

<b>Tab 1</b>	<b>CS/SB 1044</b> by <b>ED, Grall</b> ; (Similar to 1ST ENG/H 00931) School Chaplains
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<b>Tab 2</b>	<b>CS/SB 1264</b> by <b>ED, Collins (CO-INTRODUCERS) Rodriguez, Harrell, Avila</b> ; (Compare to CS/CS/H 01349) History of Communism Task Force
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213714	A	S	RCS	AED, Collins	Delete L.33 - 79:	02/20 01:09 PM
824438	A	S	RCS	AED, Collins	btw L.79 - 80:	02/20 01:09 PM

**The Florida Senate**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**  
**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**  
**Senator Perry, Chair**  
**Senator Jones, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
**TIME:** 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** *Pat Thomas Committee Room, 412 Knott Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Perry, Chair; Senator Jones, Vice Chair; Senators Calatayud, Collins, Davis, Harrell, Hutson, and Simon

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	<b>CS/SB 1044</b> Education Pre-K -12 / Grall (Similar H 931)	School Chaplains; Authorizing school districts and charter schools to adopt a policy to allow volunteer school chaplains; requiring district school boards and charter school governing boards to assign specified duties to such volunteer school chaplains; requiring school districts that adopt volunteer school chaplain policies to publish certain information on their websites; providing background screening requirements for volunteer school chaplains, etc.  ED 02/06/2024 Fav/CS AED 02/20/2024 Favorable RC	Favorable Yeas 4 Nays 1
2	<b>CS/SB 1264</b> Education Pre-K -12 / Collins (Similar CS/H 1349)	History of Communism Task Force; Requiring instruction in public schools on the history of communism; creating the History of Communism Task Force within the Department of Education; requiring the task force to work with the Division of Historical Resources within the Department of State to make recommendations by a specified date to the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education for curriculum standards and instruction on communist history, etc.  ED 02/06/2024 Fav/CS AED 02/20/2024 Fav/CS FP	Fav/CS Yeas 6 Nays 0

Other Related Meeting Documents

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Education

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BILL: CS/SB 1044

INTRODUCER: Education Pre-K -12 Committee and Senator Grall

SUBJECT: School Chaplains

DATE: February 19, 2024

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Brick</u>	<u>Bouck</u>	<u>ED</u>	<b>Fav/CS</b>
2.	<u>Gray</u>	<u>Elwell</u>	<u>AED</u>	<b>Favorable</b>
3.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

**Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

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**I. Summary:**

CS/SB 1044 authorizes each school district or charter school to adopt a policy to authorize volunteer school chaplains to provide supports, services, and programs to students as assigned by the district school board or charter school governing board.

This bill has an indeterminate, likely insignificant fiscal impact on school districts. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Student Personnel Services**

Student personnel services include staff members responsible for:

- Advising students with regard to their abilities and aptitudes, educational and occupational opportunities, and personal and social adjustments;
- Providing placement services; and
- Performing educational evaluations; and similar functions.

Included in this classification are certified school counselors, social workers, career specialists, and school psychologists.<sup>1</sup>

School counselors are considered instructional personnel within Florida's public school system.<sup>2</sup> To be employed as a school counselor, or in any other instructional capacity in a public school, a person must be certified as required by law and State Board of Education rule.<sup>3</sup>

In the 2022-2023 school year, there were 6,754 certified school counselors working in Florida school districts, serving 2,870,507 students. Each of the 67 school districts reported at least one school counselor on staff.<sup>4</sup> On average, there was one school counselor for every 425 students.

### **Background Screening of School Personnel**

Subject to limited exceptions discussed below,<sup>5</sup> personnel who are hired or contracted to fill positions that require direct contact with students in any public school must, upon employment or engagement to provide services, undergo background screening and are ineligible if they have a disqualifying offense on their record.<sup>6</sup> Screening requirements for volunteers are determined by each district school board or charter school governing board.<sup>7</sup>

A district school board may not require criminal history record checks of a noninstructional contractor who may have direct contact with a student if the noninstructional contractor is:

- Under the direct supervision and within the line of sight of a school district employee or contractor who has had a criminal history check and meets screening requirements.
- Required by law to undergo and is up-to-date with a level 2 background screening<sup>8</sup> for licensure, certification, employment, or other purposes.
- A law enforcement officer<sup>9</sup> assigned or dispatched to the school.
- An employee or medical director of an ambulance provider, who is providing services within the scope of part III of chapter 401 on behalf of such ambulance provider.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1012.01(2)(b), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Section 1012.55(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>4</sup> The Florida Department of Education, *Staff in Florida's Public Schools, District Reports: Full-Time Staff 2022-23, Survey 2*, available at <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/staff.shtml>; and The Florida Department of Education, *Membership in Florida Public Schools, Survey 2, 2022-2023*, available at <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/students.shtml>. (Last visited Feb. 13, 2024)

<sup>5</sup> *See* s. 1012.468, F.S.

<sup>6</sup> Section 1012.32(2)(a), F.S., and *see* s. 1012.315, F.S., for disqualifying offenses.

<sup>7</sup> Rule 6A-1.0502, F.A.C.

<sup>8</sup> As specified in s. 435.04, F.S.

<sup>9</sup> As defined in s. 943.10, F.S.

<sup>10</sup> Section 1012.468, F.S.

## Chaplains

An institutional chaplain is a clergyman officially attached to a branch of the military, to an institution, or to a family or court.<sup>11</sup> A chaplain may:<sup>12</sup>

- Minister in areas of critical incident stress, grief and loss, trauma, and stress management.
- Provide counsel, education, advocacy, life-improvement skills, and recovery training.
- Build a bridge between the secular and spiritual environments of community life.
- Bring life changing service in every sector of community life, such as health and welfare, education, transitional living, emergency service, and governmental support.

School chaplains provide counsel, prayer, and spiritual care for school staff, students, and families.<sup>13</sup>

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill authorizes each school district or charter school to adopt a policy to authorize volunteer school chaplains to provide supports, services, and programs to students as assigned by the district school board or charter school governing board. The bill requires the policy to:

- Describe the supports, services, or programs that volunteer school chaplains may be assigned;
- Require that principals of schools with a volunteer school chaplain inform all parents of the availability of such supports, services, and programs; and
- Require written parental consent before a student participates in or receives supports, services, and programs provided by a volunteer school chaplain. Parents must be permitted to select a volunteer school chaplain from the list provided by the school district, which must include the chaplain's religious affiliation, if any.

The bill requires any school district that adopts a volunteer school chaplain policy to publish the list of volunteer school chaplains, including any religious affiliation, on the school district's website.

The bill modifies s. 1012.465, F.S., to require volunteer school chaplains to meet the background screening requirements for noninstructional school district employees or contractual personnel who are permitted access on school grounds when students are present or have direct contact with students.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

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<sup>11</sup> Merriam-Webster, *Chaplain*, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/chaplain#:~:text=%3A%20a%20clergyman%20in%20charge%20of,of%20a%20club%20or%20society> (last visited Feb. 13, 2024).

<sup>12</sup> International Fellowship of Chaplains, *What does being a Chaplain mean?*, <https://ifoc.org/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2024).

<sup>13</sup> National School Chaplain Association, *Follow your calling*, <https://www.nationalschoolchaplainassociation.org/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2024).

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

## A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

## B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

## C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

## D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

## E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

## A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

## B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

## C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill could have an indeterminate, yet insignificant, fiscal impact to school districts or volunteers chaplains to cover the required background screening.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends section 1012.465 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill creates section 1012.461 of the Florida Statutes.

**IX. Additional Information:**

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS by Education Pre-K – 12 on February 6, 2024:**

The committee substitute removes the requirement that school boards vote by January 1, 2025, on whether to adopt a volunteer school chaplain policy.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

By the Committee on Education Pre-K -12; and Senator Grall

581-02960-24

20241044c1

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school chaplains; creating s. 1012.461, F.S.; authorizing school districts and charter schools to adopt a policy to allow volunteer school chaplains; establishing the requirements for such policy; requiring district school boards and charter school governing boards to assign specified duties to such volunteer school chaplains; requiring volunteer school chaplains to meet certain background screening requirements; requiring school districts that adopt volunteer school chaplain policies to publish certain information on their websites; amending s. 1012.465, F.S.; providing background screening requirements for volunteer school chaplains; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 1012.461, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1012.461 School chaplains.—

(1) Each school district or charter school may adopt a policy to authorize volunteer school chaplains to provide supports, services, and programs to students as assigned by the district school board or charter school governing board. The school district or charter school policy must, at a minimum:

(a) Describe the supports, services, or programs that volunteer school chaplains may be assigned;

(b) Require that principals of schools with a volunteer

Page 1 of 2

**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

581-02960-24

20241044c1

school chaplain inform all parents of the availability of such supports, services, and programs; and

(c) Require written parental consent before a student participates in or receives supports, services, and programs provided by a volunteer school chaplain. Parents must be permitted to select a volunteer school chaplain from the list provided by the school district, which must include the chaplain's religious affiliation, if any.

(2) Each volunteer school chaplain must meet the requirements of s. 1012.465.

(3) Any school district that adopts a volunteer school chaplain policy shall publish the list of volunteer school chaplains, including any religious affiliation, on the school district's website.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 1012.465, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.465 Background screening requirements for certain noninstructional school district employees, ~~and~~ contractors, and volunteer school chaplains.—

(1) Except as provided in s. 1012.467 or s. 1012.468, noninstructional school district employees, ~~or~~ contractual personnel, or volunteer school chaplains who are permitted access on school grounds when students are present, who have direct contact with students or who have access to or control of school funds must meet the screening requirements of s. 1012.32. Contractual personnel shall include any vendor, individual, or entity under contract with a school or the school board.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Page 2 of 2

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The Florida Senate

## Committee Agenda Request

**To:** Senator Keith Perry, Chair  
Appropriations Committee on Education

**Subject:** Committee Agenda Request

**Date:** February 8, 2024

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I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #1044**, relating to School Chaplains, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

*Erin K. Grall*

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Senator Erin Grall  
Florida Senate, District 29

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

2/20/24

Meeting Date

1044

Bill Number or Topic

Sen App Sub

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Rev. Rachel Gantow Shapsa

Phone

Address POB 299

Email

Street

Bradenton, FL 34206

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Factor For Florida Childre

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

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2/20/2024

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations on Educ.

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Lorinda Lehning

Phone 863 221 3976

Address 5322 Laurel Oak DR.

Street

Email utterlylorinda@gmail.com

Winter Haven

City

FL

State

33880

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

OR

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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1044

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Appropriations on Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

John Labriola

Phone

954-515-2084

Address

Po Box 650216

Email

John.Labriola@flsenate.net

Street

Miami FL 33265

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Christian Family Coalition Florida

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf flsenate.gov](https://www.flsenate.gov/legistics/2020/2020-2022-Joint-Rules.pdf)

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2/20/24

Meeting Date

AED

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CS/SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Marianne Arbulu

Phone

850-528-5758

Address

3045 Harpers Ferry Dr

Email

m\_arbulu@msn.com

Street

Tallahassee FL 32308

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.

LWV



I am a registered lobbyist,  
representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received  
something of value for my appearance  
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),  
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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The Florida Senate

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2/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

APPROPRIATIONS ON EDUCATION

Committee

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Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Ryan Kennedy

Phone

239-671-5733

Address

9745 Roundstone Cdr.

Email

ryan@goflca.org

Street

Fort Myers

State

FL

Zip

33967

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Florida Citizens Alliance

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf](#) flsenate.gov

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

3/20/24

Meeting Date

1044

Bill Number or Topic

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Sen App Sub Comm

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Rev. James T. Gold

Phone 941-273-4031

Address POB 299

Email jamesgold@aol.com

Street

Roseland, FL 34206

City

State

Zip

Speaking: [ ] For [X] Against [ ] Information OR Waive Speaking: [ ] In Support [ ] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[X] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[ ] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

[ ] I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Pastor For FL Children

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022 Joint Rules. pdf flsenate.gov

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2/20/2024

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Dawn Rosado

Phone 850-685-2029

Address 8349 Sphere Way

Street

Email sharee9297@gmail.com

Pensacola

City

FL

State

32514

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf flsenate.gov](#)

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Feb. 20, 2024  
Meeting Date

The Florida Senate  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

SB 1044  
Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations  
Committee

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Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Darzell Warren

Phone 850-266-4547

Address 8410 Ferlon Ave  
Street

Email jade2721@aol.com

Pensacola FL 32526  
City State Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules. pdf flsenate.gov](https://www.flsenate.gov/legislation/joint-rules)

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SB1044

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Cecily Henderson

Phone

Address

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,  
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received  
something of value for my appearance  
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),  
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

SB 1044

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Rev. Dr. Joe Parramore

Phone 850.510.0584

Address 6099 Pat Thomas Pkwy

Email drjparramore@gmail.com

Street

Quincy

FL

32351

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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The Florida Senate  
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SB1044

Bill Number or Topic

2/20/23

Meeting Date

Approps

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Michael Woods

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

*While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf](#) (flsenate.gov)*

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The Florida Senate

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2.20.24

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations Committee on Ed  
Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to  
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Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Damaris Allen

Phone 407.855.7604

Address 1747 Orlando Central Pkwy  
Street

Email legislation@floridapta.org

Orlando FL 32809  
City State Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Florida PTA

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules](https://www.flsenate.gov/legistics/2022/joint-rules).

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SB 10 94

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Tasha Edwards

Phone 772-333-0780

Address 431 SW. Holden Terrace

Email tasha.edwards@u1577@gmail.com

Street

Port Saint Lucie FL

34984

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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Meeting Date

# The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Belinda Davis

Phone

561 702-7092

Address

315 N.W. 3rd AVE

Email

JohnnyBelinda by @ Gmail

Street

Delray Beach FL 33444

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,  
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received  
something of value for my appearance  
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),  
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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2-20-24

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriation or education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name William Scolnik

Phone 754-214-1318

Address 1732 NE 15th Ave

Email Scolnik.william@yale.edu

Street

Fort Lauderdale FL

33305

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

OR

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

2/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Appropriations Committee on Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name GUENDA ABICKA

Phone 786-376-1181

Address 4305 SW 98 AV

Email GUENDA.ABICKA@GMAIL.COM

Street

MIAMI

FL

33165

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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8-20-24

Meeting Date

1044

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations-Ed.

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Leonda Narramore

Phone 863 409-2963

Address 4253 Stafford Drive

Email leondanarramore@icloud.com

Winter Haven FL 33880

Street

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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2/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriation Education  
Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Aaron DiPietro

Phone 904-608-4471

Address P.O. Box 530103  
Street

Email aaron.d@fffamily.org

Orlando  
City

FL  
State

32853  
Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

OR

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Florida Family Policy Council

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

2/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1044

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Education Appropriations

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Mark Motl

Phone 386-916-9275

Address 115 Vintage Ln

Email mamotl@gmail.com

Street

Palatka

FL

32177

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1044

2/20  
Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to  
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Appropriations Ed  
Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Michael Greenan

Phone (352) 478-9621

Address 1235 Sw Pointview Rd  
Street

Email mikegreenan@hotmail.com

Keystone Heights FL 32656  
City State Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules](https://www.flsenate.gov/legistics/2020/2020-2022-Joint-Rules), [df \(flsenate.gov\)](https://www.flsenate.gov/legistics/2020/2020-2022-Joint-Rules)

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2/20/2024

Meeting Date

The Florida Senate  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

1044

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee  
Name **DANIA Victores**

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)  
Phone **(305) 764-1858**

Address  
Street  
**Winter Haven FL 33880**  
City State Zip

Email **dvict2@gmail.com**

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Education

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**BILL:** CS/CS/SB 1264

**INTRODUCER:** Appropriations Committee on Education; Education Pre-K -12 Committee; and Senators Collins and others

**SUBJECT:** History of Communism Task Force

**DATE:** February 22, 2024

**REVISED:** \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Sabitsch</u>	<u>Bouck</u>	<u>ED</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	<u>Gray</u>	<u>Elwell</u>	<u>AED</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
3.	_____	_____	<u>FP</u>	_____

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**Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

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**I. Summary:**

CS/CS/SB 1264 requires instruction on the history of communism and makes provision for activities related to political and economic freedom. Additionally, the bill:

- Requires specified instruction on the history of communism beginning in the 2026-2027 school year that must be age and developmentally appropriate.
- Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to prepare and offer standards for the instruction on the history of communism.
- Removes the History of Communism Task Force established in the bill.
- Establishes the Institute for Freedom in the Americas at Miami Dade College and requires the institute to partner with the renamed Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom to provide academic coursework and programs.
- Requires the Department of State and the DOE to recommend to the legislature on the creation of a museum of communist history.

The bill has an indeterminate fiscal impact on state expenditures. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill is effective July 1, 2024.

## II. Present Situation:

### Communism

Communism is a political and economic philosophy that aims to replace private property and a profit-based economy with public ownership and communal control of the major means of production and society's natural resources. Karl Marx and his associate, Friedrich Engels, blamed capitalism for the unfavorable and often-hazardous conditions of workers during the Industrial Revolution. They presented this critique of capitalism in 1848 in their widely circulated pamphlet, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*.<sup>1</sup>

One facet of the communist theory is that the proletariat (one of the lowest classes of society which lives entirely by the sale of its labor) would capture political power, abolish private property ownership, and take the private property of the bourgeoisie. Communism postulates that the taking and abolishment of private property by the proletariat would result in shared ownership of the means of production, ushering the world into a communal economic and societal utopia with equality for all.<sup>2</sup>

Before the full establishment of communism, however, the communist theory suggests that a transitional dictatorship of the proletariat may be necessary.<sup>3</sup>

### Bolshevik Revolution

The Bolshevik Revolution, also known as the October Revolution, was the second of two revolutions in Russia in 1917. The Bolshevik Revolution was a revolution led by Vladimir Lenin in Russia against the ruling Russian Parliament that had replaced the ruling Tsar in the same year. The coup began in November of 1917, when the Bolsheviks led forces into Petrograd, then the capital of Russia. The Bolsheviks occupied government buildings and other locations across Petrograd. The coup led to the Russian Civil War and eventually the creation of the Soviet Union. The event inspired and ignited communist movements around the world.<sup>4</sup> However, instead of the expected dictatorship of the majority class of proletarians, the revolution resulted in a political party that claimed to represent proletarian interests.<sup>5</sup>

### Required Instruction

The mission of Florida's K-20 education system is to allow its students to increase their proficiency by allowing them the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through rigorous and relevant learning opportunities.<sup>6</sup> Each district school board must provide

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<sup>1</sup> Encyclopedia Britannica, *Communism*, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/communism> (last visited Feb. 13, 2024).

<sup>2</sup> Engels, Friedrich, *Principles of Communism, No. 14* – (1847), available at <https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1847/11/prin-com.htm> (last visited Feb. 1, 2024).

<sup>3</sup> Encyclopedia Britannica, *Dictatorship of the Proletariat*, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/dictatorship-of-the-proletariat> (last visited Feb. 1, 2021).

<sup>4</sup> History, *The Russian Revolution*, available at <https://www.history.com/topics/russia/russian-revolution> (last visited Feb 13, 2024).

<sup>5</sup> Encyclopedia Britannica, *Dictatorship of the Proletariat*, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/dictatorship-of-the-proletariat> (last visited Feb 13, 2024).

<sup>6</sup> Section 1000.03(4), F.S.



appropriate instruction to ensure that students meet State Board of Education (SBE) adopted standards in the following subject areas: reading and other language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign languages, health and physical education, and the arts.<sup>7</sup>

Instructional staff of public schools,<sup>8</sup> subject to the rules of the SBE and the district school board, must shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following:

- The history and content of the Declaration of Independence.
- The history, meaning, significance, and effect of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States.
- The arguments in support of adopting our republican form of government.
- Flag education, including proper flag display and flag salute.
- The elements of civil government.
- The history of the United States.
- The history of the Holocaust.
- The history of African Americans.
- The elementary principles of agriculture.
- The effects of alcoholic and intoxicating liquors and beverages and narcotics.
- Kindness to animals.
- The history of the state.
- The conservation of natural resources.
- Comprehensive health education.
- The study of Hispanic contributions to the United States.
- The study of women’s contributions to the United States.
- The nature and importance of free enterprise to the United States economy.
- A character-development program in kindergarten through grade 12.
- The sacrifices that veterans and Medal of Honor recipients have made serving the country.<sup>9</sup>

Between 1961<sup>10</sup> and 1991,<sup>11</sup> Florida required the teaching of a 30-hour course of study for all students enrolled in public high schools entitled “Americanism vs. Communism.” The instruction included the history, doctrines, objectives and techniques of communism with particular emphasis upon the dangers of communism, the ways to fight communism, the evils of communism, the fallacies of communism, and the false doctrines of communism.<sup>12</sup>

Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, high school students enrolled in the United States Government class required to earn a standard high school diploma<sup>13</sup> must receive at least 45 minutes of instruction on “Victims of Communism Day” to include topics such as Mao Zedong and the Cultural Revolution, Joseph Stalin and the Soviet System, Fidel Castro and the Cuban

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<sup>7</sup> Section 1003.42(1), F.S.

<sup>8</sup> Instructional staff of charter schools are exempt from this section of law. Section 1002.33(16), F.S.

<sup>9</sup> Section 1003.42(2), F.S.

<sup>10</sup> Chapter 61-77, Laws of Fla.

<sup>11</sup> Chapter 91-105, s. 81, Laws of Fla.

<sup>12</sup> Chapter 61-77, Laws of Fla.

<sup>13</sup> Section 1003.4282(3), F.S.

Revolution, Vladimir Lenin and the Russian Revolution, Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge, and Nicolás Maduro and the Chavismo movement, and how victims suffered under these regimes through poverty, starvation, migration, systemic lethal violence, and suppression of speech.<sup>14</sup>

The SBE is required to adopt and periodically review and revise the state academic standards.<sup>15</sup> Such standards must provide for the logical, sequential progression of core curricular content.<sup>16</sup> The SBE has approved three standards related to communism, in grades 9-12 social studies, and in grade 7 civics and government.<sup>17</sup>

### **Victims of Communism**

In addition to violations of freedom of speech, freedom of religion, loss of property rights, and the criminalization of ordinary economic activity, communist regimes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century intentionally killed their own citizens.<sup>18</sup> One researcher compiled data from 1900 to 1987 related to state-sanctioned killings to provide a metric to consider when reflecting on the victims of communism and concluded that the Soviet Union was responsible for the deaths of over 61 million people. “Stalin himself is responsible for almost 43 million of these. Most of the deaths, around 39 million, are due to lethal forced labor in gulag and transit thereto.” Communist China (1923-1949) was responsible for about 3.5 million deaths, and the People’s Republic of China (PRC) (1949-present) was responsible for an additional 35.2 million deaths.<sup>19</sup>

In Cambodia, Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge likely killed about 2 million Cambodians from April 1975 through December 1978, out of a population of around 7 million.<sup>20</sup>

In summary, from 1900 to 1987, communist dictators and regimes were responsible for the death of approximately 110 million individuals.<sup>21</sup> In 1993, Congress made similar findings and authorized a national memorial to honor victims of communism. In addition to death, Congress found that “the imperialist regimes of international communism have brutally suppressed the human rights, national independence, religious liberty, intellectual freedom, and cultured life of the peoples of over 40 captive nations.” The purpose of the memorial is to permanently honor the sacrifices of these victims “so that never again will nations and peoples allow so evil a tyranny to terrorize the world.”<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Section 683.334(3), F.S.

<sup>15</sup> Section 1001.03(1), F.S.

<sup>16</sup> Section 1003.41(1), F.S.

<sup>17</sup> The standards are: SS.912.W.6.3, Compare the philosophies of capitalism, socialism, and communism as described by Adam Smith, Robert Owen, and Karl Marx; SS.912.W.8.5, Identify the factors that led to the decline and fall of communism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe; and SS.7.CG.3.15, Analyze the advantages of capitalism and the free market in the United States over government-controlled economic systems (e.g., socialism and communism) in regard to economic freedom and raising the standard of living for citizens. CPALMS, *Browse and Search Standards*, “communism” <https://www.cpalms.org/public/search/Standard> (last visited Feb. 14, 2024).

<sup>18</sup> Ilya Somin, *Lessons from a Century of Communism*, Wash. Post, Nov. 7, 2017, available at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/volokh-conspiracy/wp/2017/11/07/lessons-from-a-century-of-communism/> (last visited Feb 14 2024).

<sup>19</sup> Rummel, R.J., How Many Did Communist Regimes Murder? (Nov. 1993) available at: <https://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/COM.ART.HTM> (last visited Feb 14, 2024).

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

<sup>21</sup> *Id.*

<sup>22</sup> Pub. L. No. 103-199, s. 905 (Dec. 17, 1993).

## **Victims of Communism Day**

The first national day recognizing victims of communism was November 7, 2017. Currently, eight states have officially recognized November 7 as “Victims of Communism Memorial Day,” and seven other states currently have legislation filed to follow suit.<sup>23</sup> In 2022, Florida officially recognized Victims of Communism Day and to be publicly observed in honor of the 100 million people who have fallen victim to communist regimes.<sup>24</sup>

## **The Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom**

The Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom (center) was created in 2020<sup>25</sup> at Florida International University to:

- Study the effect of government and free market economies on individual freedom and human prosperity.
- Conduct and promote research on the effect of political and economic systems on human prosperity.
- Plan and host research workshops and conferences to allow students, scholars, and guests to exchange in civil discussion of democracy and capitalism.
- Provide fellowship and mentoring opportunities to students engaged in scholarly studies of the effect of political and economic systems on human prosperity.<sup>26</sup>

In 2023,<sup>27</sup> the center was further authorized to:

- Hire necessary faculty and staff.
- Enroll students.
- Develop curriculum and offer new courses, including honors courses, certificates, and major and minor programs.
- Hold events, including fundraisers.
- Fulfill other actions approved by the president of the university.
- Generate resources based on student credit hour enrollment, in the same manner as any college within the institution.<sup>28</sup>

## **Florida College System Direct Support Organizations**

A Florida College System (FCS) institution direct-support organization (DSO) is a Florida corporation not for profit, incorporated under the provisions of chapter 617 and approved by the Department of State. The DSOs are organized and operated exclusively to receive, hold, invest, and administer property and to make expenditures to, or for the benefit of, an FCS institution. Each DSO must be reviewed and certified by the FCS institution’s board of trustees to ensure

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<sup>23</sup> Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, *Victims of Communism Memorial Day*, available at: <https://victimsofcommunism.org/programs/voc-day/> (last visited Feb. 14, 2024).

<sup>24</sup> Section 683.344, F.S.

<sup>25</sup> Chapter 2020-117, s. 8, Laws of Fla.

<sup>26</sup> Section 1004.64991, F.S.

<sup>27</sup> Chapter 2023-82, s. 8, Laws of Fla.

<sup>28</sup> Section 1004.64991(3), F.S.

that the DSO is being operated in a manner consistent with the goals of the college and in the best interest of the state.<sup>29</sup>

The chair of the FCS institution board of trustees must appoint a representative to the DSO board of directors and the executive committee. The president of the FCS institution for which the DSO is established, or the president's designee, must also serve on the board of directors and the executive committee of the DSO.<sup>30</sup>

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill modifies s. 1003.42, F.S., to add to required instruction in public schools the history of communism. The bill requires that the instruction be age and developmentally appropriate and include the following:

- The history of communism in the United States and domestic communist movements.
- Atrocities committed in foreign countries under the guidance of communism.
- Comparative discussion of political ideologies, such as communism and totalitarianism.
- The increasing threat of communism in the United States and to its allies.
- The economic, industrial, and political events that have preceded and anticipated communist revolutions.
- The communist policies of Cuba, and the spread of communist ideologies throughout Latin America.

The bill requires that the Department of Education (DOE) prepare and offer standards that for the required instruction and allows the DOE to seek input for any individual of communism or any state or nationally recognized organization dedicated to the victims of communism.

The bill requires the Department of State, in collaboration with the DOE, to consult with state and national stakeholders to provide a recommendation on the creation of a museum on the history of communism. This recommendation must be made to the legislature no later than December 1, 2024.

The bill creates s. 1004.89, F.S., to establish the Institute for Freedom in the Americas (institute) within Miami Dade College at the Freedom Tower to preserve the ideals of a free society and promote democracy. The institute is required to do the following:

- Partner with the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom to hold workshops, symposiums, and conferences that provide opportunities for leaders throughout the region to gain insight and ideas for promoting democracy.
- Enter into an agreement with the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom to provide participants with coursework and programs that advance democratic practices as well as economic and legal reforms.
- Provide educational and experiential opportunities for regional leaders committed to careers in democracy and governance.

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<sup>29</sup> Section 1004.70(1), F.S.

<sup>30</sup> Section 1004.70(2), F.S.

The bill requires that Miami Dade College approve a direct support organization (DSO) to support the institute. The board of the DSO must be composed of five members. The Governor must appoint three members which must include a representative from Miami Dade College and a representative of the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives must each appoint one board member.

The bill modifies s. 1004.64991, F.S., to rename the Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom to the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom and revises the goals of the center to include studying educational freedom and to plan and host symposiums to exchange in civil discussion of democracy and capitalism. The bill allows the center to offer degrees. Finally, the center is required to partner with the Institute for Freedom in the Americas to support the institute's mission, which includes promoting economic and individual freedoms as a means for advancing human progress with an emphasis on Latin America and the Caribbean.

The bill is effective July 1, 2024.

#### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

#### **V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

There could be an indeterminate, yet insignificant, fiscal impact to the DOE associated with preparing curriculum and standards for the required History of Communism Instruction.

There may be an indeterminate fiscal impact to create and meet the requirements of the Institute for Freedom in the Americas within Miami Dade College.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

The bill requires Miami Dade College (MDC) to establish a direct-support organization (DSO) for the Institute for Freedom in the Americas, and establishes a five-member board for the DSO. The bill requires the Governor to appoint three members, including a MDC representative and a representative from the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each appoint one member. However, s. 1004.70, F.S., requires that two members of a Florida College System institution DSO board must be the president of the college or the president's designee, and a member appointed by the chair of the college board of trustees. It is unclear how the appointments required in the bill will conform to statutory membership requirements.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends sections 1003.42 and 1004.64991 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill creates section 1004.89 of the Florida Statutes.

The bill creates an undesignated section of Florida Law.

**IX. Additional Information:****A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS/CS by Appropriations Committee on Education on February 20, 2024:**

The committee substitute:

- Modifies provisions related to required instruction to include specific topics related to the history of communism. Such instruction must begin in the 2026-2027 school year, and must be both age and developmentally appropriate.
- Removes the requirement established in the bill, that school districts annually certify instruction on the history of communism to the Department of Education (DOE).

- Removes the History of Communism Task Force (task force) established in the bill, and shifts from the task force to the DOE the creation of standards for the history of communism instruction, and to the Department of State and the DOE for recommendations regarding a museum of history on communism.
- Creates the Institute for Freedom within the Americas (institute) within Miami Dade College (MDC) and provides requirements for institute activities. The committee substitute requires MDC to establish a direct-support organization (DSO) to support the institute, and specifies membership on the DSO board.
- Renames the Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom to the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom, revises the center's goals, and requires the center to partner with the institute.

**CS by Education Pre-K - 12 Committee on January 30, 2024:**

The committee substitute removes the "Third Reich of Nazi Germany" and adds "Marxism-Leninism and the Russian Revolution of 1917" as an example of a communist movement.

**B. Amendments:**

None.



213714

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/20/2024	.	
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	.	
	.	

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The Appropriations Committee on Education (Collins) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete lines 33 - 79

and insert:

(v)1. Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, the history of communism. Such instruction must be age appropriate and developmentally appropriate and include:

a. The history of communism in the United States and domestic communist movements, including their histories and tactics.





213714

11 b. Atrocities committed in foreign countries under the  
12 guidance of communism.

13 c. Comparative discussion of political ideologies, such as  
14 communism and totalitarianism, which conflict with the  
15 principles of freedom and democracy essential to the founding  
16 principles of the United States.

17 d. The increasing threat of communism in the United States  
18 and to our allies through the 20th century, including the events  
19 of the Cultural Revolution in the People's Republic of China and  
20 other mass killings from communist regimes.

21 e. The economic, industrial, and political events that have  
22 preceded and anticipated communist revolutions.

23 f. The communist policies of Cuba and the spread of  
24 communist ideologies throughout Latin America, including the  
25 roots of the Communist Party of Cuba and guerilla forces  
26 throughout Latin America.

27 2. The department shall prepare and offer standards for the  
28 instruction required by this paragraph and may seek input from  
29 any individual who was a victim of communism or any state or  
30 nationally recognized organization dedicated to the victims of  
31 communism.

32 Section 2. The Department of State, in collaboration with  
33 the Department of Education, shall consult with state and  
34 national stakeholders to provide a recommendation to the  
35 Legislature, no later than December 1, 2024, on the creation of  
36 a museum of the history of communism. This section expires July  
37 1, 2025.

38  
39 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====



213714

40 And the title is amended as follows:

41 Delete lines 2 - 19

42 and insert:

43 An act relating to the history of communism; amending  
44 s. 1003.42, F.S.; requiring instruction in public  
45 schools on the history of communism; providing  
46 requirements for the instruction; authorizing the  
47 department to prepare and offer standards for the  
48 instruction and to seek input from certain educational  
49 organizations; requiring the Department of State, in  
50 collaboration with the Department of Education, to  
51 consult with stakeholders to provide a recommendation  
52 to the Legislature by a specified date for the  
53 creation of a museum of the history of communism;  
54 providing for future expiration; providing an  
55 effective date.



824438

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/20/2024	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

---

The Appropriations Committee on Education (Collins) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 79 and 80

insert:

Section 3. Section 1004.89, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.89 Institute for Freedom in the Americas.-

(1) The Institute for Freedom in the Americas is hereby created at Miami Dade College to preserve the ideals of a free society and promote democracy in the Americas. The institute



824438

11 shall be located at the Freedom Tower and shall:

12 (a) Partner with the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom  
13 to hold workshops, symposiums, and conferences that provide  
14 networking opportunities for leaders throughout the region to  
15 gain new insights and ideas for promoting democracy, including  
16 knowledge of and insight into the intellectual, political, and  
17 economic freedoms that are foundational to a democratic society.

18 (b) Enter into an agreement with the Adam Smith Center for  
19 Economic Freedom to provide participants with academic  
20 coursework and programs that advance democratic practices and  
21 economic and legal reforms.

22 (c) Provide educational and experiential opportunities for  
23 regional leaders committed to careers in democracy and  
24 governance.

25 (2) Miami Dade College, in accordance with s. 1004.70,  
26 shall approve a direct-support organization to support the  
27 institute in its mission to develop partnerships throughout the  
28 Americas. The board of the direct-support organization shall be  
29 composed of five members, as follows: one member appointed by  
30 the President of the Senate; one member appointed by the Speaker  
31 of the House of Representatives; and three members appointed by  
32 the Governor, including a representative from Miami Dade College  
33 and a representative from the Adam Smith Center for Economic  
34 Freedom.

35 Section 4. Section 1004.64991, Florida Statutes, is amended  
36 to read:

37 1004.64991 The Adam Smith Center for ~~the Study of~~ Economic  
38 Freedom.—

39 (1) The Adam Smith Center for ~~the Study of~~ Economic Freedom



824438

40 at Florida International University is hereby created.

41 (2) The goals of the center are to:

42 (a) Study the effect of government and free market  
43 economies on individual freedom, educational freedom, and human  
44 prosperity.

45 (b) Conduct and promote research on the effect of political  
46 and economic systems on human prosperity.

47 (c) Plan and host ~~research~~ workshops, symposiums, and  
48 conferences to allow students, scholars, and guests to exchange  
49 in civil discussion of democracy and capitalism.

50 (d) Provide fellowship and mentoring opportunities to  
51 students engaged in scholarly studies of the effect of political  
52 and economic systems on human prosperity.

53 (e) Partner with the Institute for Freedom in the Americas  
54 to support its mission, which includes promoting economic and  
55 individual freedoms as a means for advancing human progress with  
56 an emphasis on Latin American and the Caribbean.

57 (3) In order to carry out the purpose set forth in this  
58 section, the center ~~institute~~ is authorized to:

59 (a) Hire necessary faculty and staff pursuant to s.  
60 1001.741;

61 (b) Enroll students;

62 (c) Develop curriculum and offer new courses, including  
63 honors courses, certificates, degrees, and major and minor  
64 programs;

65 (d) Hold events, including fundraisers;

66 (e) Fulfill other actions approved by the president of the  
67 university; and

68 (f) Generate resources based on student credit hour



824438

69 enrollment, in the same manner as any college within the  
70 institution.

71

72 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

73 And the title is amended as follows:

74 Delete line 19

75 and insert:

76 of communist history; creating s. 1004.89, F.S.;

77 creating the Institute for Freedom in the Americas at

78 Miami Dade College; providing the purpose of the

79 institute; requiring the institute to partner with the

80 Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom for specified

81 purposes; requiring the institute to enter into an

82 agreement with the Adam Smith Center for Economic

83 Freedom for specified purposes; requiring Miami Dade

84 College to approve a direct-support organization to

85 support the institute; requiring the President of the

86 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,

87 and the Governor to appoint the board of the direct-

88 support organization, subject to certain requirements;

89 amending s. 1004.64991, F.S.; renaming the Adam Smith

90 Center for the Study of Economic Freedom as the Adam

91 Smith Center for Economic Freedom; revising the goals

92 of the center; providing an effective date.

By the Committee on Education Pre-K -12; and Senator Collins

581-02966-24

20241264c1

1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to the History of Communism Task  
 3 Force; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; requiring  
 4 instruction in public schools on the history of  
 5 communism; requiring each school district to annually  
 6 certify to the department that it provided instruction  
 7 on the subject; creating s. 1003.441, F.S.; creating  
 8 the History of Communism Task Force within the  
 9 Department of Education; requiring the task force to  
 10 work with the Division of Historical Resources within  
 11 the Department of State to make recommendations by a  
 12 specified date to the State Board of Education and the  
 13 Commissioner of Education for curriculum standards and  
 14 instruction on communist history; providing  
 15 requirements for the recommendations; requiring the  
 16 board to develop a curriculum based on the  
 17 recommendations; authorizing the task force to  
 18 recommend to the Legislature the creation of a museum  
 19 of communist history; providing an effective date.

20  
 21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

22  
 23 Section 1. Paragraph (v) is added to subsection (2) of  
 24 section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

25 1003.42 Required instruction.—

26 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public  
 27 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education  
 28 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and  
 29 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the

Page 1 of 3

**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

581-02966-24

20241264c1

30 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,  
 31 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing  
 32 approved methods of instruction, the following:  
 33 (v)1. The history of communism.  
 34 2. Each school district shall annually certify to the  
 35 department, in a format prescribed by the department, that it  
 36 faithfully provided instruction on this subject, as specified by  
 37 the board pursuant to s. 1003.441(3).

38  
 39 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards  
 40 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.  
 41 Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the  
 42 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is  
 43 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or  
 44 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness  
 45 initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (u).

46 Section 2. Section 1003.441, Florida Statutes, is created  
 47 to read:

48 1003.441 History of Communism Task Force.—

49 (1) There is created within the Department of Education the  
 50 History of Communism Task Force. Members of the task force shall  
 51 be appointed by the Governor.

52 (2) The task force shall work with the Division of  
 53 Historical Resources within the Department of State to make  
 54 recommendations by July 1, 2025, to the State Board of Education  
 55 and the Commissioner of Education for curriculum standards and  
 56 instruction on the history of communism for kindergarten through  
 57 grade 12.

58 (a) Such recommendations must include:

Page 2 of 3

**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

581-02966-24

20241264c1

59 1. The history of domestic communist movements and their  
60 tactics within the United States.

61 2. The philosophy and lineages of communist thought,  
62 including Marxism.

63 3. Foreign communist movements of the 20th century, the  
64 atrocities committed by such movements, and the threat they  
65 posed to the United States and its allies. Such movements  
66 include, but are not limited to, Marxism-Leninism and the  
67 Russian Revolution of 1917, the Great Proletarian Cultural  
68 Revolution in China, other communist regimes, and the economic,  
69 industrial, and political events that preceded and contributed  
70 to the formation of such movements.

71 4. The communist socioeconomic policies of Cuba, the  
72 history of the Communist Party of Cuba, and the spread of  
73 communism and communist guerrilla forces in Latin America.

74 (b) Such instruction must inform students that communism  
75 poses a threat to freedom.

76 (3) The board shall develop a curriculum on the history of  
77 communism based on the recommendations of the task force.

78 (4) The task force may recommend to the Legislature the  
79 creation of a museum of communist history.

80 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.





The Florida Senate

## Committee Agenda Request

**To:** Senator Keith Perry, Chair  
Appropriations Committee on Education

**Subject:** Committee Agenda Request

**Date:** February 6, 2024

---

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill # 1264**, relating to History of Communism Task Force, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Collins", written over a horizontal line.

Senator Jay Collins  
Florida Senate, District 14

The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

02/20/24

Meeting Date

AED

Committee

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

BENJAMIN DE YVRRE

Phone

305-9624006

Address

7801 NW 192 ST

Email

BFDEYVRRE@SMIL.EDU

Street

MIAMI

FL

33015

City

State

Zip

Speaking:



For



Against



Information

OR

Waive Speaking:



In Support



Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.



I am a registered lobbyist, representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Teaching Anti Communism in America

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf flsenate.gov](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022/JointRules.pdf)

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
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2/20/2024

Meeting Date

SB1264

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations - Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Werther Marciales

Phone 850-405-5170

Address 12034 Winding Woods Way

Street

Email the.madspladle@gmail.com

Lakewood Ranch FL 34202

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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2/20/24 Meeting Date

SB 1264 Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Myasha Powell

Phone 813 951-5098

Address 13919 Fletchers Mill Street

Email mya5091@live.com

Tampa City

FL State

33613 Zip

Speaking: [X] For [ ] Against [ ] Information OR Waive Speaking: [ ] In Support [ ] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[X] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[ ] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

[ ] I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf (flsenate.gov)

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The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

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02/00/2024

Meeting Date

SB-1264

Bill Number or Topic

Armen - Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Colleen Morgan

Phone

941-549-7263

Address

12579 Sagewood Ave

Email

Street

Venice

FL

34293

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf flsenate.gov](#)

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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2/20/2024

Meeting Date

SB1264

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

VANESSA VASQUEZ ANDERSON

Phone

813-919-1705

Address

15609 Morning Drive

Street

Email

Vanderson1027@yahoo.com

Lutz

City

FL

State

33559

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Senate Bill 1264

02-20-2024

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Norma Reno

Phone

813 785 4818

Address

7706 Tuscany Woods Dr

Email

NormaCR@AOL.com

Street

Tampa

FL

33647

City

State

Zip

Reset Form

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

CS/SB 1264

2/20/2024

Meeting Date

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name **Jaime Arellano**

Phone **(813)570-9302**

Address **401 N. Oregon Ave Unit 9**

Email **RLP2010@LIVE.COM**

Street

**Tampa**

**FL**

**33606**

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

*While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)*

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S-001 (08/10/2021)



2/20/2024

Meeting Date

Education

Committee

Name **Rafael Pizano**

Address **6513 La Mesa Circle**

Street

**Tampa**

City

**FL**

State

**33634**

Zip

The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
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CS/SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone **(813)562-9623**

Email **RLP2010@LIVE.COM**

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,  
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received  
something of value for my appearance  
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),  
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/20/2024

Meeting Date

# The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD

CS/SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

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Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

## Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name **Roberto Pizano**

Phone **(813)562-9623**

Address **6513 La Mesa Circle**

Email **RLP2010@LIVE.COM**

Street

**Tampa**

**FL**

**33634**

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

*While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)*

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

# The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to  
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App./Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name **HOI VAN DO**

Phone **407-234-3596**

Address **7502 COLONIAL CT**

Email **HOIVANDO@GMAIL.COM**

Street

**TAMPA**

**FL**

**33615**

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1264

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

App./Education

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Michelle Le-Chen (aka: Hang My)

Phone 561-324-5406

Address 2812 Cupids Cay

Email michellelechen@gmail.com

Street

West Palm Beach

FL

33411

City

State

Zip

Reset Form

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

02/20/2024

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1264

Meeting Date

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Bill Number or Topic

App./Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

TAN VAN

Phone

954-243-7343

Address

10973 SW 37th mnr

Email

TVan72Knight@gmail.com

Street

DAVIE, FL 33328

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(fsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
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2/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Sebastian Girstl

Phone 941-961-0472

Address 6147 Carlton Ave

Email Sebastiangirstl@outlook.com

Street

Sarasota

FL

34231

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/20/24

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1264

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Appropriations in Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

John Labriola

Phone

954-515-2084

Address

Po Box 65012

Email

John.Labriola@flsenate.net

Street

Miami FL 33265

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Christian Family Coalition Florida

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/20/2024

Meeting Date

# The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Committee  
Name DANIA VICTORES

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)  
Phone 305 764-1858

Address  
Street

Email dvict20@gmail.com

City 33880 State Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.
- I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
- I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. 511.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



02/20/2024

Meeting Date

App./Education

Committee

The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name MINH-NGOC NGUYENDUC, PharmD, MBA Phone 407 749 9223

Address 16130 BIRCHWOOD WAY Email ngoctranfl@gmail.com  
Street

ORLANDO FL 32828  
City State Zip

**Reset Form**

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

App./Education

Committee

The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name NGA LE NGUYEN PHUOC Phone 813 598 7066

Address 10601 ECHO LAKE DR Email NGATHILE@gmail.com  
Street

ODESSA FL, 33556  
City State Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.
- I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
- I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations - Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Maxwell Rifkin

Phone

Address

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.



I am a registered lobbyist,  
representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received  
something of value for my appearance  
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),  
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

2/19/24

Meeting Date

SB 1269

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Sam Romain Young Republicans Phone 320 444 3102

Address 502 E Main St Email S.Romain93@gmail.com

Street

Lakeland

City

FL

State

33815

Zip

Speaking: [ ] For [ ] Against [ ] Information OR Waive Speaking: [X] In Support [ ] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[X] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[ ] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

[ ] I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB-1264

2-20-2024

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

APPD - EDUCATION

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name TIAN Y. CHI

Phone 626 587 6553

Address 9825 TREE TOPS LAKE RD

Email Sailerchi@hotmail.com

TAMPA

FL

33626

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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2/20/24

# The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1264

Meeting Date

Ed Appropriations

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Cory Dowd - FL Dept. of Education

Phone

850-245-5037

Address

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing: **FDOE**

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

App./Education

Committee

Name THU NGUYEN

Address 7502 COLONIAL CT

Street

TAMPA

City

FL

State

33615

Zip

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone 321-217-7893

Email THUNGUYEN53@BELLSOUTH.NET

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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02/20/2024

Meeting Date

APP./EDUCATION

Committee

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Simon Chen

Phone 561-324-5406

Address 2812 cupids cay

Email michellelechen@gmail.com

Street

west palm beach

FL

33411

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)



The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

SB 1264

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

App./Education

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name PHU LE Phone 904-502-1230

Address 9334 CRYSTAL SPRINGS RD Email yenphu09@hotmail.com  
*Street*  
JACKSONVILLE FLORIDA 32221  
*City State Zip*

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.
- I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

02/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations for edu

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Hunter Branstner

Phone 863 660 6876

Address 6530 Crews Lake Hills Loop East

Email Branstnerh12@gmail.com

Street

Lakeland

FL

33813

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1264

2/20

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations Ed

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Michael Greenan

Phone

(352) 478-9621

Address

1235 S.W. Pointview Rd

Email

mikegreenan@hotmail.com

Street

Keystone Heights FL

32656

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

2/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Education Appropriations  
Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Mark Mott

Phone 386-916-9275

Address 115 Vintage Ln  
Street

Email mamott@gmail.com

Palatka  
City

FL  
State

32177  
Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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2/20/24

# The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1264

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Approps

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Michael Woods

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

2/20/24

Meeting Date

SB 1264

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Cathy Henderson

Phone

Address

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

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I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

SB 1264

02/20/2024

Meeting Date

App./Education

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name **ANTHONY LE**

Phone **561-460-7988**

Address **10416 CYPRESS LAKES PRESERVE DR.**

Email **anthonyle65@gmail.com**

Street

**LAKE WORTH**

**FL**

**33449**

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB1264

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

2/20/24

Meeting Date

Appropriations

Committee

Name Sandy Thuringer

Phone 407-840-2932

Address 6315 Point Hancock Dr

Email sthuringer.occta@gmail.com

Winter Garden, FL 34787

Street

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information OR Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

## COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Committee on Education, *Vice Chair*  
Education Postsecondary  
Education Pre-K -12  
Fiscal Policy  
Regulated Industries  
Rules

**SENATOR SHEVRIN D. "SHEV" JONES**

District 34

February 19, 2024

**The Honorable Senator Keith Perry**

405 Senate Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Perry,

I respectfully request an excused absence from the Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, Appropriations Committee on Education at 8:30 am tomorrow due to a work obligation.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If I may be of assistance to answer questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shev Jones".

Shevrin D. "Shev" Jones  
Florida State Senator – Senate District 34

## REPLY TO:

Capitol Office, 218 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 • (850) 487-5034

District Office, 606 NW 183rd Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33169 • (305) 493-6002

Website: [www.flsenate.gov/Senators/S34](http://www.flsenate.gov/Senators/S34)

**KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO**  
President of the Senate

**DENNIS BAXLEY**  
President Pro Tempore



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

## COMMITTEES:

Education Pre-K -12, *Chair*  
Agriculture  
Appropriations Committee on Education  
Appropriations Committee on Health  
and Human Services  
Education Postsecondary  
Fiscal Policy  
Rules

## JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

## SENATOR COREY SIMON

3rd District

February 20, 2024

### The Honorable Keith Perry

Chair, Appropriations Committee on Education  
201 The Capitol  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Chair Perry,

I respectfully request an excused absence from the February 20, 2024, meeting of the Appropriations Committee on Education.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Corey Simon".

Corey Simon  
**Senator, District 03**

☐ 303 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5003

**KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO**  
President of the Senate

**DENNIS BAXLEY**  
President Pro Tempore

# CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: KB 412  
Caption: Senate Appropriations Committee on Education

Case No.: -

Type:  
Judge:

Started: 2/20/2024 8:35:16 AM  
Ends: 2/20/2024 10:32:16 AM Length: 01:57:01

8:35:17 AM Sen. Perry  
8:35:53 AM S 1264  
8:36:05 AM Sen. Collins  
8:36:31 AM Sen. Perry  
8:36:45 AM Am. 213714  
8:36:49 AM Sen. Collins  
8:37:26 AM Sen. Perry  
8:37:39 AM Sen. Collins  
8:37:41 AM Sen. Perry  
8:37:45 AM Am. 824438  
8:37:51 AM Sen. Collins  
8:39:03 AM Sen. Perry  
8:39:14 AM Sen. Collins  
8:39:16 AM Sen. Perry  
8:39:21 AM S 1264 (cont.)  
8:39:26 AM Sen. Davis  
8:39:47 AM Sen. Collins  
8:40:40 AM Sen. Davis  
8:40:57 AM Sen. Collins  
8:41:49 AM Sen. Davis  
8:42:18 AM Sen. Collins  
8:43:11 AM Sen. Davis  
8:43:12 AM Sen. Perry  
8:43:44 AM Benjamin De Yurre, Teaching Anti Communism America  
8:46:19 AM Werther Marciales  
8:48:20 AM Myosha Powell  
8:49:32 AM Cullen Morgan  
8:50:39 AM Vanessa Vasquez Anderson  
8:52:23 AM Norma Reno  
8:55:08 AM Jaime Arellano  
8:57:06 AM Rafael Pizano  
8:58:44 AM Roberto Pizano  
9:01:46 AM Hoi Van Do  
9:05:27 AM Michelle Le-Chen aka Hang My  
9:12:08 AM Tan Van  
9:18:24 AM Sebastian Girstl  
9:19:38 AM John Labriola, Lobbyist, Christian Family Coalition Florida  
9:22:05 AM Dania Victores  
9:30:57 AM Minh-Ngoc Nguyenduc, PharmD, MBA  
9:40:17 AM Nga Le Nguyen Phuoc  
9:43:18 AM Sen. Perry  
9:43:21 AM Maxwell Rifkin (waives in support)  
9:43:25 AM Sam Romain, Young Republicans (waives in support)  
9:43:30 AM Tian Y. Chi (waives in support)  
9:43:32 AM Cory Dowd, Lobbyist, Florida Department of Education (waives in support)  
9:43:36 AM Thu Nguyen (waives in support)  
9:43:41 AM Simon Chen (waives in support)  
9:43:44 AM Phu Le (waives in support)  
9:43:47 AM Hunter Branstner (waives in support)  
9:43:51 AM Michael Greenan (waives against)  
9:43:56 AM Mark Motl (waives against)  
9:44:15 AM Sen. Hutson

9:44:19 AM Sen. Perry  
9:44:27 AM Sen. Davis  
9:46:12 AM Sen. Perry  
9:46:40 AM Michael Woods (waives against)  
9:46:56 AM Cicely Henderson (waives against)  
9:47:07 AM Sen. Calatayud  
9:48:46 AM Sen. Hutson  
9:49:50 AM Sen. Perry  
9:49:55 AM Anthony Le (waives in support)  
9:52:10 AM Sen. Collins  
9:56:35 AM Sen. Perry  
9:57:00 AM S 1044  
9:57:04 AM Sen. Grall  
9:57:19 AM Sen. Perry  
9:57:37 AM Rev. Rachel Gunter Shapard, Pastors for Florida Children  
10:01:55 AM Lorinda Lehning (waives against)  
10:02:04 AM John Labriola, Lobbyist, Christian Family Coalition Florida  
10:04:57 AM Marianne Arbulu, League of Women Voters  
10:07:22 AM Ryan Kennedy, Lobbyist, Florida Citizens Alliance  
10:08:41 AM Rev. James T. Golden, Pastors for Florida Children  
10:12:32 AM Sen. Perry  
10:12:33 AM Dawn Rosado (waives against)  
10:12:39 AM Darzell Warren (waives against)  
10:12:46 AM Cicely Henderson (waives against)  
10:13:08 AM Rev. Dr. Joe Parramore  
10:19:21 AM Sen. Perry  
10:19:25 AM Michael Woods (waives against)  
10:19:30 AM Damaris Allen, Florida Parent Teacher Association (waives against)  
10:19:38 AM Tasha Edwards (waives against)  
10:19:44 AM Belinda Davis (waives against)  
10:19:47 AM William Scolnik (waives against)  
10:19:53 AM Glenda Abicht (waives against)  
10:20:03 AM Leonda Narramore (waives against)  
10:20:10 AM Aaron DiPietro, Lobbyist, Florida Family Policy Council (waives in support)  
10:20:17 AM Mark Motl (waives against)  
10:20:22 AM Michael Greenan (waives against)  
10:20:23 AM Sen. Perry  
10:20:44 AM Dania Victores  
10:24:50 AM Sen. Harrell  
10:26:30 AM Sen. Perry  
10:27:30 AM Sen. Davis  
10:29:01 AM Sen. Grall  
10:31:01 AM Sen. Perry  
10:32:15 AM \*  
10:32:16 AM \*