



ARROWGROUP

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Session Week 5 | February 9-13

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House Education and Employment Committee – 2/10/2026

HB 859 Exceptional Students and Video Cameras in Public Schools by Representative Chambliss Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 859 requires public schools to install and maintain video cameras with audio in self-contained exceptional student classrooms and updates related procedures for parents, schools, and school districts.

Members questioned how the bill addresses privacy and funding concerns, particularly for parents who do not want their children recorded, and they debated whether school districts would need additional resources to implement cameras. Overall, committee members strongly supported the measure as crucial to protecting nonverbal students while acknowledging the need to address costs.

Vote

Reported Favorably

20 Yeas ; 0 Nays

Yeas: Aristide, Daniels, Dunkley, Harris, Hinson, Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Kendall, Michael, Nix, Jr., Persons-Mulicka, Rizo, Sapp, Stark, Trabulsy, Valdes, Yarkosky, Yeager

HB 1071 Education by Representative Trabulsy

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1071 prohibits using funds for discriminatory or certain DEI-related activities, expands parent opt-out rights for specific health and reproductive education, and revises multiple school operations and accountability requirements.

Members questioned whether defunding DEI or “activism” could impede legitimate student programs and worried about ambiguous definitions, while proponents stressed protecting students from discrimination or politicized content and expanding academic standards. Representative Hinson introduced three proposed amendments to the bill, which were rejected by the committee. The committee did, however, adopt a handful of amendments from the Sponsor. Supporters focused on improving math and health instruction, and opponents objected to potential chilling effects on socially or politically oriented student organizations.

Vote

Reported Favorably

15 Yeas ; 4 Nays

Yeas: Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Kendall, Michael, Nix, Jr., Persons-Mulicka, Rizo, Sapp, Stark, Trabulsy, Valdes, Yarkosky, Yeager

Nays: Daniels, Dunkley, Harris, Hinson

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[HB 1471 Systems of Law and Terrorist Organization by Representative Cassel](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1471 prohibits enforcement of religious or foreign law that conflicts with constitutional rights and add new definitions and restrictions targeting domestic terrorist organizations.

Members questioned whether the bill's designation framework could chill free speech or unjustly target certain groups, while supporters insisted it was necessary for public safety and constitutional protection. Opponents criticized its broad language, potential due process issues, and risk of politicized enforcement, but bill advocates countered that it would only restrict violent extremists.

Vote

Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute

16 Yeas ; 4 Nays

Yeas: Daniels, Edmonds, Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Michael, Nix, Jr., Persons-Mulicka, Rizo, Sapp, Stark, Trabulsy, Valdes, Yarkosky, Yeager

Nays: Aristide, Dunkley, Harris, Hinson

[HB 561 Educator Preparation and Certification by Representative Gerwig](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 561 expands and streamlines teacher certification, preparation, and reinstatement requirements by revising eligibility and coursework provisions for educator preparation institutes, temporary certificates, and professional certificate renewals, and by mandating broader professional development collaboration through the Florida Center for Teaching Excellence.

No members posed questions, and in debate Rep. Aristide praised the bill for expediting qualified professionals' return to teaching, and Rep. Hinson underscored its value in addressing the teacher shortage. No opposition was expressed.

Vote

Reported Favorably

20 Yeas ; 0 Nays

Yeas: Aristide, Daniels, Dunkley, Harris, Hinson, Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Kendall, Michael, Nix, Jr., Persons-Mulicka, Rizo, Sapp, Stark, Trabulsy, Valdes, Yarkosky, Yeager

[HB 1081 Cybersecurity Internships by Representative Sirois – Temporarily Postponed](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1081 establishes a statewide internship and clearance readiness program to expand Florida's cybersecurity workforce and address workforce gaps.



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House Judiciary Committee – 2/10/2026

HB 173 Parental Rights by Representative Kendall

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 173 strengthens parental consent requirements for minors seeking certain health, mental health, and educational services.

Members questioned how restricting minors' access to certain health services would affect children in unsafe homes or needing urgent care, while supporters maintained that parents' right to guide medical decisions supersedes these exceptions and pointed to emergency provisions and reporting mandates for abuse. Opponents argued it undermines longstanding crisis programs and privacy protections, particularly for abuse victims.

Vote

Reported Favorably

15 Yeas ; 4 Nays

Yeas: Albert, Alvarez, D., Anderson, Baker, Barnaby, Borrero, Brannan III, Cassel, Fabricio, Koster, Maney, Plakon, Porras, Salzman, Steele

Nays: Antone. Daley, Gottlieb, Lopez

Senate Rules – 2/10/2026

SB 0054 Use of Substances Affecting Cognitive Function by Senator Sharief

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 54 requires additional autopsy procedures and reporting for violent offenders while establishing new protocols for school safety and law enforcement training related to psychotropic drugs and other intoxicating substances.

Members asked how autopsy findings would be used, emphasizing the correlation with psychotropic drugs, and whether DNA testing should be added. The sponsor clarified that existing laws already cover DNA collection.

Vote

Reported Favorably

24 Yeas ; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Hoooper, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

SB 178 Athletics in Public K-12 Schools by Senator Jones

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 178 authorizes head coaches to use personal funds to support student welfare within set limits and reporting requirements.

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Senator Grall asked if parental consent should be required for coaches' assistance, and Senator Jones agreed to consider it in a future amendment. Members supported the bill by noting the crucial mentorship role coaches often provide; no opposition was voiced.

Vote

Reported Favorably

24 Yeas ; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Hoooper, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

SB 420 Patriotic Displays in Classrooms by Senator Burgess

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 420 requires each public school to prominently display the state motto and, subject to funding, portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Members did not pose questions, and the sponsor emphasized that the requirement for displaying Washington and Lincoln portraits aligns with existing precedent and is subject to appropriation. No member debate or opposition occurred before the bill advanced.

Vote

Reported Favorably

21 Yeas; 2 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Osgood, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

Nays: Davis, Jones

SB 538 Extracurricular Activities by Senator Simon

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 538 expands and revises student eligibility, booster club funding, and administrative oversight for interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular activities.

Members focused on how coaches and activity sponsors would be classified and compensated, particularly when a teacher also serves as a coach, and whether boosters could pay salaries. Supporters clarified that the bill treats coaches as administrators if they assume those roles and only allows booster-funded stipends, not direct salaries.

Vote

Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute

23 Yeas; 1 Nays



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Yeas: Berman, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

SB 7022 Public Records/Examination and Assessment Instruments by Education Pre-K – 12 Committee

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 7022 deletes duplicative language regarding public records exemptions, expands confidentiality of examination and assessment instruments, and revises disclosure and retention requirements.

No members asked questions, and Senator Simon briefly described the measure's reenactment and expansion of the public records exemption to local assessments. The committee reported the bill favorably without any debate.

Vote

Reported Favorably

22 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs – 2/10/2026

SB 556 Requirements for a Standard High School Diploma by Senator Berman

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 556 allows students to substitute marching band experience for both the physical education and performing arts requirements, and permits students with disabilities to meet the physical education requirement by participating in the Special Olympics.

During debate, Senator Simon emphasized the extensive effort the Special Olympics requires of athletes and supported the bill's intent to recognize Special Olympics participation for meeting PE requirements. No opposition arose, and the bill was reported favorably.

Vote

Reported Favorably

6 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Rouson, Sharief, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Simon

Senate Judiciary – 2/10/2026

SB 212 Sexual Offenders and Sexual Predators by Senator McClain

Bill & Meeting Summary

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SB 212 expands residency and location restrictions for persons convicted of specified sexual offenses involving minors by defining new prohibited areas, imposing additional limitations on where they may live or visit, and enhancing penalties for violations.

Members asked no substantive questions; in presenting the bill, Senator McClain reiterated the bill's expanded swimming pool residency restrictions and public testimony showed a divide between those who argued the measure reduces risk by limiting potential "temptation" and opponents who cited lack of evidence and concern over homelessness. The committee voted favorably on the amended bill.

Vote

Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute

10 Yeas; 1 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Polsky, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Hooper, Leek, Passidomo, Trumbull, Yarborough

Nays: Osgood

SB 1104 Religious Expression in Public Schools by Senator Massullo, Jr.

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1104 provides constitutional protections from discrimination for religious expression by students and school personnel in public schools.

Members asked about why a constitutional amendment was needed given current law, voiced concerns over lawsuits, and questioned if the measure might favor one religion while discouraging minority faiths. Supporters saw it as a vital preservation of religious expression for all, while opponents worried about coercion and potential harm to students who are not in the majority faith.

Vote

Reported Favorably

8 Yeas; 3 Nays

Yeas: Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Hooper, Leek, Passidomo, Trumbull, Yarborough

Nays: Berman, Osgood, Polsky

SB 1620 Public Education by Senator Leek

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1620 Strengthen district school board members' oversight, expand transparency requirements, and restrict certain employment practices and confidentiality agreements.

Senator Berman questioned the bill's changes to nepotism rules, and Senator Osgood raised concerns over board members directing staff; Senator Leek noted the bill balances reasonable staff access and transparency, including limits on nondisclosure agreements, while preserving the superintendent's authority. The measure received no voiced opposition and passed.

Vote

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Reported Favorably

11 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Osgood, Polsky, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Hooper, Leek, Passidomo, Trumbull, Yarborough

Senate Community Affairs – 2/10/2026

[SB 1622 Penalties for Late-Filed Disclosures or Statements of Financial Interests by Senator Rodriguez](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1622 prohibits the imposition of a fine for a first late filing of a required financial disclosure or statement of financial interests if specific conditions are met.

No members asked questions; Senator Rodriguez briefly summarized the bill's one-time waiver provision. The committee moved it forward without further debate.

Vote

Reported Favorably

8 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Jones, Sharief, Pizzo, Leek, Massullo, Jr., McClain, Passidomo, Trumbull

Senate Education Pre-K - 12 – 2/10/2026

[SB 182 School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program by Senator Jones](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 182 Establishes the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program to build effective, engaged teachers and improve student outcomes.

Members posed no questions, and Senator Jones explained that the strike-all amendment aligns with the House companion by focusing mentoring on underperforming schools, tightening mentor qualifications, and adding a stipend. No one spoke in opposition, and the bill was reported favorably.

Vote

Reported Favorably

8 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Osgood, Burgess, Calatayud, Gaetz, Simon, Yarborough

[SB 1318 Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program by Senator Rodriguez](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1318 removes the requirement that leftover scholarship funds revert to the state.

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No members asked questions, and Senator Rodriguez explained that the bill clarifies scholarship account fund reversion does not go to the state. There was no vocal support or opposition from other members during debate.

Vote

Reported Favorably

8 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Osgood, Burgess, Calatayud, Gaetz, Simon, Yarborough

SB 1690 Child Care and Early Learning Program by Senator Calatayud

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1690 streamlines child care licensing requirements and update definitions while creating an endowment for expanded early learning initiatives.

Members asked specifically about removing the requirement for large family childcare homes to provide information on leaving children in vehicles, and the sponsor committed to following up with more details. The bill, which clarifies rulemaking authority and modernizes childcare regulations, advanced without opposition.

Vote

Reported Favorably

8 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Osgood, Burgess, Calatayud, Gaetz, Simon, Yarborough

House Budget Committee – 2/10/2026

HB 1279 Education by Representative Kincart-Jonsson

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1279 enhances disclosure for blind-related services, revise vocational rehabilitation and university standards, unify weighted grading, cap nonresident student enrollment, require lawful presence for aid, and adjust advanced course funding.

Members questioned how restricting out-of-state students might reduce tuition revenue while also discussing the removal of certain private program exemptions. Debate centered on giving Florida students priority versus potential negative impacts on diversity, workforce readiness, and funding for universities.

Vote

Reported Favorably

20 Yeas; 7 Nays

Yeas: Andrade, Brannan III, Buchanan, Busatta, Garrison, Koster, Maggard, Maney, McClure, McFarland, Melo, Mooney, Jr., Overdorf, Persons-Mulicka, Robinson, W., Shoaf, Snyder, Tomkow, Tuck, Valdes



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Nays: Chambliss, Driskell, Franklin II, Hunschofsky, Rayner, Robinson, F., Woodson

[HB 757 School Safety by Representative Salzman](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 757 authorizes public postsecondary educational institutions to participate in guardian programs, create a new firearm discharge offense near schools, and strengthen school safety requirements.

Members' questions and debate centered on expanding training authority for campus guardians, concerns about confusion for law enforcement, and the merits of arming faculty versus investing more in prevention and mental health. Supporters underscored robust training and local control, while opponents warned more guns could heighten anxiety and complicate law enforcement responses.

Vote

Reported Favorably

23 Yeas; 5 Nays

Yeas: Franklin II, Andrade, Brannan III, Buchanan, Busatta, Canady, Garrison, Koster, Maggard, Maney, McClure, McFarland, Melo, Mooney, Jr., Overdorf, Persons-Mulicka, Robinson, W., Shoaf, Sirois, Snyder, Tomkow, Tuck, Valdes

Nays: Driskell, Hunschofsky, Rayner, Robinson, F., Woodson

House Civil Justice and Claims Subcommittee – 2/11/2026

[HB 641 Gender Identity Employment Practices by Representative Plakon](#)

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 641 prohibits mandatory use of pronouns at odds with biological sex and disallow required instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity for state-funded employment.

Members asked how the bill aligns with federal law, whether it fosters workplace hostility through misgendering, and if it clarifies or confuses employer responsibilities. Debate centered on balancing free speech and religious conscience with nondiscrimination, with supporters emphasizing individual belief protections and opponents warning of discrimination and confusion for workplaces.

Vote

Reported Favorably

12 Yeas; 3 Nays

Yeas: Albert, Berfield, Black, Blanco, Borrero, Kendall, Koster, Nix, Jr., Oliver, Plasencia, Stark, Weinberger

Nays: Campbell, Gottlieb, Rayner



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House Government Operations Subcommittee – 2/11/2026

HB 139 Adverse Personnel Actions and Ethics Complaints by Representative Maney

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 139 protects employees and certain other persons from adverse actions for disclosing specified ethics violations, and require the Commission on Ethics to facilitate disclosure of ethics complaints to investigating agencies or filing parties under certain conditions.

No member asked questions. Representative Maney explained that the bill closes a gap in whistleblower coverage and requested support, and no members spoke in opposition to the bill during debate.

Vote

Reported Favorably

18 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Alvarez, J., Aristide, Campbell, Rosenwald, Young, Basabe, Chaney, Conerly, Gentry, Greco, Griffiths, Jr., Holcomb, Nix, Jr., Plasencia, Sapp, Stark, Valdes, Weinberger

House Student Academic Success Subcommittee – 2/11/2026

HB 851 Professional Learning for Instructional and School Administration Personnel by Representative Long

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 851 requires districts to provide an annual autism-specific professional learning opportunity for instructional and school-based administrative personnel.

Members questioned how restricting out-of-state students might reduce tuition revenue while also discussing the removal of certain private program exemptions. Debate centered on giving Florida students priority versus potential negative impacts on diversity, workforce readiness, and funding for universities.

Vote

Reported Favorably

15 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Antone, Hinson, Lopez, Tendrich, Bankson, Benarroch, Berfield, Blanco, Gerwig, Hodgers, McFarland, Oliver, Owen, Rizo, Yarkosky

HB 1059 Speech and Debate Education by Representative Booth

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1059 establishes Florida Speech and Debate Week to recognize and encourage academic, civic, and leadership engagement through competitive speech and debate.

Members asked how the measure extends statewide recognition of existing programs and praised student and educator testimony, emphasizing critical thinking, respectful discourse, and leadership development. There was no opposition, and the bill received support.

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Vote

Reported Favorably

14 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Antone, Hinson, Lopez, Tendrich, Bankson, Benarroch, Berfield, Blanco, Gerwig, Hodgers, McFarland, Oliver, Owen, Rizo,

Senate Criminal Justice – 2/11/2026

SB 896 School Safety by Senator Gaetz

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 896 expands school safety measures to public colleges and universities and tighten firearm regulations near schools.

Vice Chair Smith questioned provisions related to discharging a firearm near schools and expressed strong opposition to expanding the Guardian Program, while Senator Gaetz clarified the optional nature of that expansion and emphasized the bill's focus on safety measures, threat assessments, and strict penalties for illegal firearm use on or near campuses.

Vote

Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute

24 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Hooper, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability – 2/11/2026

SB 332 Public Meetings/Private Property Rights by Senator Bradley

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 332 authorizes agencies to hold closed attorney-client sessions to discuss certain private property rights claims and keep meeting records confidential until claims are resolved.

No members raised substantive questions about the bill, and Senator Bradley stressed that the proposal provides only a narrow and temporary confidentiality for presuit settlement discussions while preserving transparency for final outcomes. No opposition was expressed.

Vote

Reported Favorably

8 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Arrington, Bracy Davis, Brodeur, DiCeglie, Grall, Mayfield, McClain, Rodriguez

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SB 464 Observance of Veterans' Day by K-12 School by Senator Avila

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 464 requires K-12 schools to observe Veterans' Day as a holiday.

No members asked questions. Chair Mayfield praised the measure, and Senator Avila highlighted Florida as one of the most veteran-friendly states, with members broadly supporting the bill.

Vote

Reported Favorably

8 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Arrington, Bracy Davis, Brodeur, DiCeglie, Grall, Mayfield, McClain, Rodriguez

SB 964 Financial Disclosures by Senator Wright

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 964 requires reporting individuals and procurement employees to file annual gift and honorarium expense reports with the Commission on Ethics rather than with their financial disclosure statements.

No members asked questions, and the bill was passed after brief remarks about requiring Form 10 to be filed with the Commission on Ethics instead of electronically.

Vote

Reported Favorably

9 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Arrington, Bracy Davis, Polsky, Brodeur, DiCeglie, Grall, Mayfield, McClain, Rodriguez

SB 1296 Public Employees Relations Commission by Senator Martin

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1296 revises final order requirements under chapter 120, modify union membership authorization rules, and overhaul certification, decertification, and bargaining procedures for public employees.

Members questioned the constitutionality of imposing different voting thresholds for certain public employees and raised concerns over curtailed bargaining timelines, while supporters underscored strengthening majority support for unions and clarifying operations. Opponents contended it unfairly burdens teachers, bus drivers, and nurses, calling it a "union-busting" measure that could violate constitutional rights.

Vote

Reported Favorably

6 Yeas; 3 Nays

Yeas: Brodeur, DiCeglie, Grall, Mayfield, McClain, Rodriguez

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Nays: Arrington, Bracy Davis, Polsky

SB 1298 Public Records/Public Employees Relations Commission by Senator Martin

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1298 expands public record exemptions for Public Employees Relations Commission personnel, protect draft orders and related communications from disclosure, and ensure confidentiality of employees' decertification statements.

No members asked questions on the proposed committee substitute, and no members spoke for or against the measure in debate. The committee quickly adopted the proposed committee substitute.

Vote

Reported Favorably

6 Yeas; 2 Nays

Yeas: Brodeur, DiCeglie, Grall, Mayfield, McClain, Rodriguez

Nays: Arrington, Bracy Davis

SB 1612 Electronic Payments to Local Governments by Senator DiCeglie

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1612 mandates local governments to accept electronic payments, including online payment options.

No members asked questions; the bill sponsor, Senator Nick DiCeglie, explained that the updated language clarifies local governments must accept electronic payments in all instances. No debate took place beyond this explanation, and no opposition was expressed.

Vote

Reported Favorably

9 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Arrington, Bracy Davis, Polsky, Brodeur, DiCeglie, Grall, Mayfield, McClain, Rodriguez

Senate Health Policy – 2/11/2026

SB 186 Student Health and Safety by Senator Garcia

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 186 Strengthens epilepsy education and training requirements in schools and clarifies responsibilities for the Department of Health.

No members posed formal questions about the bill or the amendment, and Senator Garcia emphasized expanding epilepsy and seizure training to include bus drivers and charter school staff, with no opposition raised. The committee unanimously voiced support and adopted the bill.

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Vote

Reported Favorably

11 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Davis, Osgood, Burton, Calatayud, Gaetz, Harrell, Leek, Massullo, Jr., Passidomo, Trumbull

House Session – 2/11/2026

HB 1119 Materials Harmful to Minors by Representative Bankson

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1119 defines “harmful to minors” and strengthens processes for objecting to and removing objectionable instructional materials.

Vote

Reported Favorably

84 Yeas; 28 Nays

Yeas: Daniels, Abbott, Albert, Alvarez, D., Anderson, Andrade, Baker, Bankson, Basabe, Benarroch, Berfield, Black, Blanco, Booth, Borrero, Botana, Boyles, Brackett, Brannan III, Buchanan, Busatta, Canady, Cassel, Chamberlin, Chaney, Cobb, Conerly, Duggan, Esposito, Fabricio, Garrison, Gentry, Gerwig, Giallombardo, Gonzalez-Pittman, Gossett-Seidman, Greco, Giffitts, Jr., Grow, Hodgers, Holcomb, Jacques, Johnson, Kendall, Kincart-Jonsson, Koster, LaMarca, Maggard, Maney, McClure, McFarland, Melo, Michael, Miller, Mooney, Jr., Nix, Jr., Oliver, Overdorf, Owen, Partington, Perez, Persons-Mulicka, Plakon, Plasencia, Porras, Redondo, Rizo, Robinson, W., Salzman, Sapp, Shoaf, Sirois, Smith, Snyder, Stark, Steele, Tomkow, Trabulsy, Tramont, Tuck, Valdes, Weinberger, Yarkosky, Yeager
Nays: Alvarez, J., Antone, Aristide, Bartleman, Campbell, Chambliss, Cross, Daley, Driskell, Dunkley, Edmonds, Eskamani, Franklin II, Gantt, Gottlieb, Harris, Hart-Lowman, Hinson, Hunschofsky, Long, Lopez, Nixon, Rayner, Robinson, F., Skidmore, Spencer, Woodson, Young

HB 4027 Hillsborough County Public Schools, Hillsborough County by Representative Owen

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 4027 transitions the Hillsborough County Superintendent of Schools from an appointed position to an elected, partisan position pending voter approval.

Vote

Reported Favorably

86 Yeas; 26 Nays

Yeas: Alvarez, J., Daniels, Long, Abbott, Albert, Alvarez, D., Anderson, Andrade, Baker, Bankson, Basabe, Benarroch, Berfield, Black, Blanco, Booth, Borrero, Botana, Boyles, Brackett, Brannan III, Buchanan, Busatta, Canady, Cassel, Chamberlin, Chaney, Cobb, Conerly, Duggan, Esposito, Fabricio, Garrison, Gentry, Gerwig, Giallombardo, Gonzalez-Pittman, Gossett-Seidman, Greco, Giffitts, Jr., Grow, Hodgers, Holcomb, Jacques, Johnson, Kendall, Kincart-Jonsson, Koster, LaMarca, Maggard, Maney, McClure,

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McFarland, Melo, Michael, Miller, Mooney, Jr., Nix, Jr., Oliver, Overdorf, Owen, Partington, Perez, Persons-Mulicka, Plakon, Plasencia, Porras, Redondo, Rizo, Robinson, W., Salzman, Sapp, Shoaf, Sirois, Smith, Snyder, Stark, Steele, Tomkow, Trabulsky, Tramont, Tuck, Valdes, Weinberger, Yarkosky, Yeager
Nays: Antone, Aristide, Bartleman, Campbell, Chambliss, Daley, Driskell, Dunkley, Edmonds, Eskamani, Franklin II, Gantt, Gottlieb, Harris, Hart-Lowman, Hinson, Hunschofsky, Lopez, Nixon, Rayner, Robinson, F., Skidmore, Spencer, Tendrich, Woodson, Young

Senate Appropriations – 2/12/2026

SB 1216 Public School Personnel Compensation by Senator Rodriguez

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1216 expands cost-of-living salary adjustments to more public school employees while removing certain pay limitations and broadening the use of advanced degrees for salary purposes.

No members posed questions; Senator Berman praised the measure's flexibility for school boards and expressed her desire to raise teacher compensation, and no one spoke against the proposal. No opposition was voiced.

Vote

Reported Favorably

18 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Berman, Polsky, Rouson, Sharief, Smith, Pizzo, Brodeur, Burgess, DiCeglie, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Hooper, Martin, Massullo, Jr., McClain, Trumbull, Wright

House Criminal Justice Subcommittee – 2/12/2026

HB 0083 Booking Officer Duties Related to Minor Children of Arrested Persons by Representative Woodson

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 0083 Requires booking officers to gather information about minor children of arrested persons and verify their care and safety.

Members questioned how to document info on minor children in booking software, and Representative Gottlieb flagged potential self-incrimination concerns. Despite these points, the committee strongly supported the bill's emphasis on child safety and statewide consistency.

Vote

Reported Favorably

15 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Gottlieb, Hart-Lowman, Lopez, Skidmore, Alvarez, D., Baker, Bankson, Barnaby, Fabricio, Greco, Grow, Partington, Plakon, Steele, Yarkosky

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House Health Care Budget Subcommittee – 2/12/2026

HB 933 Childrens Initiative by Representative Rosenwald

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 933 establishes two new children's initiatives in Bay and Broward Counties to improve services and programs for disadvantaged children and families.

No questions were posed by committee members. The bill's sponsor briefly described the goal of adding two new children's initiative sites, and, facing no opposition, the measure was reported favorably.

Vote

Reported Favorably

13 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Rosenwald, Tant, Tendrich, Anderson, Andrade, Berfield, Gonzalez-Pittman, Kincart-Jonsson, Melo, Redondo, Trabulsy, Tramont, Tuck

House Education Administration Subcommittee – 2/12/2026

HB 725 Political Activites on Public Institutions of Higher Education by Representative Gossett-Seidman

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 725 requires public institutions of higher education to inform students and employees about free expression rights and outline permissible and prohibited political activities, along with disciplinary consequences.

Members questioned how colleges would implement training, the extent of disciplinary measures, and whether the bill might stifle student speech; supporters argued the measure only clarifies existing law and promotes awareness, while opponents worried it could chill free expression or penalize inadvertent violations. Ultimately, the bill passed, with supporters emphasizing transparency and critics citing fears of vagueness.

Vote

Reported Favorably

13 Yeas; 5 Nays

Yeas: Albert, Basabe, Black, Boyles, Gossett-Seidman, Holcomb, Mooney, Jr., Nix, Jr., Porras, Sapp, Trabulsy, Valdes, Weinberger

Nays: Alvarez, J., Aristide, Long, Nixon, Woodson

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HB 1437 Conversion Charter Schools by Representative Sapp

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1437 requires disputes between a district school board and a conversion charter school over mutual management plans to be resolved using specified mediation requirements.

Members asked whether the Department of Education might favor charter schools and if there was an appeal process for disputed facility maintenance under the bill. Several members ultimately supported the measure, citing its clarity on resolution steps through mediation and administrative review.

Vote

Reported Favorably

18 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Alvarez, J., Aristide, Long, Nixon, Woodson, Albert, Basabe, Black, Boyles, Gossett-Seidman, Holcomb, Mooney, Jr., Nix, Jr., Porras, Sapp, Trabulsy, Valdes, Weinberger

House Human Services Subcommittee – 2/12/2026

HB 395 Dependant Children by Representative Rizo

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 395 improves coordination with organizations that empower children and require a weekly cash allowance for dependent children in foster care.

Members had no questions but listened to emotional testimony from Florida Youth Shine advocates, prompting a unified response of support across party lines for HB 395. In debate, members praised the bill's goal of increasing youth involvement in child welfare decisions and passed it with broad support.

Vote

Reported Favorably

13 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Alvarez, J., Eskamani, Harris, Hart-Lowman, Spencer, Abbott, Basabe, Chamberlin, Esposito, Greco, Hodgers, Melo, Partington

Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services – 2/12/2026

SB 1022 Childrens Inititative by Senator Polsky

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1022 creates new children's initiatives in Bay and Broward counties under not-for-profit management subject to state transparency requirements.

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No members posed questions, and debate focused on Senator Polsky's explanation that the bill would support disadvantaged communities without additional fiscal impact; no opposition was voiced.

Vote

Reported Favorably

9 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Davis, Rouson, Sharief, Brodeur, Burton, Garcia, Harrell, Rodriguez, Trumbull

Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K -12 Education – 2/12/2026

SB 7036 Education by Education Pre-K – 12

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 7036 enhances and streamlines educational accountability, flexibility, and instruction by revising charter contracts, expanding conditions for educational emergencies, updating epinephrine policies, refining prekindergarten screening, and creating new mathematics pathways.

Committee members asked the reason for public concern about the bill, and Senator Simon explained the language on door locks and DOE-developed instructional materials had been removed. The measure was reported favorably without further debate or vocal opposition from members.

Vote

Reported Favorably

10 Yeas; 0 Nays

Yeas: Jones, Osgood, Pizzo, Bradley, Burgess, Calatayud, Gaetz, Massullo, Jr., Simon, Yarborough

2026 Session Bill Statistics

House

General Bills:	783 Bills
Local Bills:	50 Bills
Joint Resolutions:	18 Bills

Senate

General Bills:	804 Bills
Local Bills:	0 Bills
Joint Resolutions:	12 Bills



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2026 Legislative Session Dates

- Election Dates & Activities [[here](#)]
- Senate 2026 Regular Session Dates [[here](#)]
- Major Budget Events [[here](#)]
- Bill Filing and Appropriation Project Request Deadlines [[here](#)]
- Important House Legislative Dates for the 2026 Regular Session [[here](#)]