



Debbie Mayfield, District 80
Florida House of Representatives

THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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Florida's Old and New Capitols

As we enter the final week of Session, the focus of the House has now shifted to the Floor. If a bill has not been reported out of its final committee of reference this week, then neither that bill nor its Senate companion will be heard on the Floor this Session. I am very pleased that legislation I filed this year has been received well.

HB 555 has passed the House and Senate and is on its way to the Governor and HB 641 was passed by the House and is in conference committee. HB 1111, HB 19, and HB 185 all passed the Florida House today and now go to the Senate. [For more information on those bills, please click the "Sponsored Bills" logo on page 2.]

Special Order for Week 8 was focused on House bills that needed to be sent to the Senate. Special Order for the beginning of the final week of Session will focus on bills for which we have, or anticipate receiving, the Senate companion in messages.

FREE CONDOMINIUM EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA

The Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares and Mobile Homes will present information on **Condominium Financial Reporting and The Complaint Process** relating to condominium associations. The seminar will include question and answer sessions and educational materials. **The seminar is free and open to the public.** The date, time and location is listed below. Reservations are not necessary. If you need directions, please call the number listed for the location.



Sebastian/Vero Beach
North Indian River County Library
1001 Sebastian Boulevard
Sebastian, Florida 32958
Tuesday, May 10, 2011, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
772-589-1355

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Flynn at 850-488-1125 or email at patrick.flynn@dbpr.state.fl.us

Sponsored Bills

Email Representative



The Indian River County Chamber will host their Post Session Luncheon

June 3, 2011 at 12pm
The Courthouse
Executive Center

RSVP: 772-567-3491
Ext 116



Technology Corner:
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DIGITAL LEARNING PASSES THE FLORIDA HOUSE

HB 7197, Digital Learning, passed the House this week with my support. The bill creates the Digital Learning Now Act, which expands school choice by increasing digital learning options for all students.



Specifically, the bill requires school districts to increase virtual instruction options, requires high school students to complete a digital learning course, authorizes the establishment of virtual charter schools and clarifies funding for all virtual instructions options. The bill must now be passed by the Senate before being sent to the Governor for approval.

GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY FOR WELFARE SYSTEM

Last week the Florida House of Representatives passed CS/CS/CS/CS/HB 353 Drug Testing of Potential and Existing Beneficiaries of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families by Representative Jimmie Smith. The bill requires all applicants and current recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families to test negative for controlled substances before beginning or continuing to receive benefits.

This important legislation answers constituents' demands to provide accountability and transparency to the taxpayers of Florida. By promoting personal responsibility and providing a protective payee for children, this legislation will protect disadvantaged children while ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent appropriately. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families should be used as a hand up, not a handout. I am proud to offer legislation that ensures government assistance will be used for its intended purpose.

HB 353 provides protection for children by allowing the use of a designated protective payee in the case a parent was to test positive for a controlled substance. In addition, the bill allows those who complete substance abuse treatment to reapply for the benefits after six months while others will be ineligible for one year after their first positive drug test and three years following the second positive drug test.

CS/CS/CS/CS/HB 353 must now pass the Senate where the companion bill, SB 556, has passed through all of its committees. Following final passage in the Senate, the bill will then go to the Governor to be signed into law.

SESSION WEEK NINE MAY 2-6, 2011

The 2011 Budget Conference continues during Week Nine of the 2011 Regular Session. To view 2011 Budget Conference Offers, Budget Conference Appointments, House & Senate Filed Appropriations Bills, and OPI Budget Resources, please visit:

[2011 Appropriations Documents](#)

[House Appropriations Committee](#)