



Good Afternoon Friends,

Happy Holidays!

Thank you so much for subscribing to the Polsky Pulse.

Enclosed in this email you will find a copy of the Pulse in Tallahassee, Committee Week 5 and Committee Week 6 Edition. This edition of the Pulse has great information regarding the third committee week of the 2020 Legislative Session.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns and I will do my best to address them

Sincerely,

Rep. Tina Polsky

Committee Week 5 Update

Pulse in Tallahassee

Florida State Representative Tina Polsky, District 81
Committee Week #5, November 11-15, 2019

Dear Friends,

This week marks the second to last committee week of the 2020 Legislative Session. There is only one week remaining and a lot of work to be done! Committees are working hard to get through those bills that have already been filed ahead of the 2020 Legislative Session.

As I prepare for the 2020 Legislative Session, I have been hard at work drafting, editing, and filing bills. Thus far I have filed HB 91, Holocaust Education and HJR 95, Representation of Women. I am excited to announce that I filed two additional bills for consideration:

- **HB 595, Medical Marijuana Employee Protection**-This legislation would prohibit employers from taking adverse action against employees who have a medical marijuana license. Exceptions would be made for employees who are in public safety roles, such as firefighters, police officers, and others.
- **HB 631, Sale, Transfer, or Storage of Firearms**-Similar to the bill I filed last year, HB 631, attempts to strengthen Florida's Safe Storage Laws. The bill prevents child access to a firearm by requiring any person with a minor in the household to either store the weapon in a safe or secure it with a trigger lock. It would also require that every gun seller would have to provide a safety brochure with every gun purchase informing the buyer of the importance of safe storage.



Rep. Polsky and students from Palm Beach State College



Rep. Polsky with Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez

In Committee

- **HB 209, Emotional Support Animals**-This bill would make it a misdemeanor to falsify documents or misrepresent information when attempting to certify an Emotional Support Animal (ESA). The bill would also prohibit discrimination in housing against anyone requiring an ESA and remove the liability for damage done by an ESA for a landlord complying with ESA guidelines. The bill passed the Civil Justice Subcommittee unanimously and is heading to its second committee stop, Children, Families, and Seniors Subcommittee for consideration.
- **HB 171, Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel**-This bill would require that the Board of Governors and State Board of Education create a process that allows veterans and service members to earn uniform college credits across all of Florida's public colleges and universities. The board must also develop and provide a list of approved courses that are equivalent across universities and list the minimum credit hours that are awarded for each course. The bill passed the Higher Education and Career Readiness Subcommittee unanimously and is heading to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee for consideration.
- **HB 309, Prohibited Acts by Healthcare Practitioners**-This bill would prohibit healthcare providers from knowingly using certain titles and names when advertising their services if that practitioner does not meet the qualifications for that title. It is hoped that this bill will prevent practitioners from misleading their patients about their qualifications. The Health Quality Subcommittee passed the bill by a vote of 12-2, and the bill now heads to the Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee for consideration.



Rep. Polsky and Commissioners Berger and Weinroth at the Veterans Day Celebration

Sincerely,

Representative Tina Polsky



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Committee Week 6 Update

Pulse in Tallahassee

Florida State Representative Tina Polsky, District 81
Committee Week #6, December 9-13, 2019

Dear Friends,

This week marks the last committee week of the 2020 Legislative Session. When the State Legislature returns to Tallahassee following the holiday season, we will begin the 60-day Legislative Session. I am looking forward to heading back to Tallahassee for my second session to serve all Floridians and my constituents in District 81.

During this final committee week, we heard several important bills; here is a highlight of some of the ones that were discussed.

In Committee

- **HB 581, Civic Education**-This bill would establish minimum requirements for students to complete a civic literacy curriculum that would be incorporated into school's US Government course beginning in 2021. The hours that students would spend on their project for this program can be counted towards community service requirements for the Bright Futures Scholarship Program. The bill passed unanimously out of the PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee and is heading to the PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee for consideration.



Rep. Polsky and Dept. of Economic Opportunity Director Ken Lawson, discussing economic development opportunities in District 81



Rep. Polsky addressing constituents at her Turnpike Noise Forum.

- **HB 37, School Bus Safety**-This bill increases the minimum civil penalty from failing to stop for a school bus from \$100 to \$200. If the driver repeats the offense within 5 years, they will have their license suspended for at least six months. If a driver passes a school bus on the side that children enter and exit the bus, the fine will be increased from \$200 to \$400. I was proud to vote "yes" in the bill's first stop, Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, as well as signing on to be a cosponsor of the bill.

- **HB 7011, K-12 Student Athletes**-This bill requires the FHSAA to require member schools to use environmental monitoring and to modify athletic activities based on heat index. It establishes requirements for cooling zones and school emergency action plans, along with hydration guidelines. Finally, the bill requires an employee or volunteer be trained in CPR and the use of an automated external defibrillator at every athletic event. The PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee unanimously supported this great bill,

its next stop will be the PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee.

On the Horizon

- **HB 543, Medical Marijuana Identification Cards for Service-disabled Veterans**- I'm proud to co-sponsor HB 543, which would prohibit the Department of Health from charging disabled veterans or their caregivers a fee for the issuance or replacement of their medical marijuana identification card. This great bill goes a long way to ensure that our Veterans can receive treatment without having to worry about the cost of a new or replacement card.
- **HB 621, Animal Cruelty**- I'm happy to cosponsor the Animal Cruelty bill, HB 621, or Allie's Law, which would require that veterinarians report signs of suspected abuse by a pet's owner to the proper authorities within 48 hours of seeing and treating the animal. I am hopeful that this bill will pass during the Legislative Session and ensure that Florida's pets are safe.



Rep. Polsky at the Boca Raton Farm Share

Sincerely,

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