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# RADER READER

FLORIDA STATE SENATOR KEVIN RADER,  
DISTRICT 29

## DEAR FRIENDS:

Last month marked the beginning of several committee weeks that will be taking place in Tallahassee. This is the start of the legislative process where committees convene, giving legislators the opportunity to potentially have their bills begin moving through the committees prior to the first day of the 2020 Legislative Session. Besides bringing us a sunny fall season, October is also known as the awareness month of two very important issues: breast cancer and domestic violence. This newsletter will also share information on these topics and provide resources for further information.

As always, we are here to help, so please contact my office if you have concerns or need assistance.

*Kevin Rader*



## 2020 PREVIEW

As you may know, Legislators have already begun filing and determining what their legislative priorities will be during the 2020 Legislative Session. I am honored to once again be representing our community in Tallahassee and am gearing up for the upcoming Session. I've already begun proposing legislation that I believe will assist not only our community, but all Floridians. Committee weeks play an important role in the legislative process as it allows for the Committees to begin their consideration on various bills. Since we have a very limited time during Session, these weeks provide us a much-needed head-start.

Although the Florida Capitol is very distant, the Florida Senate's website ([www.FLSenate.gov](http://www.FLSenate.gov)) can be very helpful in keeping you informed on what's happening in Tallahassee. You are able to view or follow legislation you are interested in by visiting this website. The Committee calendars, and later the Session calendars, will be posted on the website so Floridians may know when the various meetings will be occurring. Further information, such as the agendas and meeting notices, will also be posted for the public. If you would like to follow the legislation that I have proposed, simply select my name on the Senator's list.

## UPCOMING COMMITTEE WEEKS

Week of October 14

Week of November 4

Week of December 9

Week of October 21

Week of November 12

## THINK PINK

October is nationally recognized as Breast Cancer Awareness month. It is estimated that in the United States, 1 in 8 women and 1 in 883 men will develop invasive breast cancer over their lifetime. Unfortunately, Florida has the second-highest cancer burden in the nation and, since 2011, cancer is the leading cause of death for Floridians, surpassing heart disease. Sadly, young women generally face more aggressive cancers and lower survival rates. I have filed SB 276, which would include breast and prostate cancer education in the high school health curriculum. Ensuring that our youth learn characteristics, measures of prevention, and symptoms to watch for will ultimately result in better preparing them.

The Florida Department of Health states that mammography is the most effective method of early breast cancer detection as it can identify cancer several years before physical symptoms develop. According to the American Cancer Society, getting regular screening tests is the most reliable way to find breast cancer early. They also provide screening guidelines for women at average or high risk of breast cancer. They are ultimately suggesting that women should know their breasts and report changes of size, symmetry, or skin appearance to their doctor. The Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program assists Floridians with cancer screenings recommended by doctors. Should you meet the eligibility requirements, screenings can be either free or low cost. Please call your County Health Department or American Cancer Society National Helpline at 1-800-227-2345 to get more information on the program. For the Florida Department of Health in Broward County call 954-762-3812 and for the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County call 561-840-4500.

### Common Questions

#### CAN BREAST CANCER BE FOUND EARLY?

Yes, it is imperative to have regular Breast Cancer screenings as it can potentially be caught in the early stages.

#### CAN IMAGING TESTS FIND BREAST CANCER?

Different tests can be used to look for and diagnose breast cancer. These include Mammograms Breast Ultrasound, Breast MRI Scans, and Experimental Breast Imaging Tests

To learn more, or if you have any questions, please contact the American Cancer Society:

**Cancer.org**  
**Cancer Helpline: 800 227 2345**

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

The Department of Children and Families oversees the Domestic Violence Program. This Program is tasked with the prevention and intervention of domestic violence. Among the Program's primary responsibilities are the administration and oversight of federal and state funding designated to assist Florida's certified domestic violence centers, the leading providers of domestic violence services. It works closely with the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and has 42 certified domestic violence centers. These centers provide free crisis intervention and support services to victims. Additionally, they offer emergency shelter, 24-hour crisis and information hotline, safety planning, counseling, case management, child assessments, daycare, transportation, relocation assistance, rape crisis intervention, and prevention programs in local schools. If you or anyone you know needs assistance please call the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-500-1119 or visit [FCADV.org](http://FCADV.org).

### NEED HELP?

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE:**  
**1-800-500-1119**

**TTY HOTLINE:**  
**1-800-621-4202**

To find local DV Centers visit:  
[www.fcadv.org/local-center-services](http://www.fcadv.org/local-center-services)

## QUICK LINKS

[Florida Senate Website](#)

[American Cancer Society](#)

[Department of Children and  
Families-Domestic Violence Page](#)

[Florida Coalition Against Domestic  
Violence](#)



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