Dear Friends,

This year's Legislative Session is getting fairly close to its end. Committees had their last meetings during Weeks 7 and 8, and we are now hearing Legislation in the Senate Chamber, among which are some of my bills. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has been diagnosed in Florida, and I urge everyone to take preventative measures. Below I will be sharing some of the suggestions from the Florida Department of Health and CDC, in addition to updating you on my legislation.

Please feel free to contact my office with any issues or concerns.

LEGISLATION UPDATES

These last two weeks have been very eventful regarding legislation. During Week 7, SB 540 Insurance Guaranty Associations passed 40-0 in the Senate Chamber. I began Week 8 by presenting SB 302, Adoption Records, in the Rules Committee, which was its last stop before reaching the Senate Floor. At this time, SB 364 Independent Living Task Force is scheduled to be presented in the Senate Chamber on Friday, March 6, 2020. Although I am happy about my bills moving through the process, I have also been monitoring others that would affect our community.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PREVENTION

In Florida, there have already been confirmed Coronavirus cases, and we must do as much as possible to stay healthy. At this time, there is no known vaccine, making prevention key. Below are some Florida Health Department and CDC recommendations to do just that.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60%-95% alcohol.

The Florida Department of Health Coronavirus Hotline is 866 779 6121 or email COVID-19@FLHealth.gov