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## December 2023

As we enter the festive spirit of December, I am filled with love and appreciation for our beautiful community. Connecting with you throughout the year, whether to advocate on important issues, celebrate special moments, or say goodbye to people who've touched our lives, means so much to me. These moments are precious, and I look forward to another year together. I'm mindful that the holidays can be a difficult time for some, and I encourage you to reach out to those you hold dear and let them know they are loved and appreciated.

However you celebrate this special time of year, please know you're appreciated and that my staff and I are always here to support you. Happy Holidays!



#### **Legislative Update**

I'm happy to share that we've submitted additional Senate bills since our November newsletter. The graphic below shows our current list of bills and includes a brief summary of their purpose.

Please note that these bills have only been submitted and assigned a Senate Bill number. The bills have not been passed are subject to change from now until it's time to vote on them (if they make it to the floor) during the 2024 legislative session. Staff and I are still working with legislators, constituents, and stakeholders to ensure the proposed bills reflect the wants and needs of the people. To learn more about the bills listed below, click here.

### Legislation Update: Current List of Filed Bills



Updated on November 13, 2023

SB62	<b>Resident Status for Tuition:</b> This bill changes the requirements for a person to be considered a resident for tuition purposes to include time spent in certain correctional institutions.
SB64	<b>Landlords &amp; Tenants:</b> This bill limits rent increases in certain circumstances and clarifies that a landlord can still terminate the rental agreement even if a partial payment is made.
SB252	<b>Psychiatric Therapy:</b> This bill defines electroconvulsive treatment (ECT) and psychosurgical procedure requiring only physicians perform them and prohibits procedures on minors.
SB350	<b>Cold Case Murders:</b> This bill allows local agencies to work on cold cases if they have the resources or turn them over to the Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement if they can't work the case.
SB354	<b>Task Force on Missing &amp; Murdered African-American Women:</b> This bill establishes the Task Force within the Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement to address and reduce violence against African-American women and girls.
SB372	<b>State Certified Doulas:</b> This bill defines a "state-certified doula" and requires the Dept. of Health to create certification requirements, best practices, a public registry, and a list of entities with approved education/training for doulas.
SB374	<b>Human Trafficking:</b> This bill revises the term "coercion" and authorizes the prosecution of specified offenses under the RICO Act. It requires several state agencies to establish awareness training programs and partnerships.
SB386	<b>Affordable Housing Parking Requirements:</b> The bill requires counties and municipalities to reduce parking requirements for certain developments if specific conditions are met.



#### **Senator Osgood: In the Community**

#### **Turkey and Food Giveaway**

The Annual Turkey and Food Giveaway is always a highlight for me. Thank you to Pastor Marcus Davidson, First Lady Yvokia Davidson, Reverend Frank Kennedy Jr., MODCO Staff, Ms. Sandi James, President Marsha A. Ellison, Representative Daryl Campbell (District 99), and the New Mount Olive Baptist Church Congregation for joining us for this amazing cause.

This event marks a collaborative effort between Mount Olive Development Corporation, New Mount Olive Baptist Church, the Community Education Alliance, Representative Daryl Campbell, NAACP FTL Broward, Aetna, Elijah Belle Funeral Home, Udonis Haslem Foundation, Faith in Florida, Fort Lauderdale Police Department, and Farm Share, was truly remarkable. Together, we were able to distribute 700 Turkeys, 2812 Bags of Fruit & Vegetables, 500 Hens, and 100 Publix Gift Cards to diverse families in need!

As we celebrate New Mount Olive's 105 years of dedicated service to Broward County, the State of Florida, Africa, Haiti, Jamaica, and the Bahamas, this event underscores the church's profound impact on our community. I am filled with love for my church family and community, and the Turkey and Food Giveaway perfectly embodied the spirit of #Nmobc #MODCOCares.









#### **Funeral of Carolyn Wright Jones**

I recently bid a heartfelt farewell to my dear friend, Carolyn Wright Jones. She was a cherished member of the Zeta Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and her presence and contributions will be deeply missed. She touched the lives of many through her dedication to family, community, and education, and her enduring impact and warm spirit will be remembered with love. Rest in peace, Soror Carolyn Jones.





# Gardening with Zeta Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.









# 2nd Annual Military Ball by the Women of Veteran Affairs (WOVA)

Thank you to the Women of Veteran Affairs (WOVA) for honoring me at this year's Military Ball. It was great to see all the evening's honorees and the opportunity to connect with my Zeta Rho Omega sisters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and many more in attendance.













### Broward County Public Schools 2023 Debate Luncheon







#### **Retirement of Pastor Wayne Lomax**

I had the pleasure of celebrating the retirement of Pastor Wayne Lomax for his decades of faithful service to the South Florida community. A personal friend and mentor of mine, I had the honor of presenting him with a Proclamation recognizing his contributions and accomplishments.

At the event, I ran into Bishop C.E. Glover, who we also recently presented a Proclamation with for his retirement. Thank you to these two incredible heroes for your presence and dedication. Wishing you both a wonderful retirement and success in all your future endeavors!

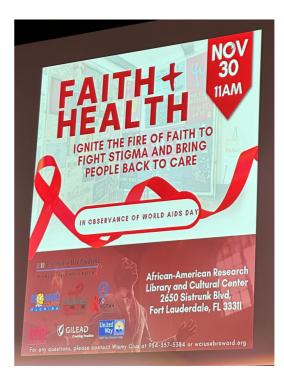


#### **Faith** + **Health Event for World AIDS Day**

# Ignite the Fire of Faith to Fight Stigma and Bring People Back to Care

As a longtime advocate for HIV/AIDS awareness and support, I was honored to speak at this year's Faith and Health Event for World AIDS Day. Thank you to the Broward County Community Services Department, Ending the HIV Epidemic/Ryan White Part A Program, for inviting me to speak and to all the community and faith partners for participating in this critical discussion.





#### **Community Events and News**

#### **School Choice Application Open**

The School Choice application window for 2024/25 opened on December 1st. Explore the innovative programs available for personalized learning! Apply for magnet programs, Nova schools, and more. Get info at <a href="mailto:browardschools.com/schoolchoice">browardschools.com/schoolchoice</a>.



#### **You Light Up Broward County**

When: Friday, December 8, 2023

**Location: David Posnack JCC** 

Orlove Auditorium, 5850 S Pine Island Rd., Davie, FL 33328 RSVP by December 6, 2023, to <u>EGoldman@jewishbroward.org</u>











#### **Your Vote Matters**

# What Voters Need to Know: Education, Information, Advocacy and Empowerment

When: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 From 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. via Zoom Register at https://bit.ly/3NemT1c



Wishing you a Happy Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and New Year's Eve!

Warm Regards,

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