

### **Arrington's Articles**

March 3rd - 7th

Hello,

As we wrap up the first week of the legislative session, I wanted to take a moment to share some of the exciting progress we've made and offer a glimpse into the work ahead. We've had some important committee meetings, where key pieces of legislation were discussed in-depth. These sessions are crucial to understanding the nuances of each bill and hearing from experts, community leaders, and constituents who will be impacted by the decisions we make.

This week, I attended the State of the State address, a speech by the Governor given to the State Legislature about the current administration's vision for our future. I remain committed to fighting for the priorities that matter most, addressing the insurance crisis, supporting public education, and affordable housing development. It's clear that there is much more work to be done to ensure that the interests of all citizens are adequately addressed.

As always, I appreciate your support as we work to make our state a better place for everyone!

Sincerely,

Senator Kristen Arrington and the SD25 Team

## **Legislative Updates**



Senator Arrington presenting SB 218 to Community Affairs Committee.

This week was busy for our office, several of our bills had their first committee stops! If you support any of these bills please continue to reach out to the members that sit on the committees that will be voting on these bills.

#### **SB 218**: Tax Exemption for Disabled Ex-servicemembers

Passed Community Affairs unanimously. Now in Finance and Tax.

#### **SB 274**: Transportation Facility Designations/Harris Rosen Way

Favorable by Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development. Now in Fiscal Policy.

#### **SB 280:** Candidate Qualification

Passed Ethics and Elections unanimously. Now in Judiciary.

## **Bill Spotlight**

Below is a more in-depth look at some of the bills we are co-introducing this year. While we may not be the sole sponsors of these bills, we are thrilled to support such strong bipartisan issues that align with our community's values!

#### **SB 102**: Exceptional Student Education

If passed, this bill would require the Department of Education to develop and implement a workforce credential program for students with an autism spectrum disorder or students on a modified curriculum.

#### **SB 150**: Abandoning Restrained Animals During Natural Disasters

If passed, this bill would ban the abandonment of an animal that is restrained outside during a natural disaster.

#### **SB** 356: Holocaust Remembrance Day

If passed, this bill would require the Governor to proclaim a specified day annually as "Holocaust Remembrance Day"

### **Visitor Highlights**



Our office was excited to give a warm welcome to this year's Senate Pages! The Page program allows eligible high school students, with an interest in state government, to spend a week in Tallahassee during session. During their assigned week, Pages learn directly from elected officials and staff about how our State government operates.

Representatives from Orange County Public Schools visited our Tallahassee office this week. We were thrilled to welcome them and excited to learn more about their legislative priorities. We hope to continue working together to provide the best quality education for our students.





Senator Arrington met the Alianza for Progress team this week! We were delighted to speak with them about the upcoming Puerto Rican Day at the Capital. We enjoyed learning more about how our office can support their efforts to uplift the Hispanic community in Central Florida!

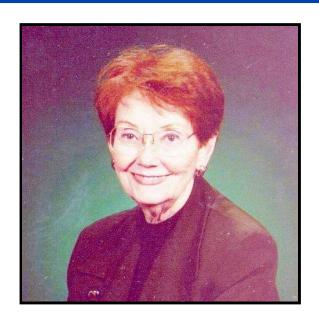
### **District Updates**



Our SD25 team was thrilled to meet the two newest and cutest members of the Kissimmee Police Department, Duchess and Belle! These two new K9 units are specially trained to assist in locating missing persons, including individuals with autism, Alzheimer's, or dementia.

# **Women's History Month**

This week we wanted to highlight the legacy of Patricia Schwartz, the first woman elected to the Orlando City Commission. Patricia was deeply involved in our community even before she ran for office, she was president of the League of Women Voters, Human Services Planning Council, and chaired Orlando's **Board** of Zoning Adjustment. Her commitment led her to successfully run for office and break barriers here in Orange County. She was a mentor and role model at a pivotal time for women in the Orlando area and continues to inspire women today.



## **Helpful Links**

Visit www.flsenate.gov to "find vour Senator" and to sign up for alerts on specific legislation, committees, senators, or keywords.

To view our Legislative page which includes our office contact information, sponsored legislation, along with the committees I serve on: <a href="https://bit.ly/Arrington25">https://bit.ly/Arrington25</a>

Don't forget to sign up for our email updates: <a href="https://bit.ly/SignUpSD25">https://bit.ly/SignUpSD25</a>

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