



THE RODRIGUEZ REPORT

2020 PRE-SESSION EDITION

Dear friends and neighbors,

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2020.

Along with the new year, we welcome the 2020 Florida Legislative Session on January 14th. This edition of the Rodriguez Report is my effort to inform you about important legislation affecting our community as I represent us and champion our priorities. Please reach out to my office with any questions or concerns.

Senator José Javier Rodriguez



ASSIGNED COMMITTEES:

Ethics and Elections Committee, Rules Committee, Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government and as Vice Chair of the Judiciary Committee.

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SESSION 2020: LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

#ActOnClimateFL

Addressing climate change, its impacts and causes, must become a priority in Florida. This Session I have filed a dozen proposals dealing with aspects of climate change from public health to infrastructure. One of these bills that is advancing is SB 178. If passed it would ensure construction projects funded by taxpayer dollars conduct sea level rise impact studies. Among other renewable energy proposals, I have introduced SB 256 to set a goal for Florida of 100 percent renewable energy by 2050.



This will be my 3rd year wearing my boots during the legislative session to call attention to the need to #ActOnClimateFL.

Empowering Educators

The topic of fair compensation for teachers is finally a part of the conversation heading into the 2020 legislative session. It has been a priority of mine during all of my time in the Legislature. We have an obligation to go beyond rhetoric this year and make a real, lasting, long-term commitment to public school teachers and school employees for their hard work and compassion.



School Board Member Mari Tere Rojas and I collaborated on a Town Hall to discuss safety and security, mental health and transportation safety.

Addressing Gun Violence

We must finally act against the epidemic of gun violence. I have introduced two common sense solutions to address the loopholes in our current background check system. The bills are SB 548 which requires private gun sales to be conducted through a licensed dealer, and SB 586 which requires consumers to obtain a concealed weapons license prior to purchasing a firearm. I have also co-sponsored 8 other gun safety bills put forward by my colleagues .



Representative Grieco, Equality FL and I stood with advocates from all over the state calling for an end to the infliction of trauma on LGBTQ youth by licensed practitioners.

Dismantling Discrimination

As with prior Sessions I am working to ban the harmful practice of conversion therapy when done by Florida-licensed providers on minors. I have filed, SB 180, which would do just that, following the lead of 18 states. We cannot abide the violence associated with white supremacist ideologies. I have filed, SR 214, a resolution rejecting such hateful expression and look forward to working with like minded colleagues in both parties.

SESSION 2020: LEGISLATION FILED

Tackling 'Bundling' of Ballot Amendments | SB 176 and SB 396

Voting is a right and it must be protected. As I have in the past, this year I filed SB 176 & SB 396 legislation that would prevent the bundling of constitutional amendments. Voters should be protected from confusing and overcomplicated amendments that lump unrelated topics together.



Creating Working Persons Tax Rebate Study | SB 254 and SB 1592

Two bills, SB 254 & SB 1592, would create a state tax rebate for working families building off of the federal earned income tax credit. If passed it would help millions of working families in our state, returning funds to working families who most need them and have paid sales, gas, communications and other Florida taxes all year. It would help make our tax system more fair here in Florida.



Protecting Domestic Violence Victims | SB 274

If passed my bill SB 274 would give domestic violence victims flexibility in a residential lease if needed to get to safety or protect their families.



Prescription Drug Price and Transparency | SB 1682

I have worked alongside my colleagues to file SB 1682 that aims to lower prescription drug prices. This bill will tackle the lack of drug price transparency through pharmacy benefit managers and require pharmaceutical companies to justify high launch prices. By doing so, we can give consumers better options and focus on healthcare, not profits.



••••• FL SENATE DISTRICT 37 •••••

Senator José Javier Rodríguez proudly represents District 37 in the Florida Senate, which comprises the cities of: City of Miami, West Miami, Key Biscayne, Coral Gables, South Miami, Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, and Cutler Bay.

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Sen. Rodríguez visiting the Marjory Stoneman Douglas' house with local elected officials, and stakeholders to ensure its future.



Sen. Rodríguez meeting with FDOT Secretary Thibault, elected local officials, and local stakeholders to discuss the Urban Reconstruction Policy for Calle Ocho.



Sen. Rodríguez at an independent pharmacy announcing legislative reform on pharmacy benefit managers to tackle the lack of transparency in our healthcare.