

# CAPITOL



STATE SENATOR KEVIN RADER, DISTRICT 29



WEEKS 1-3

Dear Friends,

Legislative Session has officially begun in Florida! These first few weeks have been hectic, with many constituents, student advocates, and local governments visiting the Capitol for Palm Beach County Days and Broward Days. Many have met with me to express the needs of our community and changes they'd like to see. Tallahassee is not as accessible to all Floridians as it should be, so I thank them for taking their time to meet with me here. I have additionally participated and hosted press conferences on SB 184, Holocaust Education Act of 2020 and with Commissioner Fried regarding SB 1824, Energy Bill.

As always, feel free to contact my office with any issues or concerns.

## SB 240 STATE SYMBOLS

The "Adopt, Don't Shop" movement has been effective in bringing awareness to shelter animals and their needs throughout the nation. To create more awareness, many states, such as Colorado and Illinois, have passed legislation deeming shelter animals to be the official State pet or animal. It is estimated that every year, about 1.5 million shelter animals are euthanized. Since the introduction of such bills, there has been a significant decline in these numbers. Being a pet owner myself, I felt inclined to introduce SB 240 State Symbols for this Legislative Session. I believe that increasing this sort of awareness is essential and can help our furry friends. Thus far, this bill has unanimously passed the Agriculture Committee and the Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee. I am hopeful that it will pass the Legislature and become law.

## SB 540 INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATIONS

Should this Senate bill pass, it would allow employees of the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association (FIGA) from any state to adjust claims or losses. To adjust claims, the employee must either currently hold or have held licensure in the last ten years. Additionally, this bill would revise the method by which Florida's Workers' Compensation Insurance Guaranty Association (FWCIGA) assessments are calculated and paid to the Florida Workers Compensation Insurance Guaranty Association. This bill has also passed the Banking and Insurance Committee and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government unanimously.



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