

SR 1786—A resolution recognizing and commending The Ripple Project for its invaluable service, dedication, and tireless commitment to raising awareness of and funding for a cure for childhood cancer.

WHEREAS, The Ripple Project is a dedicated nonprofit organization based in Tallahassee which was founded with the singular, noble mission of driving meaningful change in the fight against childhood cancer, and

WHEREAS, the organization undertakes the critical work of raising vital public awareness concerning the devastating impact of pediatric cancer on children and families throughout this state and the nation, and

WHEREAS, The Ripple Project tirelessly commits its resources and energy to raising funds, promoting awareness, and providing tangible support to families going through cancer diagnoses and treatments, and

WHEREAS, the members, volunteers, and board of directors of The Ripple Project demonstrate exemplary compassion, leadership, and community spirit in their unwavering commitment to securing a brighter, cancer-free future for all children, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Senate wishes to commend and celebrate the extraordinary efforts and profound impact of The Ripple Project as it represents the very best of community action and philanthropic endeavor in the capital city, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the Florida Senate hereby recognizes and commends The Ripple Project for its invaluable service, dedication, and tireless commitment to raising awareness of and funding for a cure for childhood cancer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to The Ripple Project as a tangible expression of the Florida Senate's respect and gratitude for its work.

—was introduced, read, and adopted by publication.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Senator Mayfield recognized Ali Whitaker and Jenny Whitaker, representatives for the Ripple Project, who were present in the gallery in support of SR 1786.

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 19, 2026

Dear President Albritton:

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:

Office and Appointment

Board of Trustees of Eastern Florida State College
Appointee: Howse, Ronald S. 05/31/2027

Board of Trustees of Chipola College
Appointees: Campbell, Christopher 05/31/2027
Paul, Joel F., Jr. 05/31/2027
Reiff, Robert A. 05/31/2027
Ryals, Daniel E., III 05/31/2029
Shuler, Joseph 05/31/2029

Board of Trustees of Miami-Dade College

Office and Appointment
Appointee: Monreal, Ismare

*For Term
Ending*
05/31/2029

Board of Trustees of Palm Beach State College
Appointees: Epstein, Daniel 05/31/2029
Plean, Stacy L. 05/31/2026

Board of Trustees of Pasco-Hernando State College
Appointees: Pearson-Adams, Marilyn 05/31/2029
Zetzsche, Toni 05/31/2029

Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College
Appointee: Franz, Richard B., III 05/31/2026

Board of Trustees of Tallahassee State College
Appointee: Moore, Karen B. 05/31/2026

Board of Trustees, University of Central Florida
Appointees: Filburn, Mark C. 01/06/2031
Florez, Alan 01/06/2031
Vahle, Jeffrey N. 01/06/2030

Board of Trustees, Florida International University
Appointee: Plana, Nestor 01/06/2031

Board of Trustees, University of North Florida
Appointee: Moore, Clarence S. 01/06/2031

Board of Trustees, University of South Florida
Appointees: Piccolo, Fredrick 01/06/2030
Watkins, Nancy Hemmingway 01/06/2031

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate:

Office and Appointment
*For Term
Ending*

Director, Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Appointee: Asztalos, Robert P. Pleasure of Governor

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County
Appointees: Chiea, Renee 07/17/2028
Gnage, Kristen Arrojo 08/07/2028
McShea, Alicia S. 08/11/2026
Millican, James A. 08/11/2028

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

Office and Appointment
*For Term
Ending*

Board of Supervisors of the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District
Appointees: Ravenscroft, Thomas Matthew 02/26/2027
Woods, David 02/26/2029

Chair, Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission
Appointee: Faircloth, Charles T., Jr. 06/30/2029

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

Office and Appointment
*For Term
Ending*

Board of Governors of the State University System
Appointees: Broxson, Douglas V. 01/06/2031
Okaty, Michael A. 01/06/2033

The following executive appointment was 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>
Education Practices Commission Appointee: Stanley, Joseph	09/30/2029

The following executive appointment was referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources 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>
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Appointee: Jennings, Gary	09/04/2028

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability 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>
Florida Commission on Human Relations Appointees: Bayse, Chad Bufano, Vicky Kessie, Michael Miller, Mark Neff, Amanda L. Toryanski, Mitch Elich Vicente, Jose A.	09/30/2029 09/30/2028 09/30/2028 09/30/2029 09/30/2027 09/30/2029 09/30/2028
State Retirement Commission Appointees: Andreotta, Jason Dyer, Jesse La Torre, Alexandra	12/31/2028 12/31/2029 12/31/2027

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

On motion by Senator Gaetz, the report was adopted and the Senate confirmed the appointments identified in the foregoing report of the committee to the offices and for the terms indicated in accordance with the recommendation of the committee.

The vote was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Berman	Bracy Davis
Arrington	Bernard	Bradley
Avila	Boyd	Brodeur

Burton	Leek	Rodriguez
Calatayud	Martin	Rouson
DiCeglie	Massullo	Sharief
Gaetz	Mayfield	Simon
Garcia	McClain	Smith
Grall	Osgood	Truenow
Harrell	Passidomo	Trumbull
Hooper	Pizzo	Wright
Jones	Polsky	Yarborough

Nays—None

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

SB 7020—A bill to be entitled An act relating to a review under the Open Government Sunset Review Act; amending s. 597.0042, F.S., which provides an exemption from public record requirements for certain aquaculture records held by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; removing the scheduled repeal of the exemption; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING

Pending further consideration of **SB 7020**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 7011** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Truenow—

HB 7011—A bill to be entitled An act relating to a review under the Open Government Sunset Review Act; amending s. 597.0042, F.S., which provides an exemption from public record requirements for certain aquaculture records held by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; removing the scheduled repeal of the exemption; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 7020** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Truenow, by two-thirds vote, **HB 7011** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—33

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

Nays—3

Berman	Gaetz	Smith
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Vote after roll call:

Yea—Burgess

SB 7026—A bill to be entitled An act relating to a review under the Open Government Sunset Review Act; amending s. 119.0715, F.S., which provides an exemption from public records requirements for a trade secret held by an agency; deleting the scheduled repeal of the exemption; amending ss. 287.137, 288.075, 334.049, 408.185, 409.91196, 440.108, 497.172, 501.171, 501.1735, 501.2041, 501.722, 520.9965, 548.062, 559.5558, 569.215, 627.0628, and 1004.4472, F.S.;