

STATE SENATOR KEVIN RADER, DISTRICT 29

WEEK 4

### Dear Friends,

We are soon approaching the halfway point of the 2020 Legislative Session. Week 4 was very busy with the announcement of the newly created Lake Okeechobee Working Group and presenting three of my bills in committees. I am proud to report that all three passed their respective committees unanimously. One of them was SB 540, Insurance Guaranty Associations, which is now ready to be heard in the Senate Floor. Below I will be expanding on SB 108/110 Specialty License Plates and SB 302 Adoption Records.

I may be in Tallahassee, but always feel free to contact my office with any issues or concerns.

## SB 302 ADOPTION RECORDS

Currently, state law allows for adult adoptees to be able to request their birth records either through court order or with written authorization by a birth parent. However, the Department of Vital Statistics interprets the statute as the adult adoptees being required to obtain, not only the permission of their birth parent but of their adoptive parents as well to receive a copy of their original birth certificate. An adult does not need permission from the adoptive parent, which is why I have filed this bill once more. This piece of legislation clarifies a vague statute so that these adults could no longer be required to obtain their adoptive parent's signature to get a copy of their birth records.

# SB 108/110 SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES

During the Midterm elections, one of the amendments that passed stipulated that proposed legislation that had a financial component must be filed as two separate bills. More specifically, one bill would be focused on the substance or topic, and the other would only discuss the increase of a tax or fee. Since this bill directs the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to develop a license plate that says "save the bees," it by default includes a fee. I've sponsored SB 108/110 to assist in funding honeybee research, education, and outreach. This will be accomplished by the annual registration fees being utilized to raise awareness about the importance of bees.







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