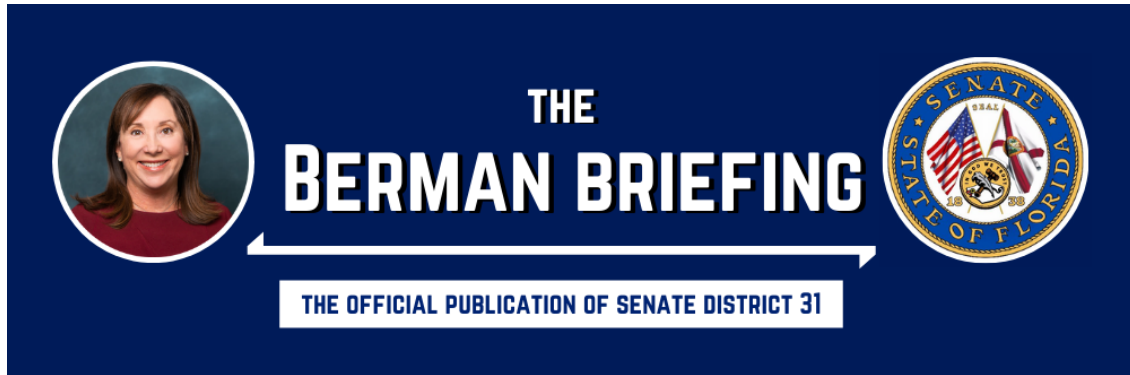


[View this email in your browser](#)



## DECEMBER UPDATE

I hope each of you enjoyed a warm and peaceful Thanksgiving with your friends and families.

As we enter the month of December, we finish our sixth and final committee week in Tallahassee. Below is an update on the Special Session held in mid-November as well as an update on where our legislation stands. [The 2022 Legislative Session will begin on Tuesday, January 11, 2022.](#)

My office continues to remain available to you during this time if you need any assistance.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lori Berman' followed by a horizontal line.

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### In this Issue...

- 2022 Legislative Update (including an update on bills and appropriations filed);
- Committee Week & Special Session 2021B update;

- Senator Berman's 2022 Committee List;
- PBC Delegation Final Hearing on December 8;
- Greenacres Holiday in the Park event info (English & Spanish);
- "Money Mavens" - Financial Literacy Series hosted by Jewish Women's Foundation;
- Greenacres Community Conversations;
- COVID Testing & Vaccine info;
- Greenacres Free Covid-19 Vaccination Event;
- Food Assistance;
- Holiday Message.

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## 2022 Legislation Updates

I have a total of 19 bills filed at this time. Below is a brief update on legislation I filed since our last newsletter.

[Click here to view all of my filed bills so far.](#)

### **SB 760: Human Trafficking**

This bill addresses notable gaps in current law as it relates to human trafficking. The bill raises the crime of maintaining a house of prostitution from a misdemeanor to a second degree felony. Additionally, a change that could have major impacts on victims is to include alcohol in the scope of coercion. In practice, traffickers prey on individuals suffering from many types of substance-abuse related addictions. Current statute only identifies controlled substances as a means for exploitation when in reality, alcohol is more in line with circumstances that occur.

### **SB 1036: Reproductive Health Care Rights**

On December 1st, the U.S. Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments in a Mississippi case that evaluates the constitutionality of state-level abortion bans. This case threatens nearly 50 years of legal precedent set by Roe v. Wade, guaranteeing a constitutional right to privacy extended to abortion rights.

The Reproductive Health Care Protection Act would guarantee a person's right to

access reproductive health care in the State of Florida and prohibit any individual or government entity from denying a citizen's fundamental rights of privacy with respect to their personal reproductive decisions. Additionally, this legislation provides a civil cause of action for any person whose fundamental rights to privacy are deprived or unduly burdened when seeking comprehensive reproductive health care in the State of Florida.

### **SB 1052: Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Tests and Procedures**

20,160 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 3,120 women that will die from the disease in Florida this year alone. We know that early detection and treatment leads to the best outcomes for survival. SB 1052 would eliminate out-of-pocket costs for medically-necessary diagnostic breast imaging following an abnormal mammogram result or other medically-necessary purposes. Without some assistance, many of these women will simply delay or forego their follow-up screenings, leading to later diagnoses.

### **SB 1084: Victims of Crimes of Sexual Violence or Sexual Exploitation**

This legislation would ensure that any victim of such a sex crime would have to give express written consent to any person or entity in possession of the victim's information in order for their name to be disclosed in any public proceeding. Sadly, a gaping loophole in current state law allows the names or identifying information of survivors who report such crimes to others, including employers and schools, to be disclosed, including information or records created for a potential case against the perpetrator. Perpetrators or other third parties who may be responsible can also threaten public exposure of the survivor's identity in order to discourage reporting of the crimes to law enforcement, school administrators, employers and others.

### **SB 1106: Domestic Violence and Parental Responsibility Determinations**

#### **- "Greyson's Law"**

This bill is the unfortunate product of the tragic death of 4-year-old Greyson Kessler, who was the victim of a murder-suicide involving his father in May of this year. Days prior to the murder, Greyson's mother Ali Kessler filed an emergency petition with Broward Family Court outlining her imminent fears for the safety of her child. In the days leading up to the shooting, Greyson's father sent multiple disturbing and threatening communications to Ms. Kessler, but Florida law has no formal mechanism that allows for threats directed at a parent to create a nexus with a child.

Moreover, “coercive control” is currently not contemplated in Florida domestic violence law; this bill would remedy its absence.

## **Appropriations**

I have filed over a dozen individual Local Funding Initiative Requests (LFIRs) so far, with many additional pending. LFIRs serve to help our local cities and county government, non-profits and the like with special projects.

Click [here](#) to view all LFIRs. Type 'Berman' in the search box to see what I have specifically filed.

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## **Committee Week & Special Session Update**

During our November committee weeks, a lot took place, as is common this time of year.

The mid-November week was focused on a Special Session.

Here is a breakdown of the bills that were voted on and my voting record:

- [SB 2B](#) / [HB 1B](#) **COVID-19 Mandates**: Requires employers to add more opt-out options than the federal government rule and created stiff fines for companies who violated them. [I voted no.](#)
- [SB 4B](#) / [HB 3B](#) **Public Records/Employer COVID-19 Vaccination Policies**: Shields from public view records of employee complaints about vaccine exemptions. [I voted no.](#)
- [SB 6B](#) / [HB 5B](#) **Florida Occupational Safety and Health State Plan**: Asks the Governor's Office to create a plan for a state-level version of the federal OSHA and provides funds. [I voted no.](#)
- [SB 8B](#) / [HB 7B](#) **Vaccinations During Public Health Emergencies**: Removes the State Health Officer's ability to order the vaccination of individuals upon declaration of a public health emergency. [I voted no.](#)

This final committee week, I held a press conference on our Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion bill ([SB 388](#)) and our Reproductive Health Care Protection Act ([SB 1036](#)).

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**Senator Berman's Committee  
Assignments for the 2022 Session**

- ***Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Agriculture, Environment, and General  
Government***
- ***Education***
- ***Ethics and Elections***
- ***Finance and Tax***
- ***Transportation***



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**Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation:  
2021-22 Public Hearing and Workshop Schedule**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Wednesday, December 8, 2021  
Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center  
1977 SW College Dr, Belle Glade, FL 33430

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

If you have any questions or need more information please contact the Delegation office at 561-355-2406 or 561-355-3452.

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THE CITY OF GREENACRES  
PRESENTS

**Holiday in the Park**

Saturday  
DECEMBER 4, 2021  
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Join us for the  
*Tree Lighting Ceremony*

AT SJF COMMUNITY PARK | 2905 JOG RD.

- Pictures with Santa & Mrs. Claus
- Horse & Carriage Rides
- Crafts Vendors
- Face Painting
- Food Trucks
- Carolers
- Inflatables
- Music and more!

SPONSORS: TAPATIA, 50% Food & Deli, Humana, sunshine health, CanoHealth, WM, GREENACRES NISSAN, adriana's, RESTREP, State Farm, PEPSICO, Dedicated Senior.

Children under age 11 may receive a gift from Santa while supplies last.  
FREE ADMISSION | CASH & CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED | SMALL BILLS PREFERRED  
NO ATM | RAIN OR SHINE | NO REFUNDS  
For more information please call 561-642-2090 or visit [www.greenacresfl.gov](http://www.greenacresfl.gov)

THE CITY OF GREENACRES  
PRESENTS

**Holiday in the Park**

Sábado  
4 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2021  
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Únase a nosotros  
para la  
*Ceremonia de Iluminación del Árbol*

EN SJF COMMUNITY PARK | 2905 JOG RD.

- Fotos con Santa y la Sra. Claus
- Paseo en Carruaje de Caballo
- Vendedores de Artesanías
- Pintura en la Cara
- Camiones de Comida
- Villancicos
- Inflables
- ¡Música y más!

SPONSORS: TAPATIA, 50% Food & Deli, Humana, sunshine health, CanoHealth, WM, GREENACRES NISSAN, adriana's, RESTREP, State Farm, PEPSICO, Dedicated Senior.

Los niños menores de 11 años pueden recibir un regalo de Santa hasta agotar existencias.  
ENTRADA GRATUITA | ACEPTAMOS EFECTIVO Y TARJETAS DE CRÉDITO  
PREFERIDOS BILLETES PEQUEÑOS | NO ATM | LLUVIA O SOL | SIN REEMBOLSOS  
Para obtener más información, llame al 561-642-2090 o visite [www.greenacresfl.gov](http://www.greenacresfl.gov)

## Money Mavens: Financial Literacy Series

Take control of your financial present and future by strengthening your knowledge and confidence. Money Mavens is a monthly series for women of all ages and teen girls regardless of their financial literacy level that empowers them to manage their own money and make informed financial decisions.



### SCHEDULE AND TOPICS

<b>November 9<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Taking Charge of Your Finances</i>	<b>Presenters:</b> Jennifer Bellis & Darlene Dzuba, U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management
<b>December 14<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Budgeting, Saving, &amp; Debt</i>	<b>Presenter:</b> Vee Escarment, Generational Wealth through Homeownership, Inc.
<b>January 18<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Borrowing &amp; the Functions of Credit</i>	<b>Presenter:</b> Kristina Ray, Truist
<b>February 1<sup>st</sup></b> <i>Taxes &amp; Estate Planning</i>	<b>Moderator:</b> Amy Eisinger, Mutual of America <b>Panelists:</b> Lilach Fisher, BDO USA, LLP Sarah Gaymon, HBK CPAs & Consultants Sasha Klein, PricewaterhouseCoopers Lisa A. Schneider, Esq., Gunster's Private Wealth Services Group
<b>*March 1<sup>st</sup></b> <i>Divorce &amp; Marital Law in Florida</i>	<b>Presenters:</b> Caryn Stevens, Esq., Partner, Ward Damon, PL Allison Creely, Forensic Accounting Partner, Creely Samoleski LLC Emily Golisch, Family Law Paralegal, Ward Damon PL Jessica Ticktin, Ret. Circuit Judge Family Division, Ticktin Mediation
<b>March 22<sup>nd</sup></b> <i>Investing Basics &amp; The Gender Wealth Gap</i>	<b>Moderator:</b> Suzanne Holmes, CFP®, Wealth Relationship Manager (Ret.) <b>Panelists:</b> Aisha Ali, Bernstein Private Wealth Management Cindy Pollack, Edward Jones Lauren Stuhmer, Citi Private Bank
<b>April 26<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Planning for Your Future: A Life by Design</i>	<b>Presenters:</b> Barbara Best, AIF® & Nancy M. Rizzuto, CAP STRAT (formerly Capital Strategies Investment Group) and CAP STRAT Women's Forum
<b>May 10<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Women in Philanthropy</i>	<b>Moderator:</b> Margaret May Damen, CFP®, CLU, ChFC, CAP® <b>Panelists:</b> Jennifer Kryshka, JWF CEO Sydelle Sonkin, volunteer and philanthropist Val Stanley, Director of Women's Services, The Lord's Place

Participants have the option to attend in-person or virtually. The cost is \$180/series or \$30/workshop. \*The 03/01/22 session is not included in the series package. All workshops are 5:30 - 7PM.

For details or to register, please visit [weblink.donorperfect.com/MoneyMavens](https://weblink.donorperfect.com/MoneyMavens) or call our office at 561-275-2200. For questions, or info. on sponsoring women ages 18 – 25, please contact [talya@jwfpalmbeach.org](mailto:talya@jwfpalmbeach.org).

If cost is a barrier to participating, please contact [jennifer@jwfpalmbeach.org](mailto:jennifer@jwfpalmbeach.org) regarding scholarship options.



# LET'S TALK...

## A Series of Community Conversations



**Join us once a month!**

*Sessions are free. Space is limited. Masks are required.  
Each session will also be available via GoToWebinar.*

**ONLINE SAFETY: SEXTING & HUMAN TRAFFICKING, Thursday, September 30, 2021, from 6:30-8 p.m.**

Presented by: Gregory Schiller, Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney's Office, Narcotics and Violent Crimes, Northern Division and Sgt. Carlos Lisboa, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Special Investigations Division, Human Trafficking - Missing Persons

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, Wednesday, October 20, 2021, from 6:30-8 p.m.**

Presented by: Markos Fluery, AVDA Violence Prevention Educator and Melanie Rodriguez AVDA Victim Advocate

**TRAUMA INFORMED CARE, Wednesday, November 17, 2021, from 6:30-8 p.m.**

Presented by: Anne-Marie Brown, LCSW, MSW, MCAP, CIP, ICADC, Director, Childhood Trauma Response Program for Center for Child Counseling

**DEMENTIA & ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AWARENESS, Wednesday, December 8 2021, from 6:30-8 p.m.**

Presented by: Dr. Karen Gilbert, DNP, MS, RN, CDP, Vice President of Education and Quality Assurance for Alzheimer's Community Care

**Call 561-642-2090 to reserve your seat or register online at [www.greenacresfl.gov/community-rec/page/lets-talk](http://www.greenacresfl.gov/community-rec/page/lets-talk)**

*Community Service hours for high school students that attend the in-person session!*



Greenacres Community Center | Banquet Hall  
501 Swain Blvd. Greenacres, FL 33463

561-642-2091 or 2090 | [www.greenacresfl.gov](http://www.greenacresfl.gov)



## **COVID Testing & Vaccine Sites And More**

The county has a comprehensive list of vaccine locations, information and statistics [here](#).

In light of the new Omicron variant, booster shots are now recommended by the CDC after six months for all adults over 18 who already had their first series of Pfizer or Moderna and two months following those who had a J&J shot. Refer to the CDC's guidance [here](#).

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# FREE COVID-19 VACCINATION EVENT

SCAN TO BOOK  
APPOINTMENT



at the Community Center | Appointments Required

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH**  
**8AM - 5PM**



The American Research lab will  
be administering the following  
COVID-19 vaccine shots:

**PFIZER - 5+**  
**MODERNA / J&J - 18+**

*You may be eligible for a Booster  
vaccine, based on current  
CDC guidelines.*

**Community Center**  
501 Swain Blvd  
Greenacres, 33463

The Mobile unit will  
be located in the  
parking lot

**TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT, VISIT:**  
**[WWW.ARLLABS.COM/ARL-LABS-GREENACRES](http://WWW.ARLLABS.COM/ARL-LABS-GREENACRES)**



## **Food Assistance**

Click [here](#) to review an interactive map of food banks and resources. Cross Ministries also has multiple food banks throughout the county, all listed in the chart below.



## **CROS Community Food Pantries**

Requirements to receive a Full Allotment of Food  
Bring a photo ID and identification for all family members  
Call 211 to verify hours of operation

<b>Lake Worth Food Pantry</b> Our Savior Lutheran Church 1615 Lake Ave., Lake Worth 33460 Monday – Friday 11:00am to 2:00pm	<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Lake Worth</b> Sunlight Community Church 1325 N A St., Lake Worth 33460 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday *Drive-Thru Pantry* 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm	<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Lake Worth</b> Lakeside United Methodist Church 1901 12th Ave. S., Lake Worth 33461 1st, 3rd, & 5th Thursday 4:00pm to 6:00pm
<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Greenacres</b> City of Greenacres Community Center 501 Swain Blvd., Greenacres 33463 2nd & 4th Thursday 4:00pm to 6:00pm	<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Greenacres</b> Legacy Church 400 Jackson Ave., Greenacres 33463 3rd Thursday 9:30am to 11:30am	<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Greenacres</b> Church in the Palms 3812 Jog Rd., Greenacres 33467 Saturday 8:30am to 10:00am
<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Haverhill</b> Haverhill Community Church 671 Haverhill Rd, Haverhill 33415 1st, 3rd, & 5th Tuesday 5:00pm to 7:00pm	<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Riviera Beach</b> St. George's Episcopal Church & Center 21 West 22nd St., Riviera Beach 33404 Wednesday 9:30am to 11:00am	<b>West Palm Beach Food Pantry</b> Urban League Community Service Center 2107 N. Tamarind Ave. West Palm Beach 33407 Friday 9:30am to 11:00am
<b>Central Palm Pantry</b> First Christian Church 215 S Congress Ave. West Palm Beach 33409 Monday and Wednesday 9:30am to 11:30am	<b>Delray Beach Food Pantry</b> Delray Beach NRC 141 SW 12th Ave., Delray Beach 33444 Monday – Friday 12noon to 3:00pm	<b>Jupiter Food Pantry</b> El Sol Jupiter's NRC 106 Military Trail, Jupiter 33458 Tuesday & Friday 2:00pm to 4:00pm
<b>Mobile Food Pantry – Wellington</b> Village Park 11700 Pierson Rd Wellington 33414 Friday 9:30am to 11:30am	<b>Lighthouse Food Pantry – Belle Glade</b> Community United Methodist Church 401 SW 1st St., Belle Glade 33430 Tuesday & Thursday 1:00pm to 3:00pm	<b>Indiantown Food Pantry</b> The Village Church of Indiantown 15364 SW Yalaha St., Indiantown 34596 Tuesday 11:00am to 4:00pm

CROS Administrative Office: 3677 23rd Ave. S., #B-101, Lake Worth, FL 33461  
(561) 233-9009 • (561) 233-9819 fax • [www.crosministries.org](http://www.crosministries.org)

**Mission:** CROS Ministries serves the hungry in Palm Beach and Martin Counties through community collaborations.

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Updated 9/23/2021



**Thank you to the City of Greenacres for another incredible year serving the residents a warm Thanksgiving dinner.**



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**As we ring in the remainder of the year and bring on the holiday season, I wish you continued greetings, whether you celebrate Hanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa or observe another special day.**





### District Office

2300 High Ridge Road  
Suite 161  
Boynton Beach, FL, 33426  
(516) 292-6014



### Tallahassee Office

218 Senate Office Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 487-5031



### Email

berman.lori.web@flsenate.gov

## CONTACT US



### Facebook

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### Twitter

@loriberman



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@senloriberman



### Our mailing address is:

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Boynton Beach, FL 33426



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