



# THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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Florida's Old and New Capitols

*This past week saw the opening of the 112<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Florida House of Representatives. Our state is facing a broad-ranging and increasingly difficult set of economic challenges, but one goal is at the top of my legislative agenda this Session - finding a way to revitalize Florida's economy and help put Floridians back to work.*

*I will be sending out this newsletter weekly throughout session to give you an update on legislations and issues that I feel are important to our district.*

*-Rep. Debbie Mayfield*

## HELP FOR FLORIDA'S BUSINESSES

On March 2, 2010, in our first act of the 2010 Legislative Session, I voted in the House Chamber to support House Bill 7033. This legislation will help keep Floridians working and bring a degree of economic certainty to help create new jobs and foster economic growth in Florida. HB 7033 passed the House with a unanimous vote of 117 to 0.

This is a commonsense measure which will help to hold down dramatic increases in unemployment tax rates for employers for the next two years. Prior to the passage of this legislation, many employers were expected to see rate increases of over 1000%.

This legislation was passed by the Senate and the measure was signed into law by Governor Charlie Crist later that day.

## WELL DONE AT INDIAN RIVER COUNTY CHAMBER



Congratulations to the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Council for their efforts in bringing new business to Indian River County and the State of Florida.

On March 2, 2010, the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development (OTTED) approved a Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program application for a new innovative business which will locate its Corporate Headquarters in Indian River County.

Thanks to the local efforts of Helene Caseltine, County Commission Chairman Peter O'Bryan and others, who continue to advance an economic climate here in Indian River County in which businesses can be competitive and productive. This group successfully promoted the advantages of locating and operating in Indian River County.

We are fortunate to have such a qualified group dedicated to making Indian River County such a wonderful place to live and work.

Should you have any state constituent issues, please do not hesitate to contact Sandi Harpring in my Vero Beach office at (772) 778-5077.



Jordan Lulich from Sebastian is currently in Tallahassee serving as a messenger for the Florida House of Representatives. Jordan and a friend recently visited my Tallahassee office.

### Technology Corner:

#### Twitter

I will be posting updates on my Twitter account and you can stay up to date by following me at [www.twitter.com/debbie\\_mayfield](http://www.twitter.com/debbie_mayfield)

#### WQCS Interview

I was honored to be recently asked to outline my 2010 Legislative Priorities.

[Click here to listen.](#)

#### Session Live:

You can follow daily events in the House of Representatives at [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov).



## HIGH PERFORMANCE GOVERNMENT

Speaker Larry Cretul stated in his opening day remarks that "Floridians do not want a government that tries to do all things for all people. They want a government that focuses on the important things, and does them well.

They want a focused, high performance government." To ensure that this initiative is carried out during this legislative session, the Speaker has outlined an agenda. Each week I will be discussing portions of this agenda with each of you.

**State Budget Made Responsible:** We must ensure that there is transparency of the budget process by publically disclosing allocations, providing plain-language explanatory comments on budget spreadsheets, publishing a separate spreadsheet highlighting all new budget proviso, and requiring a public process for budget proviso during the conference process.

To that end the Florida Legislature created Transparency Florida to provide the public with unprecedented access to state government spending. To find out more click the Transparency Florida logo at the top or follow the following link: [www.transparencyflorida.com](http://www.transparencyflorida.com).



## VISITING THE DISTRICT 80 TALLAHASSEE OFFICE



I routinely receive visitors from back home. This week representatives from the Early Learning Coalition (left) and the Arc of St. Lucie County (right) made the trip to Tallahassee. Thank you to (left to right) Filiberto Valero, Jacki Jackson, Jacque Crighton and Tony Loupe from ELC and Gene Lofton and Patty Bruzzese from the Arc for visiting my Tallahassee office.

## CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

**House Bill 417**, of which I am a cosponsor, seeks to amend s. 447.203, which defines who is a "legislative body" in collective bargaining for the purpose of resolving impasses. Section 447.403 only relates to the resolution of impasses between a collective bargaining unit and a public employer.

More importantly, this bill preserves the independence of locally elected constitutional officers (Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Supervisor of Election and Tax Collector) and allows them to retain the management authority they need to carry out their responsibilities while remaining accountable to the electorate.

This legislation is currently in the Governmental Affairs Committee. I look forward to debating this issue and will continue my steadfast support.