



# THE PERRY POST

Senator Keith Perry  
FL District 9

July, 2023



District 9

Friends,

Though we have adjourned from Regular Session, my office is working hard serving the residents of District 9. If you need assistance or have any input regarding legislation, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office. Your feedback is a critical part of the decisions I make and helps me be better represent the values of North Central Florida.

Sincerely,



## ICYMI

In Case You Missed It



### 2023- 2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



### 2023-2024 BUDGET



Provides critical investments in affordable housing, storm recovery, infrastructure and education



Continues our efforts to preserve Florida's unique natural resources and makes critical environmental and clean water infrastructure improvements



Expands state reserves to historic levels and pays off state debt

- Florida's 2023-2024 balanced budget makes critical investments in affordable housing, hurricane recovery, education, environmental infrastructure, and many other key components of our state's operations.
- In line with our Conservative principles, this budget sets aside historic state reserves, ensuring that Florida is prepared to address any future challenges and allowing for Florida to offer historic tax relief to our constituents.
- In total, the budget dedicates \$117 billion across multiple categories including \$10.9 billion to bolster our state reserves and \$2.7 billion in tax relief for Floridians.



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## EDUCATION BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The State Budget includes funding for a number of priorities including:

- Annual base funding for full-time students: \$8,648 (a \$552 per pupil increase over the current year)
- Teacher Salaries Increase: \$1 billion (an increase of \$250 million)
- Charter School Capital Outlay: \$213.4 million (a \$17.7 million increase)
- School recognition funding: \$200 million
- Dual enrollment scholarships: \$18.05 million
- Student Transportation: \$515 million
- Reading Allocation: \$170 million
- Regional Literacy Teams: \$5 million
- New Worlds Reading Scholarships: \$4 million
- Assistance to Low-Performing Schools: \$4 million
- Computer Science Training: \$500 million
- **NEW:** Dual Enrollment Teacher Training Scholarship: \$3.5 million
- **NEW:** Workforce Development Grant: \$100 million
- **NEW:** Teacher Apprenticeships: \$9 million
- **NEW:** Science of Literacy and Tutoring Program: \$16 million
- **NEW:** Literacy Micro-credential & Reading Endorsement: \$21 million

## BILL HIGHLIGHTS

**SB 958/  
HB 931**

by Senator Keith Perry

CS/SB 958 Requires the BOG to create a Committee on Public Policy Events and each state university to establish an Office of Public Policy Events, to organize, publicize, and stage debates, group forums, and lectures at each SUS institution that address, from multiple, divergent, and opposing perspectives, an extensive range of public policy issues widely discussed and debated in society at large. Prohibits the use of political loyalty tests in a state university's hiring, admissions, or promotion process. Lastly, it extends due process protections to each university's student body president that serves on the Florida Student Association.

**HB 1**

Presented by Senator Corey Simon

HB 1 expands eligibility for the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program and Family Empowerment Scholarship Program for education options to any student that is a resident of Florida and is eligible to enroll in kindergarten through grade 12 in a public school. It retains the priority for FTC and FES-EO scholarships for those students whose household income does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) and creates a second priority for households with income not exceeding 400 percent of the FPL.

**SB 102**

by Senator Alexis Calatayud

SB 102, cited as the "Live Local Act" is comprehensive legislation aimed at ensuring all citizens have access to affordable housing that costs less than 30% of their income. This bill completely revises Florida's State Housing Strategy and shifts our state's approach to affordable housing by emphasizing homeownership and rental assistance for not only low income but moderate income individuals and families.

**SB 1182**

by Senator Corey Simon

Individuals and families with elderly relatives deserve the peace and comfort of knowing that their family members will receive a high standard of care that will allow them to live productive lives. This session the Florida Legislature made necessary modifications to Florida law to establish meaningful support for our revered seniors. We are working to ensuring the highest standard of quality care and protections for our loved ones.

**SB 254  
HB 1069  
SB 1438**

### Protection of Children

- Expanding protections for students in Florida's public schools
- Protecting children from explicit events intended for adults
- Safeguarding children and parents from being pressured into making life-altering decisions early in a child's life

Senate Bill 254: Treatments for Gender Reassignment by Senator Clay Yarborough

- SB 254 provides for a number of provisions to protect children from being subjected to these treatments.

House Bill 1069: Education Presented by Senator Clay Yarborough

- HB 1069 includes requirements for age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate instruction for all students in prekindergarten through grade 12.
- The legislation: Includes requirements for specific terminology and instruction relative to health and reproductive education in schools.

Senate Bill 1438: Protection of Children by Senator Clay Yarborough

- This legislation provides DBPR the teeth to fight back at some of these outrageous events that should be solely for adult eyes
- SB 1438 provides DBPR the authority to fine, suspend, or revoke a license of a bar, hotel, or restaurant if one of these establishments knowingly admits a child into an adult live performance. These violations constitute a serious danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of our children.
- SB 1438 also prohibits event organizers who receive a permit for an event from any government entity to knowingly allow children into an event that violates the standards set in this legislation. A person that is found to have been responsible for the exposure of a child to these acts may be charged with a first degree misdemeanor.





# This Week Marks the Beginning of the Back to School Sales Tax Holiday



## Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday

- Clothing, footwear, and backpacks \$100 or less per item
- School supplies \$50 or less per item
- Learning aids \$30 or less per item
- Personal computers and accessories \$1,500 or less

✓ **Tax-Free From July 24 - August 6**

The new school year is almost here and Florida's Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday starts July 24th! Take advantage of the savings and stock up now! For more information, visit: [floridarevenue.com/backtoschool](http://floridarevenue.com/backtoschool) #BackToSchool



## Senator Perry joins Florida's Lt. Governor to celebrate Florida's advancements in service and care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias



"I was honored to join Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez and Department of Elder Affairs Secretary Michelle Branham with local leaders, advocates, and caregivers in Marion County to celebrate recent budget funding to support Florida's advancements in service and care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias." -Senator Perry

The Framework for Freedom budget included over \$65 million for Alzheimer's support, an increase of more than \$12.5 million over the last year. Additional funding to expand the work of the state's 17 Memory Disorder Clinics and the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative, which assist residents and caregivers affected by the disease. This also includes nearly \$500,000 in support for the Alzheimer's Association's Brain Bus, a mobile outreach unit that helps educate Floridians on early warning signs and available resources.

Florida has an estimated over 580,000 people aged 65 and over living with Alzheimer's and there are many family members serving as caregivers. The state legislature provided funding and will continue to support innovation and advancement of resources to fight this disease.





# Buchholz math team wins 15th national title



**Congratulations Buchholz High School math team on your 15th national championship. The team's seniors have now won the national title in three of their four years at the school.**

**Buchholz lost the state championship in April to American Heritage by just 17 points. This time around, the team beat American Heritage by 379 points. Great job by all the students and their dedicated coaches!**



**This weekend I was able to attend a fish-fry with Jeffrey Cobb, founder of Shelter from the Storm ministry. Twenty-six years ago he was the first graduate of House of Hope Ministry- a transitional prison ministry in Gainesville that I was proud to help create.**

**Jeffrey started his own ministry and is a vital part of our community. Learning his lessons after a life of gang involvement in Miami, he now provides support to men and women with housing, jobs, education and fellowship. Jeffrey is using his experience to help others and I am proud to support him and his mission.**

