

WHEREAS, New College of Florida has solidified its status as one of the nation’s premier public liberal arts institutions, having been ranked the top public liberal arts college by *Washington Monthly* 3 years in a row, and the top public college for value and small size by *The Princeton Review*, and

WHEREAS, New College of Florida continues to be recognized as a national leader in Fulbright Scholarship recipients and has been named the best Hidden Gem College in Florida by College Raptor, and the No. 1 liberal arts college in Florida for 2026 and No. 10 among all public liberal arts colleges in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*, and

WHEREAS, New College of Florida set a record in fall 2025 with a total enrollment of more than 900 students for the first time in the college’s history, and

WHEREAS, to support this unprecedented growth and maintain its elite academic standards, the college recruited 65 new world-class faculty members, including prestigious visiting professors and presidential scholars-in-residence, thereby ensuring the preservation of New College’s best-in-state 8-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio, and

WHEREAS, an independent economic impact analysis reveals that New College of Florida has become a powerful engine for regional prosperity, with an economic impact of more than \$200 million per year, and

WHEREAS, New College of Florida’s acceptance into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics as a full member of the Sun Conference launched an athletics program that has quickly grown to 24 sports, and

WHEREAS, New College of Florida pursues the simple belief of teaching students how to think, not what to think, and in an age of rapid technological change, global competition, and information overload, New College knows students’ ability to reason, question, write, and analyze is relevant and essential, NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:*

That February 4, 2026, is designated as “New College Day” in Florida in recognition of New College of Florida’s contributions as Florida’s residential honors college and an outstanding institution of higher education.

—was introduced, read, and adopted by publication.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Senator Boyd recognized students, alumni, and administration from New College of Florida who were present in the gallery in support of SR 1782.

**SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE RELATING TO EXECUTIVE BUSINESS**

The Honorable Ben Albritton  
 President, The Florida Senate  
 Suite 409, The Capitol  
 404 South Monroe Street  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

February 4, 2026

Dear President Albritton:

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate:

*For Term Ending*

*Office and Appointment*

Florida Citrus Commission  
 Appointee: Ressler, Melanie 05/31/2026

*For Term Ending*

*Office and Appointment*

Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers  
 Appointee: Cramer, David Keith 10/31/2029

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate:

*For Term Ending*

*Office and Appointment*

Governing Board of the Northwest Florida Water Management District  
 Appointees: Everett, Ted 03/01/2029  
 Pate, Jerome K. 03/01/2029

Big Cypress Basin Board of the South Florida Water Management District  
 Appointee: Romano, Michael C., II 03/01/2029

Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District  
 Appointees: Bispham, Paul Jack 03/01/2029  
 Hall, John E. 03/01/2029

Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District  
 Appointee: Johns, Virginia H. 03/01/2029

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate:

*For Term Ending*

*Office and Appointment*

Board of Trustees of Eastern Florida State College  
 Appointee: Zonka, Kristine 05/31/2029

Board of Trustees of College of Central Florida  
 Appointee: Juarez, Jose A. 05/31/2029

Board of Trustees of Lake-Sumter State College  
 Appointees: Jones, Bret 05/31/2029  
 Morris, Timothy 05/31/2029  
 Munz, Clarence Steven 05/31/2026

Board of Trustees of State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota  
 Appointees: Collins, Taylor 05/31/2029  
 Deckard, Lon 05/31/2028  
 Fuller, Michael James 05/31/2029  
 Goodson, Mark 01/27/2027

Board of Trustees of Miami-Dade College  
 Appointees: Bileca, Michael 05/31/2029  
 Diaz, Jose Felix 05/31/2027  
 Segovia, Juan 05/31/2027

Board of Trustees of North Florida College  
 Appointee: McWaters, Michael Steven 05/31/2027

Board of Trustees of Northwest Florida State College  
 Appointees: Fosdyck, Cory J. 05/31/2029  
 Peacock, Jack Tanner 05/31/2029

Board of Trustees of Palm Beach State College  
 Appointee: Caruso, Tracy Lee 05/31/2027

Board of Trustees of Pasco-Hernando State College  
 Appointees: Bell, Ralph E. 05/31/2027  
 Wilson, Kirk E. 05/31/2026

Board of Trustees of Pensacola State College  
 Appointee: Fleming, Edward P. 05/31/2029

<i>Office and Appointment</i>	<i>For Term Ending</i>
Board of Trustees of Polk State College Appointees: Lester, Charles S. Troutman, Ashley C.	05/31/2029 05/31/2026
Board of Trustees of St. Johns River State College Appointee: Primrose, Nicholas	05/31/2029
Board of Trustees of Tallahassee State College Appointee: Brown, Monesia	05/31/2029
Florida Prepaid College Board Appointee: Bayliss, Slater	06/30/2028
Board of Trustees, Florida A & M University Appointee: Crossman, John M.	01/06/2031
Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University Appointees: McCleneghen, Joseph Scott Stilley, Samantha Vidal-Duart, Tina	01/06/2031 01/06/2031 01/06/2030
Board of Trustees, Florida State University Appointee: Weisheyer, Timothy	01/06/2030
Board of Trustees, New College of Florida Appointee: Karp, Lance	01/06/2031
Board of Trustees, Florida Polytechnic University Appointee: Peace, Eliot B.	07/15/2029
Board of Trustees, University of South Florida Appointee: Griffin, Michael E.	01/06/2031
Board of Trustees, University of West Florida Appointees: Patel, Kishane Jay Perkins-Gilley, Janice	01/06/2031 01/06/2031

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Education Pre-K - 12 and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate:

<i>Office and Appointment</i>	<i>For Term Ending</i>
Board of Directors, Florida High School Athletic Association Appointee: Cervera, Adam	08/21/2026
Education Practices Commission Appointee: Montegudo, Omar	09/30/2027
Commission for Independent Education Appointees: Euliano, John Litvack, Steven B. Lynn, Christopher Stefano, Troy A.	06/30/2028 06/30/2027 06/30/2027 06/30/2027

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Transportation and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate:

<i>Office and Appointment</i>	<i>For Term Ending</i>
St. Augustine-St. Johns County Airport Authority Appointees: Dedge, Gerald, Jr. Dipola, Mario Primrose, Nicholas	01/04/2027 01/01/2029 01/01/2029
Greater Orlando Aviation Authority Appointee: James, Jason	04/16/2028
Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority Appointees: Barrow, Bennett H. Cassidy, Vincent J.	07/01/2027 07/01/2028

<i>Office and Appointment</i>	<i>For Term Ending</i>
Nandam, Lakshmikanth Powell, Cody	07/01/2029 07/01/2026
Florida Inland Navigation District Appointees: Blow, John Carl Boehning, Stephen W. Davenport, James "Buddy" Morgan, Thomas A.	01/09/2029 01/09/2029 01/09/2029 01/09/2027
Tampa Port Authority Appointees: Allman, Patrick H., III Conner, William Theodore Harrod, Chadwick William Kaplan, Mark	02/06/2026 11/25/2029 11/14/2026 02/06/2028
Florida Transportation Commission Appointee: Lastra, Alex	09/30/2027

As required by Rule 12.7, the committees conducted an inquiry into the qualifications, experience, and general suitability of the above-named appointees for appointment to the office indicated. In aid of such inquiry, the committees held public hearings which members of the public were invited to attend and to offer evidence concerning the qualifications, experience, and general suitability of the appointees. After due consideration of the findings of such inquiry and the evidence adduced at the public hearings, the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections and other referenced committees respectfully advise and recommend that in accordance with s. 114.05(1)(c), F.S.:

- (1) the executive appointments of the above-named appointees, to the office and for the term indicated, be confirmed by the Senate;
- (2) Senate action on said appointments be taken prior to the adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session; and
- (3) there is no necessity known to the committees for the deliberations on said appointments to be held in executive session.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Don Gaetz*, Chair

Yeas—37

Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Avila	Garcia	Polsky
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Davis	Osgood	
DiCeglie	Passidomo	

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Mr. President

Vote Preference:

Senator Arrington was recorded as voting "nay" on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

Senator Berman was recorded as voting "nay" on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

Senator Bracy Davis was recorded as voting "nay" on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

Senator Davis was recorded as voting “nay” on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

Senator Osgood was recorded as voting “nay” on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

Senator Polsky was recorded as voting “nay” on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

Senator Rouson was recorded as voting “nay” on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

Senator Smith was recorded as voting “nay” on the appointment of Tina Vidal-Duart to the Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University.

**SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR**

**CS for CS for SB 48**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to housing; amending s. 163.31771, F.S.; defining the term “primary dwelling unit”; requiring local governments to adopt, by a specified date, an ordinance to allow accessory dwelling units to be approved in certain areas; requiring that such ordinances apply prospectively; providing that such ordinances may regulate specified actions; prohibiting the inclusion of certain requirements or prohibitions in such ordinances; providing an exception to the requirement that local governments adopt such ordinances; deleting a requirement that an application for a building permit to construct an accessory dwelling unit include a certain affidavit; revising the accessory dwelling units that apply toward satisfying a certain component of a local government’s comprehensive plan; prohibiting the denial of a homestead exemption for certain portions of property on a specified basis; requiring that a rented accessory dwelling unit be assessed separately from the homestead property and taxed according to its use; amending s. 420.615, F.S.; authorizing a local government to provide a density bonus incentive to landowners who make certain real property donations to assist in the provision of affordable housing for military families; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to evaluate the efficacy of using mezzanine finance and the potential of tiny homes for specified purposes; requiring the office to consult with certain entities; requiring the office to submit a certain report to the Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Gaetz, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for SB 48** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—38

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Avila	Garcia	Polsky
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Davis	Osgood	

Nays—None

**CS for SB 578**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Initiative; creating s. 430.5016, F.S.; requiring the Department of Elderly Affairs to contract for the development and implementation of the Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Initiative; providing requirements for the initiative; providing requirements for the entity with which the department contracts to develop and implement the initiative; requiring the Alzheimer’s Disease Advisory Committee to make certain recommendations to the department and the Legislature annually; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Simon, by two-thirds vote, **CS for SB 578** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—38

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Avila	Garcia	Polsky
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Davis	Osgood	

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Passidomo, by two-thirds vote, all bills passed this day were ordered immediately certified to the House.

**BILLS ON SPECIAL ORDERS**

Pursuant to Rule 4.17(1), the Rules Chair, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader submit the following bills to be placed on the Special Order Calendar for Wednesday, February 4, 2026: **CS for CS for SB 48** and **CS for SB 578**.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Kathleen Passidomo*, Rules Chair  
*Jim Boyd*, Majority Leader  
*Lori Berman*, Minority Leader

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL MASTER ON CLAIM BILLS**

The Special Master on Claim Bills recommends the following pass: SB 2; SB 6; SB 18; SB 26; SB 28

**The bills were referred to the Committee on Judiciary under the original reference.**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

The Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education recommends the following pass: **CS for SB 206**

The Committee on Finance and Tax recommends the following pass: **SB 434; SB 856**

The Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability recommends the following pass: **CS for SB 330**

The Committee on Judiciary recommends the following pass: **CS for SB 1178; SB 1366**

**The bills contained in the foregoing reports were referred to the Committee on Appropriations under the original reference.**

The Committee on Criminal Justice recommends the following pass: **SB 1012; SB 1536; SB 1750**

The Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability recommends the following pass: **SB 1072**