

# 2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Session Week 6 | February 16-20

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## House Budget Committee – 2/16/2026

### HB 765 Child Care and Early Learning Services by Representative McFarland

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 765 renames family day care homes to family childcare homes, revises various childcare definitions, removes certain parent notification requirements, and creates the Brighter Futures Program, among other changes.

During discussion of HB 765, no members posed questions. The sponsor, Rep. McFarland, emphasized expanding before- and after-care services in public schools, updating childcare licensing requirements, and ensuring affordability, with no opposition voiced.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

28 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

## House Education and Employment Committee – 2/17/2026

### HB 157 School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program by Representative Hinson –

#### **Temporarily Postponed**

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 157 establishes the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program within the Department of Education to enhance teacher effectiveness and improve student achievement.

### 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 treatment would affect abuse victims and emphasized the need for both parental involvement and mandatory reporting, while supporters argued

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existing law unjustly excludes parents' rights. After debate on mental health, STI care, and emergency exceptions, the bill passed.

#### **Vote**

##### ***Reported Favorably***

12 Yeas : 4 Nays

Yeas: Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Kendall, Michael, Nix, Jr., Rizo, Sapp, Stark, Yarkosky, Yeager

Nays: Aristide, Dunkley, Harris, Hinson

#### **HB 371 Patriotic Displays at Public Schools by Representative Snyder**

##### ***Bill & Meeting Summary***

HB 371 requires displaying the state motto and, subject to funding, portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln in public schools.

Members had no questions, and Representative Snyder explained the requirement to display George Washington's and Abraham Lincoln's portraits in common areas of public schools, emphasizing their value as inspirational historical figures. No committee members spoke in opposition.

#### **Vote**

##### ***Reported Favorably***

19 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Aristide, Edmonds, Harris, Hinson, Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Kendall, Michael, Nix, Jr.,

Persons-Mulicka, Rizo, Stark, Trabulsky, Valdes, Yarkosky, Yeager

#### **HB 615 Individual Education Plans by Representative Tendrich**

##### ***Bill & Meeting Summary***

HB 615 strengthens the timely evaluation process for students with disabilities, enhance parental rights and notifications, and require standardized service logs.

Members asked whether the bill would apply to private schools and raised concerns about adequate staffing and funding, with all who spoke supporting HB 615 because of its focus on transparency and accountability for IEPs. Several members emphasized the need for future appropriations or additional resources to ensure schools can meet the bill's requirements.

#### **Vote**

##### ***Reported Favorably***

19 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Aristide, Edmonds, Harris, Hinson, Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Kendall, Michael, Nix, Jr.,

Persons-Mulicka, Rizo, Sapp, Stark, Trabulsky, Valdes, Yarkosky, Yeager

## HB 851 Professional Learning for Instructional and School Administrative 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.

No members asked questions or formally debated HB 851. The sponsor explained the bill would provide teachers with the tools and knowledge for supporting students with autism, and the bill passed.

### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

19 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

## HB 1147 School District Unimproved Real Property by Representative Nix, Jr.

### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1147 requires annual inventories of school district-owned unimproved property for compilation into a statewide public report.

Representatives Rizo, Aristide, and Hinson questioned whether abandoned buildings counted as unimproved property, and the sponsor clarified that only vacant land is included. The bill sponsor emphasized increased transparency and better asset management.

### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

12 Yeas : 3 Nays

Yeas: Dunkley, Berfield, Canady, Esposito, Gerwig, Michael, Nix, Jr., Rizo, Sapp, Stark, Yarkosky, Yeager  
Nays: Aristide, Harris, Hinson

## HB 1201 Student Health and Safety by Representative Mooney, Jr.

### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1201 expands Department of Health responsibilities and revises school requirements for educating, training, and informing staff and students about epilepsy and seizure disorders.

No members asked questions: the sponsor briefly highlighted the measure's updated requirements for seizure plans and staff training. The committee passed the bill with no opposing testimony.

### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

19 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### HB 1437 Conversion Charter Schools by Representative Sapp – **Temporarily Postponed**

#### Bill 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.

### HB 731 Interscholastic or Intrascholastic Extracurricular Activities by Representative Abbott

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 731 revises eligibility for student participation in extracurricular activities, expands permissible coach funding, and clarifies organizational responsibilities and transfer requirements.

No members raised questions, but several members praised the need for better compensation for coaches, citing their own experiences and emphasizing the extensive time commitments involved. Members voiced broad support with no opposition expressed during debate.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Amendments**

18 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### HB 1081 Cybersecurity Internships by Representative Sirois

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1081 expands cybersecurity workforce readiness by establishing a Cybersecurity Experiential Learning Program within the Florida Center for Cybersecurity.

The sponsor indicated agreement to the amendment. Representative Harris supported the amendment as a way to expand cybersecurity education, and the bill, as amended, ultimately passed without opposition.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

19 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### HB 1503 Technology Education by Representative Giallombardo

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1503 enhances computer science education requirements by integrating artificial intelligence instruction and establishing additional subject area coverages.

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Members posed no questions and offered no debate on the measure. The bill ultimately passed.

### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

19 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

## House Judiciary Committee – 2/17/2026

### 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.

No members asked questions. In debate, supporters framed the bill as protecting free speech and conscience rights on pronoun usage, while opponents argued it conflicts with federal protections under Bostock and could permit workplace discrimination.

### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

13 Yeas : 6 Nays

Yeas: Albert, Alvarez, D., Anderson, Baker, Barnaby, Borrero, Brannan III, Fabricio, Koster, Maney, Plakon, Porras, Salzman  
Nays: Antone, Chambliss, Daley, Gottlieb, Lopez, Rayner

### HB 1153 Juvenile Justice by Representative Cobb

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1153 expands recognition and benefits for juvenile detention and probation officers and clarifies requirements for families in need of services.

Members had no questions on the legislation, and after the sponsor briefly explained the amendment.

### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

20 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Antone, Chambliss, Daley, Gottlieb, Lopez, Rayner, Alber, Alvarez, D., Anderson, Baker, Barnaby, Borrero, Brannan III, Cassel, Fabricio, Koster, Maney, Plakon, Porras, Salzman

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## House State Affairs Committee – 2/17/2026

### HB 905 Foreign Influence by Representative Persons-Mulicka

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 905 strengthens safeguards against foreign influence by requiring registration of foreign agents, prohibiting certain contracts and affiliations with foreign entities, and imposing penalties for unauthorized enforcement of foreign laws.

Members raised questions about the removal of Qatar, the impact on linkage institutes and foreign students, and how technology procurement contracts would be restricted, while supporters emphasized the need to protect Florida from foreign influence and opponents cautioned against potential xenophobia and overreach.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

24 Yeas : 1 Nays

Yeas: Cross, Eskamani, Nixon, Spencer, Tendrich, Young, Blanco, Botana, Boyles, Chaney, Cobb, Duggan, Gentry, Giallombardo, Gonzalez Pittman, Griffiths, Jr., Holcomb, Jacques, Maggard, McFarland, Mooney, Jr., Owen, Robinson, W., Weinberger

Nays: Gantt

## Senate Rules – 2/17/2026

### SB 0092 Employee Protections by Senator Gaetz

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 0092 protects employees who publicly disclose ethics violations from retaliation and establish complaint and enforcement procedures for prohibited personnel actions.

No members posed substantive questions on the bill: Senator Gaetz explained it strengthens protections against retaliation for employees who report ethics violations. The committee adopted three technical amendments and voted the bill favorably without voiced opposition.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

23 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### SB 212 Sexual Offenders and Sexual Predators by Senator McClain

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 212 strengthens residency restrictions, expands definitions, and imposes new contact constraints for sex offenders and predators near places where children congregate, including public swimming pools.

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Several senators questioned whether the amended definition of “public swimming pool” alters existing restrictions or allows for family exceptions, while others raised due process concerns about broad geographic bans.

#### **Vote**

##### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

19 Yeas : 5 Nays

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

Nays: Berman, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Rouson

#### **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.

No members asked questions, and Senator Berman reiterated that the bill clarifies how two years of marching band can satisfy both PE and fine arts credits, while also enabling Special Olympics participation to fulfill the PE requirement for students with disabilities. No members spoke during debate, and the bill was reported favorably.

#### **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, Hooper, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

#### **SB 824 Inventory of Unimproved Real Property Owned by School Districts by Senator Truenow**

##### **Bill & Meeting Summary**

SB 824 requires Florida school districts to submit annual inventories of unimproved real property to the Department of Education for inclusion in a statewide report.

No committee members asked questions: Senator Gaetz spoke in favor, emphasizing it merely mandates a property inventory without restricting usage. The committee reported the bill favorably.

#### **Vote**

##### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

22 Yeas : 2 Nays

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

Nays: Davis, Jones

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**Senate Floor Vote 2/19**

28 Yeas : 9 Nays

Yeas: Polsky, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, Calatayud, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Hooper, Leek, Martin, Massullo, Jr., Mayfield, McClain, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Truenow, Trumbull, Wright, Yarborough

Nays: Arrington, Berman, Bernard, Bracy Davis, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Sharief, Smith

### SB 1622 Penalties for Late-Filed Disclosures or Statements of Financial Interest 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 Senators asked questions about SB 1622, and Senator Rodriguez explained that the bill provides a one-time waiver of the automatic fine for a late-filed financial disclosure. The measure advanced with no members speaking in opposition.

**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, Hooper, Martin, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Trumbull, Wright

**Senate Floor Vote 2/19**

37 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

## House Session – 2/17/2026

### HB 409 Observance of Veterans' Day by K-12 Schools by Representative Giallombardo

Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 409 requires school districts to designate Veterans' Day as an official school holiday.

**Vote****Reported Favorably**

107 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Alvarez, J., Antone, Bartleman, Campbell, Chambliss, Daley, Driskell, Eskamani, Franklin II, Gantt, Gottlieb, Harris, Hart-Lowman, Hinson, Hunschofsky, Long, Lopez, Nixon, Robinson, F., Rosenwald, Skidmore, Spencer, Tant, Tendrich, Woodson, Young, Abbot, Albert, Alvarez, D., Anderson, Andrade,

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Baker, Bankson, Barnaby, Benarroch, Berfield, Black, Blanco, Booth, Borrero, Botana, Boyles, Brannan III, Buchanan, Busatta, Canady, Cassel, Chamberlin, Chaney, Cobb, Conerly, Duggan, Esposito, Fabricio, Garrison, Gentry, Gerwig, Giallombardo, Gonzalez-Pittman, Gossett-Seidman, Greco, Griffiths, 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, Tomkow, Trabulsy, Tramont, Tuck, Valdes, Weinberger, Yarkosky, Yeager

### HB 1073 School Districts by Representative Koster

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 1073 enhances district school board members' access to documents, increase transparency of meeting records and budgets, and prohibit mandatory nondisclosure agreements.

#### **Vote**

##### **Reported Favorably**

96 Yeas : 10 Nays

Yeas: Alvarez, J., Antone, Bartleman, Chambliss, Daley, Eskamani, Harris, Hinson, Hunschofsky, Long, Lopez, Rosenwald, Skidmore, Spencer, Tant, Tendrich, Young, Abbot, Albert, Alvarez, D., Anderson, Andrade, Baker, Bankson, Barnaby, Benarroch, Berfield, Black, Blanco, Booth, Borrero, Botana, Boyles, Brannan III, Buchanan, Busatta, Canady, Cassel, Chamberlin, Chaney, Cobb, Conerly, Duggan, Esposito, Fabricio, Garrison, Gentry, Gerwig, Giallombardo, Gonzalez-Pittman, Gossett-Seidman, Greco, Griffiths, 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, Tomkow, Trabulsy, Tramont, Tuck, Valdes, Weinberger, Yarkosky, Yeager

Nays: Campbell, Cross, Driskell, Franklin II, Gantt, Gottlieb, Hart-Lowman, Nixon, Robinson, F., Woodson

## House Health and Human Services Committee – 2/18/2026

### HB 395 Dependent Children by Representative Rizo

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

HB 395 requires the Department of Children and Families and each community-based care lead agency to meet quarterly with organizations focused on empowering children with lived experience to solicit input on child welfare improvements.

No members asked questions, and the ensuing debate was entirely supportive of the bill's aims to solicit foster youth input on child welfare and improve their experiences: the measure ultimately passed without voiced opposition.

#### **Vote**

##### **Reported Favorably**

22 Yeas : 0 Nays

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Yeas: Bartleman, Campbell, Hart-Lowman, Long, Rosenwald, Tant, Woodson, Abbott, Anderson, Andrade, Black, Busatta, Chaney, Greco, Grow, Hodggers, Kincart-Jonsson, Melo, Plasencia, Redondo, Robinson, W., Tomkow

## Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services – 2/18/2026

### SB 1168 Background Screenings by Senator Grall

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1168 expands level 2 background screening requirements, add new disqualifying offenses, and revise clearinghouse procedures for determining eligibility.

No members asked questions. Senator Grall emphasized the bill's strengthening of disqualifying offenses and the efficiency benefits of centralizing screenings, and there were no opposing remarks before it passed favorably.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

9 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### SB 1340 Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring by Senator Harrell

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1340 requires prompt screening, intervention, and evaluation for students exhibiting characteristics of dyslexia or dyscalculia.

No members posed questions on SB 1340, and Senator Harrell briefly explained how early screening and standardized interventions would aid students with dyslexia or dyscalculia: the committee supported moving the bill forward.

#### **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 – 2/18/2026

### SB 1062 Speech and Debate by Senator Brodeur

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

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SB 1062 creates an annual Florida Speech and Debate Week and establishes the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc. to support and expand K-20 civics, speech, and debate programs.

No members asked substantive questions, but several spoke in strong support, sharing personal experiences and emphasizing the bill's value for enhancing student confidence, civic engagement, and academic performance. Senators of both parties noted that participation in debate programs fosters critical thinking and effective communication skills that benefit schools statewide.

#### **Vote**

##### ***Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute***

9 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

#### **SB 1718 Educator Preparation and Certification by Senator Calatayud**

##### ***Bill & Meeting Summary***

SB 1718 expands enrollment in educator preparation institutes, add a new pathway for temporary certification to those with expired certificates, reinstate all prior subject coverages and endorsements upon certificate reinstatement, and strengthen professional learning capabilities through collaboration and free access for certified educators.

No member asked any questions, and the debate was unanimously supportive of removing barriers to certification while maintaining standards: there was no opposition expressed. Members primarily focused on ensuring that the reforms address long-term teacher retention and pay.

#### **Vote**

##### ***Reported Favorably***

9 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

#### **SB 7038 Education by Education Postsecondary**

##### ***Bill & Meeting Summary***

SB 7038 expands and revises various educational policies, including tuition waivers, consumer disclosures, and performance metrics to enhance student access, support, and accountability within Florida's education system.

Members asked about the revised grandparent fee waiver provisions, reinstatement of the classical learning test, and whether new Pell Grant performance metrics could negatively affect universities. Concerns were raised about potential unintended consequences for dental assisting programs, but the sponsor pledged to continue working on clarifications as the committee passed the bill unanimously.

#### **Vote**

##### ***Reported Favorably With Committee Substitute***

9 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

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## Senate Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice – 2/18/2026

### SB 1072 Antisemitism Task Force by Senator Calatayud

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1072 creates the Antisemitism Task Force within the Office of Civil Rights in the Department of Legal Affairs to combat antisemitism in Florida.

Members questioned whether the bill's definition of antisemitism could limit criticism of Israel, with the sponsor affirming only threats or intimidation would be penalized. Debate largely supported addressing antisemitism and promoting broader conversations on combating hate, while acknowledging the importance of preserving free speech.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

8 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Osgood, Polsky, Smith, Garcia, Martin, Simon, Wright, Yarborough

### SB 1632 Ideologies Inconsistent with American Principles by Senator Grall –

#### **Temporarily Postponed**

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1632 prohibits the application of foreign or religious laws that conflict with constitutional rights and expand criminal, administrative, and educational penalties for supporting or promoting designated terrorist organizations.

## Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education – 2/18/2026

### SB 1694 Technology Education by Senator Avila

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 1694 expands technology education requirements by integrating artificial intelligence into general education and high school computer science courses.

Members had no direct questions but broadly voiced support for including AI literacy in schools, with Senator Davis advocating for early student education and Senator Ávila highlighting both the benefits and limitations of AI. The committee unanimously supported the bill with no opposition.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

7 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Bracy Davis, Davis, Bradley, Burgess, Calatayud, Harrell, Leek

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## Senate Appropriations – 2/18/2026

### SB 482 Artificial Intelligence Bill of Rights by Senator Leek

#### Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 482 establishes an Artificial Intelligence Bill of Rights, restricts government contracts with foreign-controlled AI entities, mandates transparency and parental consent for minors' use of companion chatbots, and forbids unauthorized commercial use of AI-generated personal likenesses.

Members questioned how the amended bill's AI disclosure rules would affect small businesses, raised feasibility concerns over age verification measures, and urged ongoing legislative review given AI's rapid evolution. Supporters praised the bill's guardrails to protect children but called for stronger parental oversight and potential age limits in classrooms.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably with Committee Substitute**

18 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

## Senate Fiscal Policy – 2/18/2026

### SB 1022 Childrens Initiative 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.

No member asked questions, and Senator LaVon Bracy Davis praised the bill's impact on both children and parents through enhanced wraparound services and noted the success of a similar program in Orlando. No one spoke in opposition, and the committee voted favorably.

#### **Vote**

#### **Reported Favorably**

19 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Arrington, Bernard, Bracy Davis, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Burton, Calatayud, Gaetz, Gruters, Leek, Mayfield, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Truenow, Yarborough

## Senate Session – 2/19/2026

### SB 590 Statute of Limitations Period for Violations Involving Required Reports Concerning Children by Senator Bradley

\*All summaries are created with AI

ACTIVE:39211351.1

Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 590 provides that the statute of limitations for offenses involving required reports concerning children does not begin to run until a law enforcement or governmental agency is made aware of the violation.

**Senate Floor Vote****Reported Favorably**

37 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### 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.

**Senate Floor Vote****Reported Favorably**

37 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### 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.

**Senate Floor Vote****Reported Favorably**

37 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

### SB 420 Patriotic Displays at Public Schools 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.

\*All summaries are created with AI

ACTIVE:39211351.1

**Senate Floor Vote****Reported Favorably**

36 Yeas : 2 Nays

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

Nays: Davis, Jones

**SB 178 Athletics in Public K-12 Schools by Senator Burgess**Bill & Meeting Summary

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

**Senate Floor Vote****Reported Favorably**

38 Yeas : 0 Nays

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

**SB 0054 Use of Substances Affecting Cognitive Function by Senator Sharief**Bill & Meeting Summary

SB 0054 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.

**Senate Floor Vote****Reported Favorably**

37 Yeas: 1 Nays

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

Nays: Smith

**SB 538 Extracurricular Activities by Senator Simon**Bill & Meeting Summary

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

**Senate Floor Vote****Reported Favorably**

38 Yeas : 0 Nays

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ACTIVE:39211351.1

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

**SB 824 Inventory of Unimproved Real Property Owned by School Districts by Senator Truenow**  
*Bill & Meeting Summary*

SB 824 requires Florida school districts to submit annual inventories of unimproved real property to the Department of Education for inclusion in a statewide report.

**Senate Floor Vote**

**Reported Favorably**

28 Yeas : 9 Nays

Yeas: Polsky, Rouson, Pizzo, Avila, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, Calatayud, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Hooper, Leek, Martin, Massullo, Jr., Mayfield, McClain, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Truenow, Trumbull, Wright, Yarborough

Nays: Arrington, Berman, Bernard, Bracy Davis, Davis, Jones, Osgood, Sharief, Smith

**SB 7022 Public Records/Examination and Assessment Instruments by Education Pre-K -12**  
*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.

**Senate Floor Vote**

**Reported Favorably**

36 Yeas : 1 Nays

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

Nays: Gaetz

## House Rules and Ethics Committee – 2/19/2026

**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 members asked questions following Representative Maney’s brief explanation, and there was no opposition voiced during debate. The bill received broad support in a quick roll call vote.

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ACTIVE:39211351.1

**Vote****Reported Favorably**

14 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Gottlieb, Hart-Lowman, Tant, Woodson, Bankson, Borrero, Canady, Esposito, Garrison, Salzman, Sirois, Smith, Trabulsy, Tramont

**HB 603 Ethics for Public Employees by Representative Lopez*****Bill & Meeting Summary***

HB 603 expands the definition of “relative” to include foster parents and foster children for public employees under state ethics provisions.

No members posed questions, and there was no opposition or debate. The committee voted in favor of including foster parents and children in the definition of “relative” for ethics purposes.

**Vote****Reported Favorably**

14 Yeas : 0 Nays

Yeas: Gottlieb, Hart-Lowman, Tant, Woodson, Bankson, Borrero, Canady, Esposito, Garrison, Salzman, Sirois, Smith, Trabulsy, Tramont

**2026 Session Bill Statistics****House**

<b>General Bills:</b>	<b>797 Bills</b>
<b>Local Bills:</b>	<b>51 Bills</b>
<b>Joint Resolutions:</b>	<b>18 Bills</b>

**Senate**

<b>General Bills:</b>	<b>814 Bills</b>
<b>Local Bills:</b>	<b>0 Bills</b>
<b>Joint Resolutions:</b>	<b>12 Bills</b>

**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](#)]

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