

# The Slosberg Report

## Legislative Session Update

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### Gail's Law Heads to the House Floor!

This week, HB 673, Gail's Law, passed its final committee in the Florida House of Representatives and is ready to head to the House Floor! The bill requires the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to create a statewide database for tracking rape kits and notifying victims. No such system currently exists, leaving sexual assault survivors without critical information about their cases.

Gail's Law is named after Gail Gardner, who survived a vicious sexual assault in 1988 and, despite courageously consenting to a forensic exam, had to wait over 30 years before her rape kit was tested. During those 30 years, Gail kept looking out her window, terrified that her attacker was still stalking her.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this vital legislation that would benefit sexual assault survivors across our great state. Together, by passing Gail's Law, we can address the historical lack of accountability surrounding sexual assault evidence kits, eliminate the potential for evidence kits to go untested, and empower survivors with information on the status of their cases as they move through the criminal justice system.

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### School Bus Safety Bill Passes House Committee

Last week, HB 1199, a bill relating to school bus safety, passed out of the House Criminal Justice



**Representative Emily Slosberg**  
Florida House of Representatives  
District 91



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& Public Safety Subcommittee. I, alongside Representative Altman, am proud to sponsor this important bill.

HB 1199 would authorize local school districts across Florida to install innovative automated traffic enforcement systems on school buses that are capable of identifying drivers that put children in danger by illegally passing stopped school buses as students get on or off the bus.

Last year, the Florida Legislature prioritized student safety by passing my HB 37, which doubled the fines for illegally passing stopped school buses. This year, I am seeking to authorize the use of cutting-edge technologies to enforce those newly enhanced penalties with HB 1199.

A 2019 survey conducted by the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS) recorded more than 13,500 drivers illegally passing stopped school buses in Florida on a single day. Based on that figure, tens of thousands of violations likely occur on our roadways each year. Despite that, very few motorists receive a citation when they put our children at risk.

Under HB 1199, local school districts and law enforcement agencies will have the option to use state-of-the-art enforcement tools to issue citations to violators who endanger our students with blatant disregard.

Nothing is more important than the safety of our students, and I believe HB 1199 will go a long way toward enforcing the existing law and keeping our children safe.

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## **Holocaust Remembrance Day Resolution**

Today, my resolution HR 8001, a resolution designating April 4-11, 2021, as "Days of Remembrance" & April 8, 2021, as "Holocaust Remembrance Day" in Florida was adopted by the Florida House of Representatives.

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Holocaust Remembrance Day, also known by its Hebrew name Yom HaShoah, begins at sundown today, and ends tomorrow at sundown. This day is a time meant for reflection on the events of the Holocaust, in which over 6 million Jews were murdered in a cruel and systematic manner by Nazi Germany.

This resolution honors the lives lost in the Holocaust and educates people about the atrocities committed by Nazi Germany. Especially given the rising tide of antisemitism across our country, we must remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny wherever it occurs. I ask that everyone join me in taking a moment this week to remember all those who were murdered by the Nazi regime. For both the dead and the living, we must bear witness and never forget.

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*Emily speaking at the 2021 Legislative  
Prayer Breakfast*

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