



FLORIDA STATE SENATOR  
**ALEXIS  
 CALATAYUD**  
 DISTRICT 38



# Community Connection

*Honored to be your voice in Tallahassee!*



## Constituent Spotlight

**Iliana Perez is the owner and operator of @KingdomAcademy in Miami, Florida.** She is dedicated to serving our community's children and providing the highest quality education, from toddlers to fifth grade.

### How did you start your small business?

It began with the itch to start something of my own, and I was on fire for education. My husband and I bought our first school and expanded year over year including a Preschool - it has been a dream come true.

### Why do you love our community?

I was born in Cuba and raised in California, but when I found Miami, I found my home. I found a community where opportunities can be made real.

### What are you passionate about?

Teaching entrepreneurship through all the curriculum and leading special needs inclusion, 30% of our students are special needs and are included in the classroom and provided additional supports and therapies.

## Meet the Team

### THIS IS KRISTA, OUR NEW CHIEF OF STAFF!

Krista joined our team after passing the February Florida Bar! She is a proud Double FIU Panther - earning both her Juris Doctorate and Undergraduate degree. In 2018, Krista served as the FIU Student Body President & Board of Trustee member. During law school, she interned with several Attorney's offices including City of Miami Beach, City of Miami, and City of Coral Gables. She is currently pursuing a Public Administration Graduate Certificate with UCF.





## Local Investment

# Zoo Miami

### MANATEE CRITICAL CARE REHABILITATION

Representing you in Tallahassee, our team secured **\$600,000** for South Florida's FIRST Manatee Critical Care Rehabilitation unit. This funding will build the only Manatee critical care rehabilitation center south of Orlando, serving as both an on-site manatee rescue, rehabilitation, and release critical care center with dual function for youth engagement and education.



## Economic Mobility

# Fiscal Cliff Collaborative

### RIGHT-SIZING MIAMI CHILDCARE COSTS

Looking towards 2025 Legislative Session, many community leaders come together to champion early childhood education affordability for low-income families across the state. Childcare costs are the **SECOND HIGHEST** household expense, besides housing costs, for young families chasing economic upward mobility.



## Community Quality Time

# Key Biscayne Community Center

### SENIOR HOMEMADE PASTA-MAKING CLASS

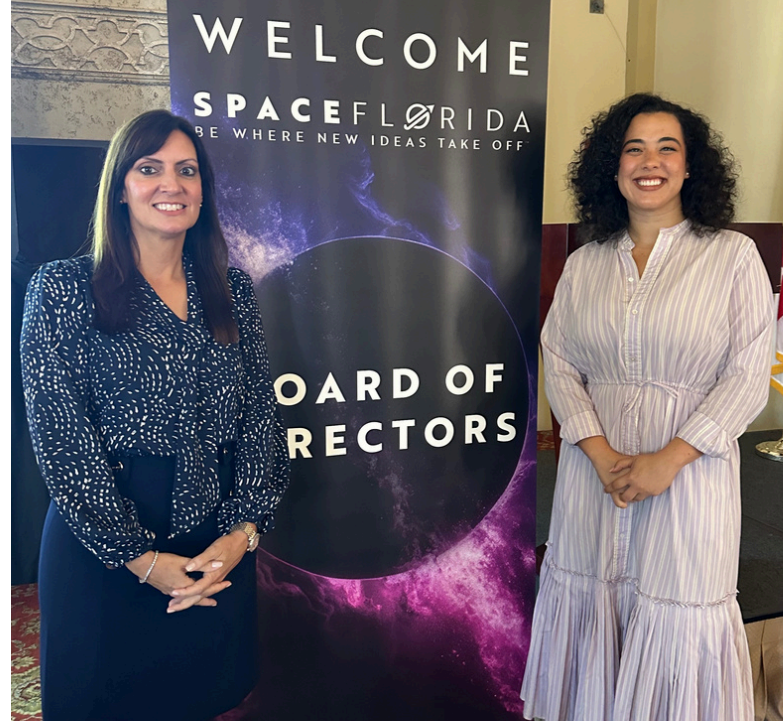
Learning to make home-made pasta together from the wonderful husband-and-wife team behind the local, small business **@ILMERCATO**. **(P.S. their pistachio butter is AMAZING)** Our team spent a beautiful afternoon meeting the warm residents savoring the wonderful programming Village of Key Biscayne provides – **last year we secured \$125,000** for continued localized senior citizen services & events.

## Economic Development

# Spaceport Territory

### HIGH-WAGE JOBS FOR MIAMI-DADE

Powered by @SPACEFLORIDA our team passed SB 968 into law **designated Homestead Air Reserve Base as an SPACEPORT TERRITORY.** The Spaceport Territory designation opens the door for tremendous financial incentives for new, dynamic aerospace companies to create a powerful economic impact footprint in our local South Dade community.



## Local Investment

# Underline

### LINEAR PARK WIFI-FOR-ALL SECURED

Our team secured the final needed \$1,000,000 for the Miami Underline's WIFI-for-all and awaited community amenities! The Underline, Miami's premier 10 mile linear park, urban trail, and public art destination (from Brickell to Dadeland) is an explosive example of how a public private partnership transforms under-utilized land into a community treasure for all.



## Community Quality Time

# South Miami Night Market

### CARRIBEAN NIGHT IN SOUTH MIAMI

Thank you South Miami for another incredible SoMi Night Market - it is so beautiful to enjoy our local community coming together to celebrate Caribbean culture and champion local small businesses!





# 2024 - 2045 Florida Budget Highlights

## TAX RELIEF FOR MIAMI'S FAMILIES



The Focus on Florida's Future **Budget provides \$1.5 billion in tax relief**, including permanent tax cuts to keep more money in your pockets.

## FIVE TAX RELIEF MUST-KNOWS

### 1) INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX RELIEF

**\$500 million provides a one-year relief of insurance premium taxes for residential property insurance** policies written between October 1, 2024, and September 30, 2025, for a twelve-month coverage period.

### 2) TOLL RELIEF

**\$500 million provides a one-year relief for customers with at least 35 monthly toll transactions to receive a 50 percent credit to their account applied automatically.**

In 2023, the Toll Relief Program delivered substantial savings to over 1.2 million commuters, equating to a savings of \$400 per individual. The program continues for drivers until March 2025.

### 3) FUEL TAX RELIEF

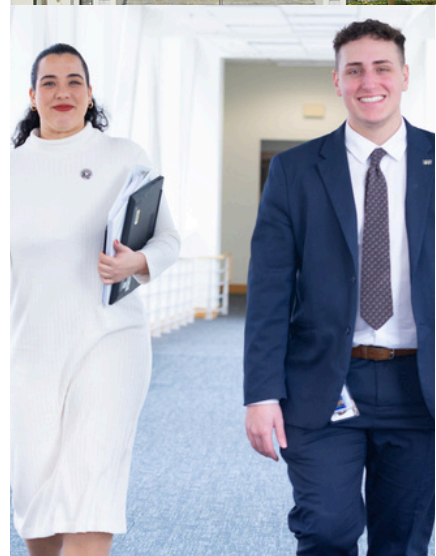
**Extends a one-year 50 percent reduction in the tax rates that will be imposed on natural gas fuel which are set to be levied beginning on January 1, 2026.**

### 4) CHILDCARE TAX CREDIT

**\$5 million provides in annual child care tax credits** for 3 years for certain child care expenses incurred on behalf of employees.

### 5) INDIVIDUALS WITH UNIQUE ABILITIES TAX CREDIT

**Statewide \$100,000 tax credit for corporations that employ individuals with disabilities** of \$1 per hour worked, up to \$1,000 per employee per year, subject to a \$10,000 max per year.



# Meet your Senator

**Florida State Senator Alexis Calatayud is a champion for generational upward mobility and expanding educational/economic opportunities for Miami-Dade residents.**

Calatayud has passed landmark legislation and funding to support the upward ascent of Floridians toward economic security and self-sufficiency. Her work for you revolves around lowering cost of living and increasing community affordability - from stabilizing and reducing property insurance rates, to expanding attainable housing options, to increasing access to affordable children's health insurance and investment in low-cost early childhood education. She serves as a member of Jackson Memorial System Public Health Trust.

Before her election to the Florida Senate in 2022, the Senator served for over a decade in multiple advocacy, policy, and campaign roles supporting Florida's education champions and advancing transformation education policies. Currently, Senator Calatayud acts as the Community Engagement & Public Policy Liaison for the Miami Dade & Monroe County Early Learning Coalition launching national learning exchanges and building special initiatives.

Previously, she served as Chief Lobbyist and Legislative Affairs Director at the Florida Department of Education during the COVID pandemic where she was responsible for advocating for the future of the education system to the Florida legislature. The Senator served as campaign manager for three Miami state representative races and worked as State Representative Vance Aloupis' Legislative Aide in the Florida House. Calatayud also partnered with regional and national nonprofits to train over 500 university campus' student leaders on state and federal elected official engagement strategies on higher education affordability issues, later developing national programs in Washington D.C. and in Florida. She served two terms as a member of the Board of Trustees for Florida International University, where she received a degree in Political Science and International Relations.




## Constituent Services

**HAPPY TO SERVE!**

Our office is here to help you navigate Florida government services.

 [Calatayud.Alexis@FLSenate.Gov](mailto:Calatayud.Alexis@FLSenate.Gov)

 [@AlexisMCalatayu](https://twitter.com/AlexisMCalatayu)

 [@Alexis\\_Calatayud](https://www.instagram.com/Alexis_Calatayud)

**CALL US:  
305-596-3002**