

2020 Florida Legislative Session

A Comprehensive Guide to Bills Relevant to PTA

Updated 2/8/20 to reflect bills that remain viable

ALL POSITIONS TAKEN BASED ON MEMBER-VOTED POSITION STATEMENTS

BILLS RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET:

SB 2500 Appropriations

SB 2502 Implementing the 2020-2021 General Appropriations Act

HB 5001 General Appropriations Act

HB 5003 Implementing the 2020-2021 General Appropriations Act

HB 5101 Education Funding

Florida PTA has not yet expressed a position on any of these bills as they will be amended considerably during Senate-House negotiations.

We will be watching to see

- How much of an increase in per-pupil funding will be provided
- How much of an increase there will be in the Base Student Allocation (BSA), that portion of per-pupil funding that school districts may use without restriction
- What amount will be set aside for teacher compensation; if that compensation will come in the form of a base salary, a salary increase, a bonus based on standardized test results, or some other combination; if funds will be distributed equitably among districts and between new and veteran teachers; if compensation for non-teaching employees will be addressed
- Whether supplemental teacher compensation allocations will be included within per-pupil funding, thus boosting in appearance the total funding amount
- Whether any voucher program allocations will be included within per-pupil funding, thus boosting in appearance the total funding amount
- Whether discretionary district-imposed taxes will be mandated to be shared with charter schools, and how
- What budgetary pressure will be exerted to persuade school districts to embrace the Guardian Program
- What funds will be allocated for student mental health and for school hardening

OTHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS-RELATED BILLS:

SB 486 Florida Best and Brightest Programs (Senator Bradley): would repeal the program. This bill will next be heard on the Senate floor, having passed all committees of reference.

Florida PTA supports this bill.

HB 641 Funds for the Operation of Schools (Representatives Overdorf and Plasencia): would allow schools additional funding based on awarding of AP Capstone diplomas. This bill will next be heard on the House floor.

SB 836 Funds for the Operation of Schools (Senator Simmons): identical to HB 641. This bill will next be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Florida PTA supports these bills.

SB 1088 Teacher Salary Enhancement (Senator Diaz): would create a targeted allocation for teacher salary enhancement in the General Appropriations Act to meet legislatively-determined salary target; would allow school districts already meeting target to use allocation for other operational expenses. Open-ended proposal. This bill will next be heard in the Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee. No House companion bill.

Florida PTA supports this bill, as presently written.

SB 1400 Education (Senator Diaz): would create a specific allocation supporting a minimum base salary of \$47,500; would create a salary bonus program for high-performing teachers and principals whose schools make specified school grade improvements; would also expand current state voucher programs. This bill will next be heard in the Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee. No exact House companion bill.

Florida PTA is working behind the scenes on this bill to recommend it be amended. It contains language enhancing base teacher salaries, which we support, but also features a salary bonus program for veteran teachers reminiscent of Best and Brightest, as well as the expansion of voucher programs, which we do not support. We fear this may become a “train” bill with multiple good provisions wrapped around a “poison pill”—expansion of vouchers—that conflicts with National PTA and Florida PTA position statements.

BILLS RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY

HB 7079 Education (PreK-12 Innovation Committee): would take steps to eliminate the Geometry EOC exam and phase out the 9th grade ELA exam, while mandating that all students take the SAT or ACT (school district's choice) in 11th grade; would make student performance on the SAT/ACT part of the school grade; would designate as “failing and deficient” schools that receive a D or F, and would speed up the school turnaround process, with greater authority given to the Department of Education to approve and override local school board decisions; would require paper assessments in grades 3-6, and that previous assessments in social studies and science be published online; will be heard next in House Education Committee.

Florida PTA is working behind the scenes to amend this bill, likely to be one of the major bills of the session. We remain neutral on it pending further developments.

BILLS RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

SB 156 Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program (Senator Perry): would provide for the continuation of this pilot program. Bill will next be heard in the Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

HB 1321 Early Childhood Music Education Pilot Program (Representative Aloupis): identical to SB 156. Will next be heard in the House K-12 Appropriations Subcommittee.

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 1013 Early Learning and Early Grade Success (Representative Grall): would seat the authority for directing early learning programs under the Department of Education; would provide for increased accountability of both public and private early learning/pre-kindergarten programs, including through the administration of state standardized testing and an A-F grading of early education providers. This bill will next be heard in the House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee.

SB 1688 Early Learning and Early Grade Success (Senator Harrell): similar to HB 1013. Will next be heard in the Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

PTA spoke for information (neither support nor oppose) on both bills. While we are delighted that the issue of improving early learning is finally getting a hearing, and that the bill proposes apples-to-apples comparisons between private and public providers, we are concerned that the recommended A-F grading system for programs and state standardized evaluations of children will result in a high-stakes atmosphere that has already altered kindergarten classrooms.

HB 1323 Economic Self-Sufficiency (Representative Aloupis): would evaluate the effectiveness of several state-funded programs, including SNAP, housing subsidies, and the School Readiness Program. A program judged to be ineffective might trigger future legislation eliminating or altering it. Will be heard next in the House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee.

SB 1624 Economic Self-Sufficiency (Senator Perry): similar to HB 1323. Will next be heard in the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee.

Florida PTA has not taken a position on this bill, as it is currently beyond our scope. However, as studies of program effectiveness are often used to direct state funding, we are concerned that in the future children may be adversely impacted by legislation based on these studies that may cut allocations to programs that directly benefit children.

BILLS RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

HB 71 Florida Job Growth Grant Fund (Representative Santiago): allowing the Governor to allocate funds to charter schools for workforce education use; will be heard next in House Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee

SB 130 Florida Job Growth Grant Fund (Senator Hutson): allowing the Governor to allocate funds to public and charter schools for workforce education use; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA cautiously supports the Senate version of this bill, as the House version does not provide public schools the same opportunity to apply for funds as charter schools.

SB 418 Workforce Education (Senator Diaz): would allow school district career and technical centers to offer RN degrees if they already provide LPN training; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education.

HB 725 Workforce Education (Representative Robinson): similar to SB 418; will be heard next on the House floor

Florida PTA supports these bills.

SB 1568 Education (Senator Hutson): among other provisions would make enrollees in certain preapprenticeship programs employees of the state for workers compensation purposes; broadens the kinds of entities that may serve as apprenticeship/preapprenticeship sponsors; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; no specific House companion.

Florida PTA cautiously supports this bill, as several provisions need further clarification.

BILLS RELATING TO SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

HB 1231 Students with Disabilities in Public Schools (Representative DuBose): would prohibit seclusion and restraint and provide for monitoring and professional development to implement alternatives; will be heard next in the House Education Committee

SB 1644 Students with Disabilities in Public Schools (Senator Book): identical to HB 1231; will be heard next in Senate Education Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills

HB 1411 Dyslexia (Representative Williams): would mandate K-3 screening of all students, intensive instruction for those with delays in early literacy skills, and the presence at each school of a dyslexia specialist; would create a statewide taskforce on dyslexia; may be dead in this chamber unless included in another bill

SB 1438 Dyslexia (Senator Harrell): similar to HB 1411; will be heard next in Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee

Florida PTA supports these bills

HB 901 Vocational Rehabilitation Services (Representative Ponder): would provide additional support for special needs students transitioning out of school district services; will be heard next on House floor.

SB 1784 Vocational Rehabilitation Services (Senator Gainer): comparable to HB 901; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education.

Florida PTA supports these bills.

BILLS MANDATING SPECIFIC INSTRUCTION

HB 105 Human Trafficking Education in Schools (Representative Williams): would make human trafficking education part of required health course curriculum; this bill is essentially dead

SB 154 Human Trafficking Education in Schools (Senator Thurston): comparable to HB 105; will be heard next on the Senate floor

Florida PTA supports these bills

BILLS THAT WOULD LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD AMONG PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND VOUCHER-ACCEPTING PRIVATE SCHOOLS

SB 1218 Anti-bullying and Anti-harassment in Schools (Senator Diaz): would require voucher-accepting private schools to report bullying and harassment incidents; will be heard next in Senate Rules Committee

Florida PTA supports this bill.

SB 534 Education (Senator Diaz): would prohibit public schools, charter schools, and voucher-accepting private schools from employing someone who appears on the state disqualification list due to unethical or criminal conduct, even if that person resigned from a previous position rather than being terminated; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education.

HB 883 Education (Representative Duggan): comparable to SB 534; will be heard next in House Education Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills

BILLS THAT WOULD EXPAND OR OTHERWISE CHANGE CURRENT VOUCHER PROGRAMS

SB 1164 Gardiner Scholarship (Senator Perry): among other provisions would allow funds to be spent on arts education; would allow younger children to apply; would tighten requirements for closing an account; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; no House companion.

Florida PTA supports this bill.

SB 1400 Education (Senator Diaz): would create a specific allocation supporting a minimum base salary of \$47,500; would create a salary bonus program for high-performing teachers and principals whose schools make specified school grade improvements; would also expand the current Florida Tax Credit Scholarship and Family Empowerment Scholarship programs. This bill will next be heard in the Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee. No exact House companion bill.

Florida PTA is working behind the scenes on this bill to recommend it be amended. It contains language enhancing base teacher salaries, which we support, but also features a salary bonus program for veteran teachers reminiscent of Best and Brightest, as well as the expansion of voucher programs, which we do not support. We fear this may become a “train” bill with multiple good provisions wrapped around a “poison pill”—expansion of vouchers—that conflicts with National PTA and Florida PTA position statements.

SB 1220 Education (Senator Diaz); would expand eligibility for the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship and the Family Empowerment Scholarship; would place curricular control for teacher preparation programs under the Department of Education; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; no House Companion.

Florida PTA opposes this bill as currently written, as it stands in opposition to our position statements and those of National PTA on vouchers.

HB 7067 School Choice (Education Committee): would expand eligibility for the Gardiner, Florida Tax Credit, and Family Empowerment Scholarship programs, would relax audit requirements for the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program; would move the administration and verification of applications from the Department of Education to the scholarship funding organization(s); will be heard next in House Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA opposes this bill as its expansion of voucher programs stands in opposition to our position statement on vouchers, and that of NPTA.

BILLS THAT WOULD AFFECT CHARTER SCHOOLS

SB 536 Charter Schools (Senator Diaz): among other provisions, establishes the High-Performing Charter School Council to oversee high performing charter schools, currently overseen by school districts; would be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; no defined House companion.

Florida PTA opposes this bill as it creates an alternate charter school authorizing entity not under the control of the school district, which is directly opposed to our position that all charter schools should be under the control of the local school district.

HB 953 Charter Schools (Representative McClain): among other provisions, would allow state universities and state colleges to sponsor charter schools throughout the state, and be designated as local educational agencies for federal funding purposes; would set the length of a charter operated by a municipality, a public entity, or a non-profit organization at 15 years; would allow selective recruitment of students in the case of developer-built charter schools; would prevent local government entities from imposing additional prohibitions or restrictions on charter schools than imposed on traditional public schools; would loosen construction requirements for traditional public schools

Florida PTA opposes this bill as it creates an alternate charter school authorizing entity not under the control of the school district, which is directly opposed to our position that all charter schools should be under the control of the local school district.

SB 1578 Education (Senator Hutson): among other provisions would require the Department of Education to collect information related to workforce education and employment; would allow for alternate charter school authorizers, would extend certain charter school contracts; would allow charter schools to offer career and professional academies; would be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education.

Florida PTA opposes this bill as it creates an alternate charter school authorizing entity not under the control of the school district, which is directly opposed to our position that all charter schools should be under the control of the local school district.

BILLS INVOLVING CHILD CUSTODY/WELFARE/PROTECTION

HB 43 Child Welfare (Representative Latvala): provides for coordinated care and case management emphasizing agency cooperation and family reunification support; will be heard next in House Health & Human Services Committee

Florida PTA supports this bill.

SB 122 Child Welfare (Senator Rouson): would grant additional access for certain professionals to DCF records; would prioritize evidence of child brain injury; would permit parents to request a second opinion regarding certain diagnoses; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health & Human Services.

Florida PTA supports this bill.

HB 1105 Child Welfare (Representative Tomkow): regarding best practices in child custody decisions; will be heard next in House Health & Human Services Committee.

Florida PTA supports this bill.

SB 1324 Child Welfare (Senator Simpson): would require that certain standards for instruction of judges in dependency cases be established; would authorize the creation of early childhood court programs; would require DCF to contract with certain university-based centers; would set criteria for a court to retain jurisdiction over a child; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA supports this bill.

HB 7085 Dependency Proceedings and Child Protective Services (Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee): recently-filed comprehensive bill; committees of reference not yet assigned.

Florida PTA has not yet taken a position on this bill (support or oppose), as it has been newly-filed.

SB 1326 Department of Children and Families (Senator Simpson): would create an accountability system for providers; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA remains neutral (neither support nor oppose) on this bill, as it engendered many questions from legislators and is likely to be amended.

HB 7063 Child Welfare (Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee); recently-filed comprehensive bill covering a wide range of topics; will be heard next in House Ways & Means Committee

Florida PTA remains neutral (neither support nor oppose) on this bill, as it has been newly-filed.

SB 88 Child Care Facilities (Senator Stewart): would require child safety alarms in vehicles used by child care facilities; will be heard next on Senate floor

Florida PTA supports this bill

SB 7000 Reporting Abuse, Abandonment, and Neglect (Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee): would tighten requirements for reporting known or suspected child abuse, abandonment, or neglect and expand penalties for failure to report; would expand instances when child protective investigations are required; would mandate the license suspension of certain educational professionals; will be heard next in Senate Rules Committee

Florida PTA is considering the implications of this bill and has therefore remained silent (neither support nor oppose) on this bill.

SB 7028 Public Safety (Infrastructure and Security Committee): would require certain professionals to disclose certain confidential information regarding a potential public threat to law enforcement agencies; would provide for the reporting for background check purposes of a private firearms sale; will be heard next in Senate Judiciary Committee

Florida PTA cautiously supports this bill, while watching for potential future amendments that may stand in opposition to our position statements.

SB 7040 Implementation of the Recommendations of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission (Infrastructure and Security Committee): far-reaching bill that would mandate that sheriffs provide Guardian training, centralize authority for school safety measures compliance under the Commissioner of Education, coordinate mental health treatment recommendations, expand the membership of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, pave the way for reduction in the number of active shooter drills; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA supports this bill, while attempting to have it amended to include Baker Act provisions.

SB 7065 School Safety (Representative Massullo): far-reaching bill that tweaks current statute to include some of the recommendations of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission; will be heard next in the House Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA cautiously supports this bill, and has recommended that it be amended to include Baker Act provisions.

BILLS INVOLVING STUDENT HEALTH/SAFETY

SB 120 Naloxone in Schools (Senator Pizzo): would establish authority and procedures for the administration of naloxone in public schools. Would be heard next in the Senate Rules Committee.

HB 331 Naloxone in Schools (Representative Geller): identical to SB 120. This companion bill is essentially dead for the session.

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 81 Medicaid School-based Services (Representative Andrade): would expand school-based Medicaid services to additional students. Bill will be heard next on the House floor.

SB 190 Medicaid School-based Services (Senator Montford): similar to HB 81. Will be heard next in the Senate Health Policy Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills.

SB 348 Florida Kidcare Program (Senator Bean): would remove the lifetime maximum cap for children enrolled in the program. Will be heard next on the Senate floor.

HB 6031 Florida Kidcare Program (Representative Pigman): identical to SB 348. Will next be heard in the House Health & Human Services Committee.

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 577 Coordinated Specialty Care Programs (Representative Stevenson): would provide for coordinated criminal justice, substance abuse and mental health care so that patients, including children and youth, as well as their caregivers, could benefit from a systematic approach to their problems. Will be heard next in Health & Human Services Committee

SB 920 First-episode Psychosis Programs (Senator Rouson): similar to HB 577. Will be heard next in the Senate Children, Families & Elder Affairs Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills.

SB 810 Tobacco and Nicotine Products (Senator Simmons): would raise the age of tobacco consumption to 21 to comply with federal law, and would ban the consumption of tobacco products on or near school grounds. Will be considered next in the Senate Appropriations Committee. No defined House companion bill.

Florida PTA, in accordance with National PTA positions on electronic cigarettes and electronic nicotine delivery systems, as well as on the sale of tobacco products to minors, strongly condemns the marketing or sale of such products to youth (under age 18). Our position statements currently do not extend to age 21, as these bills specify. We, reluctantly, have therefore remained silent (neither support nor oppose) on these bills, while agreeing entirely with their intent. In the future, the NPTA may amend its position statements to reflect current health concerns about tobacco use and vaping by those ages 18-21.

SB 1394 Fees/Tobacco Products (Senator Simmons): would designate vaping products as tobacco products and require dealers to register as tobacco dealers. Will be considered next in the Senate Finance and Tax Committee. No defined House companion bill.

Florida PTA supports this bill.

SB 870 Mental Health and Substance Abuse (Senator Book): will be heard next in Senate Judiciary Committee

Florida PTA supports this bill. Mental health is one of Florida PTA's top priorities this legislative session.

HB 1071 Substance Abuse and Mental Health (Representative Grant): will be heard next in House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

Florida PTA supports this bill. Mental health is one of Florida PTA's top priorities this legislative session.

HB 1081 Substance Abuse and Mental Health (Representative Stevenson): will be heard next in House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

Florida PTA supports this bill. Mental health is one of Florida PTA's top priorities this legislative session.

SB 1678 Substance Abuse and Mental Health (Senator Montford): will be heard next in Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee

Florida PTA supports this bill. Mental health is one of Florida PTA's top priorities this legislative session.

HB 945 Children's Mental Health (Representative Silvers): will be heard next in House Health & Human Services Committee

SB 1440 Children's Mental Health (Senator Rouson): identical to HB 945; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services

Florida PTA supports these bills. Mental health is one of Florida PTA's top priorities this legislative session.

SB 7012 Mental Health (Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee): this bill has not moved since November and may be supplanted by other proposed bills.

Florida PTA supports this bill. Mental health is one of Florida PTA's top priorities this legislative session.

HB 1059 Parental Rights (Representative Grall): would memorialize parental authority over decisions relating to a minor child's education, upbringing, and health care, and set penalties for providers and entities acting in opposition to parental wishes. Will be heard next in House Judiciary Committee

SB 1634 Parental Rights (Senator Stargel): identical to HB 1059; will be heard next in Senate Education Committee.

Florida PTA has remained silent on these bills (neither support nor oppose). While we remain strong advocates for family and parental involvement in all aspects of a child's life, these bill have the potential to provide cover for positions we oppose: failure to vaccinate children, use of sexual orientation reparative therapies.

SB 1696 Student Athletes (Senator Perry): would provide supplementary requirements for protecting students' health during school-related athletic activities. Will be heard next in Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee

HB 7011 K-12 Student Athletes (House PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee): similar to SB 1696. Passed the House; ready for consideration by the Senate.

Florida PTA supports these bills.

SB 158 Child Restraint Requirements (Senator Perry): would increase the age for required child restraint use; will be heard next in Senate Rules Committee

HB 553 Child Restraint Requirements (Representative Beltran): identical to SB 158; will be heard next in House Children, Families, & Seniors Subcommittee

Florida PTA supports these bills

HB 413 Child Welfare (Representative Byrd): would classify failure to use a child restraint device or to allow a child to remain unattended in a vehicle resulting in injuries as part of the class constituting harm to a child's health or welfare requiring state intervention; will be heard next in House Health & Human Services Committee

SB 232 Child Welfare (Senator Book): similar to HB 413; will be heard next in Senate Judiciary Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills

HB 201 Gun Violence Reduction (Representative Jones): would create an Urban Core Gun Violence Reduction Task Force; will be heard next in House Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

SB 652 Urban Core Gun Violence Task Force (Senator Pizzo): comparable to HB 201; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice

Florida PTA supports these bills

HB 23 Panic Alarms in Public Schools (Representative Daley); would require a panic alarm system in each school; will be heard next in House Education Committee

SB 70 Panic Alarms in Public Schools (Senator Book); similar to HB 23; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 37 School Bus Safety (Representative Zika)' would increase penalties for failure to stop for a stopped school bus; will be heard next on the House floor.

SB 290 School Bus Safety (Senator Hooper): identical to HB 37; will be heard next in Senate Rules Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills

SB 864 Surrendered Newborn Infants (Senator Baxley): would authorize those facilities officially designated to accept surrendered newborn infants to use newborn-accepting safety devices and require them to be checked; will be heard next in Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee

HB 1217 Surrendered Newborn Infants (Representative Beltran): similar to SB 864; will be heard next in House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

Florida PTA supports these bills

HB 1437 Safety of Religious Institutions (Representative Williamson): would allow concealed carry permit holders to bear arms on the grounds of religious institutions, even though a school is present on these grounds; will be heard next in House Judiciary Committee; no Senate companion bill.

Florida PTA opposes this bill as it would permit someone who is not a sworn law enforcement officer to carry a weapon on school grounds.

BILLS RELATING TO THE BAKER ACT

HB 1083 Student Mental Health Procedures (Representative Webb): would require certain procedures to be followed and notifications made before a student is removed from school; will be heard next in House Health & Human Services Committee

SB 1062 Involuntary Examinations of Minors (Senator Harrell): would change requirements for parental notification, create school reporting requirements; facilitate referral to mental and behavioral health providers; will be heard next in Senate Education Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills

BILLS THAT WOULD LIMIT THE POWERS OF SCHOOL BOARDS/SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

SB 62 K-12 Education (Senator Stargel): among other provisions, would require (rather than simply allow) school districts to share discretionary sales taxes with charter schools on a proportionate per-pupil basis. Will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA opposes this bill, as it stands in opposition to our position statement on charter schools that they should not deplete funds intended for district public schools.

HB 157 Limitation on Terms of Office for Members of a District School Board (Representative Sabatini)

SB 1480 Limitation on Terms of Office for Members of a District School Board (Senator Book)

SB 1216 Limitation on Terms of Office for Members of a District School Board (Senator Gruters): would mandate term limits of 8 or 12 years for school board members

Florida PTA has no position statement regarding school board term limits, and has therefore remained silent (neither support nor oppose) on these bills

BILLS RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

HB 421 Detention of Children (Representative Alexander): would prohibit confinement of a juvenile in an adult facility; will be heard next in House Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

SB 618 Detention of Children (Senator Powell): similar to HB 421; will be heard next in Senate Judiciary Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 615 Juvenile Diversion Program Expunction (Representative Sabatini): would allow for diversion program enrollment by youth facing felon charges; will be heard next on the House floor.

SB 700 Juvenile Diversion Program Expunction (Senator Perry): similar to HB 615; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 1173 Pub Rec./Nonjudicial Arrest Record of a Minor (Representative C. Watson): would exempt record of juvenile participation in a diversion program from public review; will be heard next in House Judiciary Committee

SB 1292 Pub Rec./Nonjudicial Arrest Record of a Minor: (Senator Perry): identical to HB 1173; will be considered next in Senate Rules Committee

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 1225 Restitution for Juvenile Offenses (Representative Zika): would obligate parents to provide restitution for juvenile offenses; will be heard next in House Judiciary Committee

SB 1880 Restitution for Juvenile Offenses (Senator Perry): comparable to HB 1225; will be heard next in Senate Criminal Justice Committee

Florida PTA remains neutral (neither support nor oppose) for now on these bills.

BILLS RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

HB 55 Sunshine Scholarship Program (Representative Jones): would provide tuition and fees for full-time students at designated Florida postsecondary institutions if, following graduation, they work in the state for a period equivalent to the number of years of their scholarship. Will be considered next in the House Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

SB 132 Sunshine Scholarship Program (Senator Braynon): similar to HB 55. Will be heard next in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

Florida PTA supports these bills.

HB 187 Postsecondary Education for Secondary Students (Representative Valdes): would allow greater access to dual enrollment programs; change requirements for early college acceleration programs, and provide additional funding for certain students enrolled in these programs. Will be heard next in House Education Committee.

Florida PTA remains neutral (neither support nor oppose) on this bill, since it would increase costs incurred by public colleges while granting students greater access to dual enrollment.

HB 383 Historically Black Colleges and Universities Matching Endowment Scholarship Program

(Representative Hogan Johnson): would create supplementary funding to allow greater student access to higher education; will be heard next in House Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

SB 876 Historically Black Colleges and Universities Matching Endowment Scholarship Program

(Senator Gibson): identical to HB 383; will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education.

Florida PTA supports these bills.