

We officially passed the half-way mark for the committee weeks ahead of the 2020 Legislative Session, and we have already accomplished a great deal. Thank you for the continued support as we keep fighting for District 8 up in Tallahassee!

It's my goal to keep our community updated on the progress we make together throughout these next committee weeks! Here's a look at our most recent efforts up in Tallahassee:

FLORIDA IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE VOUR LOCAL "It's pretty traumatic some of The things they go through," LTH

Mental Health Support for First Responders

Click the image above to watch my TV20 interview on the bill.

In 2017, more law enforcement officers and fire fighters died from suicide than in the line of duty. And just this week, we tragically lost one

of Marion County Fire Department's heroes to suicide. This statistic warrants immediate action, and it is my hope that <u>SB 160</u> will help promote peer support while reducing the stigma and fear of repercussions that all too often prevents first responders from seeking the help they need.

My bill received unanimous support in our first committee, and I am honored to work with our House sponsor Representative Joe Casello, a retired fire sergeant.

Florida Senate Removes Former Broward County Sheriff from Office During Special Session



In response to many actions and inactions of the Broward County Sheriff's Department, Governor Ron DeSantis suspended Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel. The Florida Senate Committee on Rules, chaired by Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto, voted to support Governor DeSantis's decision to remove Mr. Israel be removed from the office of Sheriff of Broward County.

The matter was then brought to the full Senate body on Wednesday, and senators had the opportunity to ask additional questions of the Special Master and fully debate the issue. I joined 24 of my colleagues in adopting the resolution to remove Mr. Israel from office.

Legislative Session

As we approach the next legislative session, you can stay up-to-date with my bills and committee meetings by visiting my <u>senate web page</u>.



I'm looking forward to serving another year on the following senate committees:

- Criminal Justice, Chair
- infrastructure & Security, Vice Chair
- Banking & Insurance
- Education
- Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice
- Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

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It's an honor to represent you in the Florida Senate. Thank you for your continued support, input and patience as we work together to make lasting impacts in our community. I'm eager to advocate for District 8 during the upcoming Legislative Session!

Sincerely,

Senator Keith Perry



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