerns of both landlords and tenants, recognizing the delicate balance between ensuring landlords can maintain their properties and providing tenants with affordable and secure housing options.

SB 354 would have established the Task Force on Missing and Murdered African American Women within the Department of Law Enforcement in Florida. This task force is designed to advise the executive director of the department and report to the Legislature on recommendations aimed at addressing and reducing violence against African American women and girls in the state. Additionally, the bill proposed that the task force act as a liaison between the executive director, agencies, and non-governmental organizations that provide services to victims, victims' families, and victims' communities.

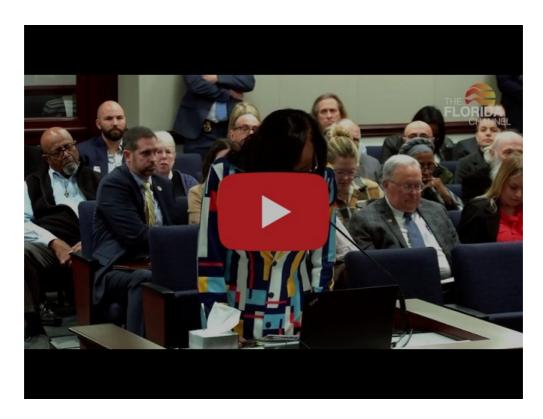
Despite the setback of these two bills not being heard in the Florida Senate, I will remain deeply committed to addressing these critical issues and am determined to navigate the challenges ahead. I will return to the drawing board and use this time as an opportunity to reassess, strategize, and double down my efforts. I'll continue to engage with the community, listen to the voices on the ground, and seek innovative solutions. The sky is the limit for District 32!

#### **Cold Case Murders**

This Session was the first time I introduced <u>SB 350 - Cold Case Murders</u>, or the "Decker-Backmann Act." This legislation represented a crucial step forward in addressing the heartbreaking issue of cold case murders in our state. With a deep commitment to seeking justice for victims and their families, this bill provides a pathway for solving unresolved cases. It mandated law enforcement agencies to review cold cases that had gone unsolved for at least 5 years, responding to requests from family members or their legal representatives. This review process involved reexamining old evidence and pursuing any potential leads that could shed new light on these tragic cases. Furthermore, the bill aimed to establish a central database at Florida International University, ensuring comprehensive reporting on these cases and facilitating a more coordinated effort in solving them.

Despite the bill passing unanimously in its first committee, the Criminal Justice Committee, it faced an unexpected hurdle when it failed to secure a spot on the agenda for its second committee, the Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice. This unfortunate turn of events halted the bill's progress for this session. Despite this, I remain steadfast in my dedication to pursuing avenues for change in addressing cold case murders, and I will continue to advocate for initiatives aimed at bringing closure and justice to affected families.

To watch <u>SB 350</u> pass in the Florida Senate's Criminal Justice Committee, see the video below!



### **Caught in Action!**







































## **Committee Assignments**

In the Florida Legislature, committees are established to vote on and propose solutions for the benefit of Florida's residents. These committees are tailored to specific issues and are named based on their intended purpose.

I am pleased to share that I have been appointed to several significant committees within the Florida Legislature, including the roles of Vice Chair on the Community Affairs Committee and membership in the Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government, Education Pre-K -12, Fiscal Policy, Health Policy, Regulated Industries, Rules, and the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute and make a positive impact in these important areas, and I eagerly look forward to the meaningful work ahead. Please see below for more information on my assigned committees for the 2024 Legislative Session.



# **2024 Legislative Session**



Updated on January 12, 2023

CA	<b>Community Affairs (Vice Chair):</b> This committee is responsible for a broad range of issues relating to local governments.	
AEG	<b>Appropriations on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government:</b> This committee is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on the state budget for agriculture, environment, and general government programs	
ED	<b>Education Pre-K - 12:</b> This committee is responsible for overseeing the state's education policies and programs for children from pre-k to 12th grade.	
FP	<b>Fiscal Policy:</b> This committee is responsible for reviewing and analyzing Florida's fiscal policies and making recommendations to the Senate.	
НР	<b>Health Policy:</b> This committee is responsible for reviewing and proposing legislation related to health care policy in Florida.	
RI	<b>Regulated Industries:</b> This committee is responsible for maintaining a review of the work of state agencies concerned with their subject areas and the performance of the functions of government within each area.	
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RC	<b>Rules:</b> This committee is responsible for reviewing all proposed bills to ensure that they follow the guidelines of the State.	
JAPC	<b>Joint Administrative Procedures:</b> This committee is responsible for ensuring that the rules adopted by the executive branch agencies do not create new law, and stay within the authority specifically delegated by the legislature.	QOSALIAN D
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## **Legislative Updates**

After putting in months of groundwork, I've been actively working with my colleagues in the Senate and House to represent your interests. From advocating for enhanced healthcare services to pushing for comprehensive education reforms, our focus is on driving meaningful change and addressing the core concerns that matter most to our community. Please see below for updated information on all of the bills I have filed for the 2024 legislative Session.

# Legislation Update: Current List of Filed Bills



Updated on March 9th, 2024

**SB64** 

SB252

SB62	Resident Status for Tuition: This bill changes the requirements for a person
3002	to be considered a resident for tuition purposes to include time spent in certain correctional
	institutions. This bill has passed in the Florida Legislature!

**Landlords & Tenants:** This bill limits rent increases in certain circumstances and clarifies that a landlord can still terminate the rental agreement even if a partial payment is made.

Psychiatric Therapy: This bill defines electroconvulsive treatment

(ECT) and psychosurgical procedure requiring only physicians perform

	them and prohibits procedures on minors.
B350	<b>Cold Case Murders:</b> This bill allows local agencies to work on cold cases if they have the resources or turn them over to the Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement if they can't work the case.
B354	<b>Task Force on Missing &amp; Murdered African-American Women:</b> This bill establishes the Task Force within the Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement to address and reduce violence against African-American women and girls.
B372	State Certified Doulas: This bill defines a "state-certified doula" and requires the Dept. of Health to create certification requirements, best practices, a public registry, and a list of entities with approved education/training for doulas.
B374	<b>Human Trafficking:</b> This bill revises the term "coercion" and authorizes the prosecution of specified offenses under the RICO Act. It requires several state agencies to establish awareness training programs and partnerships.
SB386	Affordable Housing Parking Requirements: The bill requires counties and municipalities to reduce parking requirements for certain developments if specific conditions are met. The concept of this bill is now in SB 328.
B1426	<b>Sale of Rabbits:</b> This bill is designed to help curtail the growing wild rabbit population by requiring better accountability for rabbits sold by pet stores and prohibits the sale of rabbits during the months of March and April.
B1446	<b>Access to Contraception:</b> This bill's primary purpose is to establish and protect the right to access contraception in the state of Florida.
B1460	<b>Child Support and Time-sharing Resulting from Unwanted Pregnancies:</b> This bill sets the guidelines for pregnancies resulting from rape, incest or human trafficking if the victim is unable to receive an abortion.
B1462	Reduction in Black Female and Women's Maternal Mortality Grant Program: This bill establishes the Reduction in Black Female and Women's Maternal Mortality Grant Program and aims reduce Black female and women's maternal mortality.
SB1610	<b>Financial Accountability in Publicly Funded Education:</b> This bill establishes universal standards for the use of public funds in the education system.
B1688	Career-themed Courses: This bill requires school districts to inform middle school students and parents of career and technical education opportunities. This bill has passed in the Florida Legislature!



Warm Regards,

Rosalind Osgood, DPA

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Senator, District 32











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