

COLLINS CORNER

DISTRICT 14

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MARCH 2025

Dear Constituents,

As we have begun the 2025 Florida Legislative Session, I want to take a moment to share with you about the work ahead. This Session is a pivotal time for addressing the issues that matter most to our community and the Great Free State of Florida.

I encourage you to stay engaged throughout this session. Your insights and feedback are invaluable as we navigate these critical discussions. Together, we can shape policies that reflect the values and aspirations of our community.

Thank you for your trust and support. Let's make this session a success for all Floridians.

FOCUSING ON PROTECTING FLORIDIANS

I have been unwavering in protecting Florida from undue influence by foreign countries of concern. This upcoming Legislative Session will be no different. [SB 1538](#) prohibits government entities from contracting with companies that have ties to these nations, ensuring taxpayer dollars do not support foreign adversaries.

Additionally, [SB 1090](#) strengthens consumer protections by requiring online marketplaces to verify and disclose sellers from these countries, hold proceeds in U.S.-based escrow accounts for 120 days, and comply with Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act. These measures reflect my commitment to safeguarding Florida's economy, security, and transparency.





OUT & ABOUT IN DISTRICT 14

I had the incredible honor of speaking at the America Strong: How the U.S. Goes Into Battle conference, where we paid tribute to the brave heroes of the WWII era.

It was an unforgettable and deeply inspiring experience to be surrounded by members of the Greatest Generation—men and women whose courage, resilience, and dedication shaped the very ideals that define our Nation today. Their sacrifices laid the foundation for the freedoms we cherish, and it is our responsibility to preserve their legacy for future generations.

May we always remember and honor their service, ensuring their stories continue to inspire us all.

HIGHLIGHTING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

As Chairman of the Florida Senate Transportation Committee, I have the distinct privilege of sponsoring legislation that strengthens our state's transportation infrastructure and enhances mobility for all Floridians.

This session, we are advancing key initiatives aimed at improving safety, efficiency, and connectivity across our roadways, transit systems, and ports.

Here are some highlights of the transportation-focused legislation we are working on:

- [K-12 School Transportation \(SB 1424\)](#) - This bill ensures that school districts provide transportation for students living more than one mile from their assigned schools. It also promotes the integration of artificial intelligence to improve efficiency and revises criteria for hazardous walking conditions to enhance student safety.
- [Transportation Facility Designations \(SB 1408\)](#) - This bill designates specific transportation facilities across Florida to honor individuals and historical events. The Department of Transportation will install commemorative markers to recognize these contributions.

Stay tuned for further updates as these bills progress through the legislative process!



HELPING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

For the 2025 Legislative Session, I have introduced pivotal bills aimed at bolstering support for Florida's first responders. Here are some key highlights:

1. Canine Heroes for First Responders Act (SB 688)

This act proposes the establishment of the Canine Support Grant Program, jointly administered by the Department of Law Enforcement and the State Fire Marshal. The program aims to provide support dogs to first responders, enhancing their well-being and operational efficiency. The bill outlines specific requirements for these support dogs to ensure they meet the unique needs of our emergency personnel.

2. Public Safety Act (SB 1554)

This comprehensive legislation seeks to enhance public safety by:

- Establishing a Counterterrorism/Counterintelligence Unit: A dedicated unit within the Department of Law Enforcement focused on preventing and responding to threats.
- Prohibiting Employment Discrimination: Ensuring first responders are protected against workplace discrimination.
- Implementing a Unified 911 System: Mandating a cohesive 911 system across all county-level first responder agencies by a specified date, ensuring the closest unit responds to emergencies regardless of jurisdiction.
- Introducing Honors: Creating the Florida Medal of Valor and the Florida Blue/Red Heart Medal to recognize the bravery and sacrifices of our first responders.

CONTACT US

Tallahassee Office
313 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
(850) 487-5014

District Office
4902 Eisenhower Boulevard
Suite 217
Tampa, FL 33634
(813) 281-2538



GREEN BERET
JAY COLLINS
STATE SENATOR