



Session Weeks
February 21st - 25th and February 28th - March 4th, 2022

Dear Constituent and Friend,

During legislative session weeks 7 and 8, we wrapped up policy committee meetings and began the process of matching up the House and Senate spending plans to produce the 2022-2023 state budget. Even though we are flush with funds partly because of the American Rescue Act, the process is sometimes a little contentious as each chamber has ideas on a spending plan for our state and must agree on final categorical spending for our state.

On Thursday, March 3rd, after eleven years of service in the Florida Senate, I delivered my last session farewell address to my colleagues which was also broadcast on The Florida Channel <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/3-3-22-farewell-sen-audrey-gibson-d-district-6-jacksonville/> and included a thank you to constituents and staff. I have been honored to serve in the Florida Legislature, beginning with my service in the Florida House of Representatives.

My filed bill on the Senate floor:
SB 1244: Statutes of Limitations for Sexual Offenses. The bill removes the statute of limitations for an offense of including a child in a sexual performance. The bill allows prosecution to start at any time if an offender was 18 years of age or older at the time of the offense, even if the act was discovered much later. Children deserve our trust. If their trust is betrayed but discovered some time later or they come forward when they find the courage, prosecution should not be denied. Prosecutors would likely only bring cases forward that include several forms of evidence.



Students from Duval County 4-H program



Pastors from the Florida Capitol Project



Constituents advocating for victims of violent crimes at the #SurvivorsSpeak rally

Other bills of interest:
SB 1016: Mortgage Payoff Letters by Senator Danny Burgess (Tampa) – The bill makes significant changes to Florida law regarding estoppel letters and the satisfaction of mortgages. The bill reduces from 14 days to 10 days the amount of time a lender has to send a requested estoppel letter stating the unpaid balance of a mortgage loan. The lender must in turn, also acknowledge the release of the mortgage within 60 days after such has been paid off. The bill also specifies that if a lender later determines that additional funds are due from the borrower, the lender must still release the mortgage but can still collect the unsecured debt from the borrower.



Former Jacksonville Beach Mayor Charlie Latham, Assistant County Manager for Clay County visits for Clay County Days



Meeting with Florida Department of Pasco County Dietetic Interns to discuss the importance of dieticians in healthcare

Other bills of interest:
SB 898: Tenant Safety by Senator Linda Stewart (Orlando) – known as “Miya’s Law,” is named for Miya Marciano, a 19 year old from Orlando who was killed in September, 2021, when a maintenance worker with a criminal background was able to gain access to her home with a master key. The bill requires apartment complexes to complete national background checks on all employees, post unit entry notices 24 hours in advance, and create and maintain door key logs.

For more information on other bills filed this session, visit: <https://www.flsenate.gov/>.



With several Senate colleagues



My daughter, grand daughter and one of my sons attended the farewell tribute



My "roadies" on tribute day



Northeast Florida President for Florida Alliance for Retired Americans (FLARA) and retired Teamster, constituent Preston Drummer

As always, it is an Honor and a Pleasure to serve you in the Florida Senate!

Sincerely,

Audrey Gibson
 State Senator
 District 6

Tune into these stations between 6 am-6 pm Mon to Fri to watch legislative action:
<https://thefloridachannel.org/> or WJCT-TV-Comcast channel 212, or WJCT-DT 7.4 or WUFT-TV-Comcast channel 210, Digital Channel 5.2 or Cox 13.