



# STATE SENATOR DARREN SOTO

Proudly Serving District 14 ~ Portions of Orange, Osceola, and Polk Counties

2015 Legislative Session Newsletter

July 2015

## 2015 Budget Special Session



We had a Special Session in June 2015 to pass our State Budget after the Florida House left Regular Session early in violation of the Florida Constitution. I was proud to lead the Senate Democrats in our lawsuit before the Florida Supreme Court to assure that the Florida House would be held accountable for their actions

## District Projects



We sought several district budget projects including a New Poinciana Valencia Campus, an Advanced Sensors Manufacturing Center, Lake Toho Restoration. I am pleased to announce that we successfully secured \$11.9M for the Poinciana Campus and \$20M for the Kissimmee Restoration. I was able to place \$10M in the budget for the Advanced

Sensors Manufacturing Center, but unfortunately Governor Scott vetoed the project costing jobs for our region.

## Our New Poinciana Valencia Campus



- Academic Program Plan** VALENCIA COLLEGE
- Proposed Degree Offerings Include:
- General Education for A.A. (transfer) degree
  - A.S. in Nursing (in partnership with TECO) and EMT
  - A.S. in Business Administration (with distance learning)
  - A.S. in Industrial Management Technology (with TECO)
  - A.S. in Office Administration (with distance learning)
  - A.S. in Computer Information Technology (with distance learning)
  - A.S. in Hospitality Management (with distance learning)
  - A.S. in Criminal Justice (with distance learning)
- VALENCIA COLLEGE

I am very excited to get \$11.9M, half the construction dollars for our new campus. Currently college attendance rates are 20% less for Poinciana students compared to North Osceola and these students must commute 1-2 hours each way to the East Osceola Campus. This new campus will provide a critical educational opportunity for our constituents, have numerous majors, and be open in 2017.

## Contact Senator Darren Soto

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