



The LaMarca Letter

Session Kicked-off

There are many important issues moving through the legislature, which I have not had an opportunity to vote on yet, one being HB 647 in regards to emergency life safety systems, or ELSS. I am supportive of giving the residents of ours and other communities the ability to choose how best to keep their homes protected and safe from possible catastrophes, which include natural disasters, fires and events caused by failure of existing mechanical systems. I have always maintained that the safety of our residents comes first, and have committed to working with the professionals tasked with the protection of our people on coming together to find a solution to this important issue.

Broward Days

This past week was Broward Days in the Capitol. Broward Days is a two day event in Tallahassee where Broward residents, non-profit organizations, and locally elected officials come to advocate for important issues and educate legislators from other areas of Florida on all things Broward. Broward Days was capped off with a great evening event that featured Gov. DeSantis' Chief of Staff and Broward resident Shane Strum, Florida Speaker of the House Jose Oliva, and another Broward resident, Nikki Fried, Commissioner of Agriculture & Consumer Services.

Year round, Broward Days is led by Candice Ericks, of Tripp Scott Ericks, and is building a think-tank in different policy areas impacting Broward County and its diverse residents, businesses, and organizations. If you would like more information on this great organization and advocacy group, please visit www.BrowardDays.com.



Community Redevelopment Agencies

I filed the Community Redevelopment Act, which authorizes counties and municipalities to create community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) as a means of redeveloping slums and blighted areas. A county or municipality may create a CRA upon the adoption of a finding of necessity and a finding that a CRA is necessary for carrying out the community redevelopment goals embodied by the Act. The bill requires that money in the redevelopment trust fund may only be used pursuant to an annual budget adopted by the board of commissioners and only for those purposes specified in law.

This bill ensures that CRAs are held accountable for using funds appropriately and has passed favorably in the Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, and also the Ways & Means Committee.

In recent years, there have been several reported instances of questionable CRA spending in Florida, and this bill would reign in that wasteful spending of tax payer dollars. Government must be transparent to taxpayers and accountable for decisions affecting the public.

Local Government Fiscal Transparency

Important local government information should be up-to-date and easily accessible to all Floridians, to ensure transparency and accountability.

HB 15 aims to ensure local governments are responsible, transparent, and accountable with taxpayer dollars, which will help give Floridians confidence in their government. The bill would promote and enhance local government fiscal transparency. This bill requires easy public access to local government governing boards' voting records related to tax increases and issuance of tax-supported debt. Requires easy online access to property tax TRIM notices and a four-year history of property tax rates and amounts at the parcel level. HB 15 requires local governments to conduct and consider a debt affordability analysis prior to approving the issuance of new, long-term tax-supported debt.

This bill would also increase local government fiscal transparency by focusing on helping citizens gain access to important information so they can be more engaged on important government decisions. This bill recently passed favorably in the Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee.

Higher Education Transparency

This bill gives the Chief Financial Officer, Senate president, Speaker of the House, or board members opportunities to investigate allegations of waste, fraud or financial mismanagement by a state university or its board of trustees. The bill increases oversight over state higher education institutions to ensure they are acting in accordance with state law. Public access to records relating to certain university documents would also be

required. This legislation passed favorably in the Higher Education & Career Readiness Subcommittee.

“Pebbles the Penguin”

Thanks to the Florida Aquarium, we were honored to have Pebbles the Penguin stop by the HD93 office in the Capitol to meet with the team!



Best Wishes ,



Representative Chip LaMarca
Florida House District 93
