Dear Constituent and Friend,

Amazingly, we have officially crossed over the halfway point of the 2019 legislative session. With The Senate unanimously passing our budget plan of $60.3 billion for next fiscal year and the House passing its version of $63.6 billion, we are set for negotiations to begin in a 30-45 hour balanced budget. I promise my best for much needed funding for public education, environmental issues, senior care, and our other priorities.

My thanks in advance to the House and Senate for sending me the bills that are expected to be voted on this week.

- SB 426: Public Records and Public Meetings Loan, a bill of last year that creates a loan for local governments to borrow funds. The money is interest free and priority is given to loaning to low-income municipalities and counties.

On the Floor:

I was reminded of SB 906: Officer Louise Christine Whitaker Memorial. On March 10, Officer Whitaker died from injuries sustained in a shooting. Officer Whitaker will be sorely missed by all.

Other Bills of Interest:

- SB 936: Education for Senator Lee - Hillsborough County: This is a bill that would provide the right of public school students to wear their uniforms of the Armed Forces of the United States if they so desire. The bill passed by the Senate and is now in the House.

- SB 939: Police, Fire, Search and Rescue, Juvenile and Police Horse Training. This bill would help to pay for the training of police and fire personnel.

- SB 950: Constitutional Amendment by the Judiciary Committee: This bill would increase the number of justices on the state's Supreme Court to 15. The bill passed by the Senate and is now in the House.

As always, it is an honor and a pleasure to serve you in the Florida Senate.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gibson
State Senator
District 6

Week in the Senate:

- SB 426: Public Records and Public Meetings Loan
- SB 906: Officer Louise Christine Whitaker Memorial
- SB 936: Education for Senator Lee - Hillsborough County
- SB 939: Police, Fire, Search and Rescue, Juvenile and Police Horse Training
- SB 950: Constitutional Amendment by the Judiciary Committee

If you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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