

Arthenia Joyner: Modern-Day Truth And Tubman

Hearfelt congratulations do we extend to State Senator Arthenia Joyner for being inducted into Hillsborough County's prestigious Women's Hall of Fame. Indeed, when we consider Senator Joyner's impact upon the local, state, and national community we have no recourse, but to refer to her as a modern-day Sojourner Truth, or a 21st century Harriet Tubman, two women who, like Joyner, thought it not robbery to stand alone in the face of adversity.

Truth and Tubman travelled throughout America leading efforts to free slaves and women, with Sojourner Truth leading the way at least 23 years before Tubman.

So it is with our good friend Senator Joyner who recently stood her ground on Florida's Capitol Hill to oppose House Bill 683, which would allow Hillsborough County agencies to sidestep fair standards for posting jobs, handling grievances, creating and abolishing jobs, filling vacancies, disciplining employees, determining salaries, and transparency in such matters.

Since 1951, Black Hillsborough County citizens could count on Civil Service Boards to provide opportunities to compete fairly for posts based on skills, education, and work experience. Senator Joyner remembered such legacy and from it she spoke and spoke eloquently.

We say good try – for remembering our past and protecting our future.