

## **Friends and Neighbors:**

The 2023 Legislative session has officially adjourned in what is known as "sine die". A long-standing tradition signifying the end of session, the House and Senate Sergeant-At-Arms, together with legislators, dropped the handkerchief in the Capitol Rotunda.

This newsletter will be brief in updates due to the ending of session and our office transitioning back to the district. In the comings weeks, an extensive recap of the legislative session will be sent out to provide our constituents with important takeaways. As I do each year, I will note the "good, bad and ugly" and include a comprehensive budget update detailing our record \$117 billion budget for the 2023-24 Fiscal Year. I am looking forward to being back in the district soon and hope to see you at an event!

All the best,

Lori Berman

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**Bill Updates** 

SB 226: Support for Dependent Adult Children

Working in close conjunction with the Family Law Section of the Florida Bar, SB 226 codifies common law provisions to ensure the parental support of dependent adult children. In doing so, this community will remain protected and safe.

## SB 996/HB 965: Driver License, Identification Card, and Voter Vehicle Registration Applications - "Best Buddies"

Passed on the floor this week as my fourth bill, this legislation will allow Floridians applying for the first time, or renewing their driver's license/ID and/or motor vehicle registration, to "opt in" for a \$1 voluntary contribution to <u>Best Buddies International</u>, an international nonprofit organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).







**Mental Health Awareness Month** 

The month of May is nationally recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month. It serves as a reminder to take care of yourself to maintain your mental and physical health. There is no shame in asking for help when it is needed: it is okay to not be okay. I have included a link to the Florida Health Mental Resources <u>here</u>.

Mental Health has always and will continue to be an important topic to me. During my time in office, I have served on various healthcare committees and mental health always remained a priority. I am proud to say that I was able to secure over \$1.9 million in funding for the Alpert Jewish Family Service Mental Health First Aid program. As a past participant of the program myself, I am happy I was able to offer my support to further their request to continue teaching this excellent class. They offer amazing services that I encourage all of my constituents to utilize to better understand the signs of mental health problems and how to respond.

Learn more about the program and their resources here.

If you, a family member, friend or loved one is experiencing suicidal thoughts, please call 988, the suicide hotline, 24/7. Palm Beach County's 211 continues to be another lifeline.





Enjoying a nice morning at the walk for Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, at the Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park in Boca Raton.

## Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

We would like to recognize AANHPI Heritage month to all those in the community! Palm Beach County has many events to celebrate, you can find more information about them <a href="here">here</a>.

## **Back To School PBC! Event**



To Register for the Event Click  $\underline{\text{Here}}$ 



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