



FLORIDA STATE SENATOR

ALEXIS CALATAYUD

DISTRICT 38



Legislative Session

Honored to be your voice in Tallahassee!



As we enter Week 5 of the 2026 Legislative Session, we are grateful and honored to continue serving the residents of District 38 and the State of Florida.

This update highlights six bills sponsored by our office, each focused on creating meaningful change and improving the lives of Floridians.

We are proud of this work and look forward to continuing to listen, advocate, and deliver results for our community throughout the session.

Meet the Tallahassee Team

Our team works collaboratively to support the Senator and serve the constituents of District 38. Krista Schmidt, Esq., Chief of Staff, leads all legislative and administrative operations and oversees the day-to-day work of the office. Maria Veloza, a UCF Legislative Scholar and Master of Public Administration graduate student, supports legislative and administrative operations, while Gabriel Kelmanskiy, currently studying at FSU on a pre-law track and operations staff member, manages scheduling and assists with daily office functions. Together, the team supports constituents and keeps the office running smoothly throughout the legislative session.





Violent Criminal Offenses

STRENGTHENING FLORIDA'S RESPONSE
TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

SB 0682 expands protections and penalties, improves accountability, and provides specialized training for first responders in domestic violence cases



Cybersecurity Internships

CREATES THE CYBERSECURITY
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM

SB 1266 expands cybersecurity internships and closes existing workforce gaps in the state



Education

PROTECTS PARENTS, SPECIAL
EDUCATION CHILDREN, AND TEACHERS
ALIKE

SB 1170 Authorizes parents to request video cameras in self-contained special education classrooms and established uniform procedures for schools to respond

School Counselors

ADDRESSES FLORIDA'S SCHOOL COUNSELOR SHORTAGE

SB 1036 Expands the pool of qualified school counselors by removing the teaching certificate requirement while allowing districts to maintain local control while better supporting students academics social, and emotional development.



Affordable Housing

INCREASES AVAILABILITY OF LONG-TERM AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SB 1548 permits certain affordable housing developments on public property while strengthening anti-discrimination and land use protections.



Child Care and Early Learning Services

SUPPORTS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SB 1690 updates child care definitions, simplifies licensing requirements, enhances safety and liability standards and creates endowment to support early learning programs.



2026 Appropriations

Appropriations are projects that request state funding, and require government approval. A few of our larger projects we are sponsoring are explained below.

1) PINECREST STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS

This project focuses on drainage improvements to sub-basin U35-S. The work will cover about 2,700 feet along SW 112 Street and SW 72 Avenue.

The project would install 18 new inlets, 12 manholes, 3 control structures, and 3,300 feet of piping and drainage systems. This would keep our streets safe and dry during heavy rains.

2) SOUTH MIAMI BROAD CANAL CULVERT/ BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

The existing 48-inch culvert located over Broad Canal has been identified as structurally deficient and in need of replacement.

This critical infrastructure project is necessary to protect public safety and maintain the integrity of the surrounding roadway system. If funded and permitted, the project will replace the deteriorating culvert, eliminating the immediate risk posed to residents and visitors while improving the reliability and resilience of the transportation network. The design is currently 95% complete, with permitting still required, and construction is anticipated to begin in 2026.

3) CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI SEPTIC TO SEWER CONVERSION

The project aims to connect homes to a centralized sewer system, helping prevent septic system failures that can contaminate groundwater, surface water, and soil. It will also reduce unpleasant odors and improve sanitation.

Additionally, this conversion could lower maintenance costs for residents and enhance the community's infrastructure, leading to better health and increased property values in the long run.

The goal of these projects is to improve sanitation, reduce pollution, maintain safe roads, and enhance overall quality of life for our community.



Meet your Senator

Florida State Senator Alexis Calatayud is a champion for generational upward mobility and expanding educational/economic opportunities for Miami-Dade residents.

Calatayud has passed landmark legislation and funding to support the upward ascent of Floridians toward economic security and self-sufficiency. Her work for you revolves around lowering cost of living and increasing community affordability - from stabilizing and reducing property insurance rates, to expanding attainable housing options, to increasing access to affordable children's health insurance and investment in low-cost early childhood education. She serves as a member of Jackson Memorial System Public Health Trust.

Before her election to the Florida Senate in 2022, the Senator served for over a decade in multiple advocacy, policy, and campaign roles supporting Florida's education champions and advancing transformation education policies. Currently, Senator Calatayud acts as the Community Engagement & Public Policy Liaison for the Miami Dade & Monroe County Early Learning Coalition launching national learning exchanges and building special initiatives.



Previously, she served as Chief Lobbyist and Legislative Affairs Director at the Florida Department of Education during the COVID pandemic where she was responsible for advocating for the future of the education system to the Florida legislature. The Senator served as campaign manager for three Miami state representative races and worked as State Representative Vance Aloupis' Legislative Aide in the Florida House. Calatayud also partnered with regional and national nonprofits to train over 500 university campus' student leaders on state and federal elected official engagement strategies on higher education affordability issues, later developing national programs in Washington D.C. and in Florida. She served two terms as a member of the Board of Trustees for Florida International University, where she received a degree in Political Science and International Relations.

Constituent Services

HAPPY TO SERVE!

Our office is here to help you navigate Florida government services.

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