

## **Friends and Neighbors:**

Despite the many culture war bills that I strongly disagree with, this past week was one of triumph. We are beyond proud to announce the passage of "Greyson's Law," a bill focused on domestic violence that will help so many families and save children. We now have two remaining weeks of our annual legislative session and will continue updating you along the way. Budget conferees have been announced and the conferencing process is expected to begin tomorrow (Monday, April 24). For real-time updates, follow along with my social media accounts.

All the best,

Lori Berman

Join Benn

# SB 130: Greyson's Law

I am ecstatic to announce that last Wednesday, Greyson's Law unanimously passed through the House. After sailing through both Chambers, this bill is now headed for the Governor's desk! I want to thank everyone who has worked so hard toward the passage of this bill, including Greyson's mother, Ali Kessler, Representative Cassel, and the Family Law Section of the Florida Bar. Much work will remain once the Governor signs the bill into law, ensuring successful implementation, but we remain optimistic about the future changes in our family courts. Greyson will remain in all of our hearts and on our minds and forever be remembered by this new law. This was an emotionally tough, bittersweet, yet happy day for all involved.





## **Senator Berman's Legislative Updates**

SB 996: Driver License, Identification Card, and Motor Vehicle Registration Applications

On Thursday this bill passed through its last committee, Fiscal Policy, and is now headed for the Senate floor. The House version sailed through the House floor on the same day.

## **Bills of Concern**

#### SB 7050: Elections

Building on detrimental legislation from the past (namely, SB 90 from 2021 and SB 524 from 2022) this bill makes many changes to our elections protocols, especially surrounding third-party voter registration organizations (3PVROs). Among other provisions, fines for 3PVROs will significantly increase if they break any protocol, likely discouraging them from running registration drives whatsoever.

#### SB 252: Protection from Discrimination Based on Health Care Choices

This bill bans mask and vaccine mandates for COVID19 and future pandemics in educational institutions, businesses, and governmental entities. Over a million people died from COVID19 in the United States WITH mask mandates; we can't even

imagine the loss we would have faced without such mandates. We also know that schools are the largest spreaders of disease in history. Banning mask mandates exposes vulnerable children who are unable to grasp and make medical decisions of their own to disease that their immune systems aren't yet strong enough to fight.

## SB 254: Treatments for Sex Reassignment

This dangerous legislation is yet another attack on the state's LGBTQ community, banning access to evidence-based gender affirming healthcare for transgender Floridians under 18. Additionally, doctors are threatened with jail sentences for providing such care. Sadly, this bill passed through the House on Wednesday and is headed for the Governor's desk.

### SB 266/ HB 999: Higher Education

Gaining an abundance of media traction in the past few months, this bill is a blatant attack on academic freedom in public universities by banning certain material relating to systemic racism and sexism. Regardless of the thousands of students and professors who have been adamantly protesting for the opposition of this bill, it passed through the last committee meeting on Thursday (Fiscal Policy) after a couple of hours of debate. The bill is now headed for the Senate floor. I joined with "Walkout to Learn" on Thursday morning to participate in a press conference against this legislation.

To all of the educators and students: I will continue to do my part and vote/speak out against this bad bill.











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