



THE PERRY POST

Senator Keith Perry
FL District 9

October, 2023



District 9

Friends,

As we approach my final legislative session, I want to thank you for your unwavering support over the years. It has been an honor and a privilege serving as your State Senator, and I look forward to finishing strong bringing more meaningful, positive change to those in District 9 and all of Florida. If you need assistance or have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out my office.

Sincerely,

W. Keith Perry

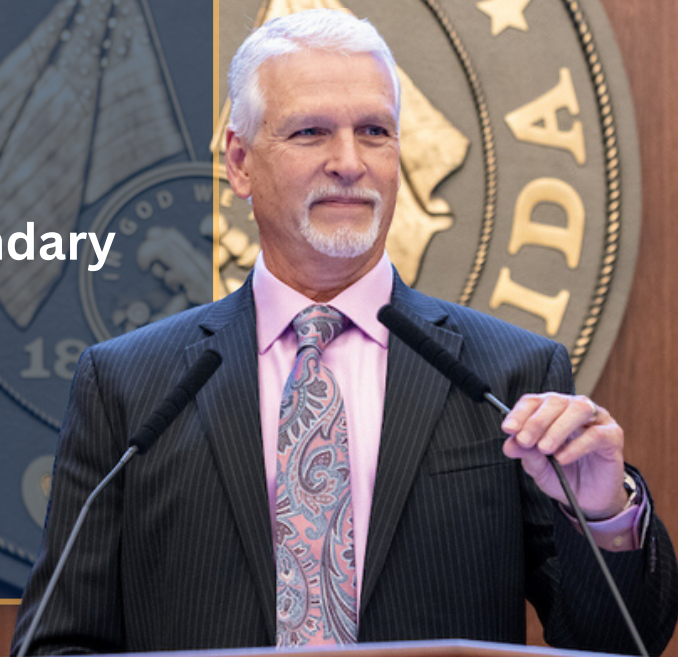


SENATOR PERRY'S 2024 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS



Committee Assignments

- Appropriations Committee on Education, Chair
- Rules, Vice Chair
- Appropriations
- Criminal Justice
- Education Postsecondary
- Education Pre-K -12
- Joint Legislative Budget Commission



Gainesville Office: M-F
9AM-5PM
Gigi Hernandez: (352) 264.4040

Ocala Office M-F
9AM-5PM
Suzy McGuire, Damon Vitale: (352) 732.1249

Tallahassee Office M-F
9AM-5PM
Anthony Serge: (850) 487.5009



DISTRICT NEWS



It is an honor to be recognized by UF/IFAS with the Legislative leadership award. Members of local 4H clubs were in attendance, and we look forward to the hundreds of students that come to Tallahassee during session advocating for legislation that is important in the industry. 4H clubs focus on development of their members in building decision making, communication, citizenship, and leadership skills, and I am proud to support their cause.

To learn more, visit: <https://ifas.ufl.edu/>



We had great delegation meetings recently for Marion and Levy Counties. I would like to thank all of the local elected officials and residents who came to give valuable input and familiarize us with the most pressing issues in the heart of my district. The updates on Hurricane recovery efforts were important, as we know the devastation felt in Levy from Hurricane Idalia was significant.

I look forward to providing support to affected areas and prioritizing the effort to return them to their previous beauty.

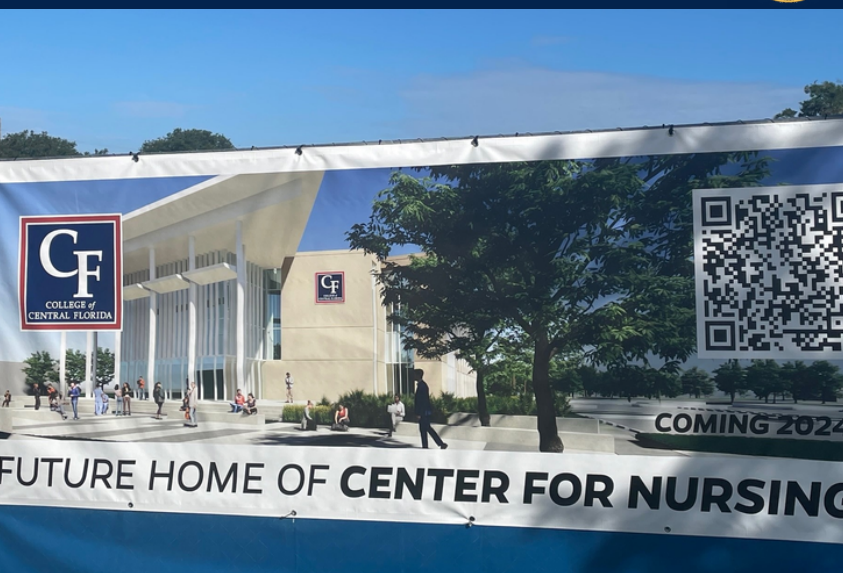


Senator Perry Joins Santa Fe for a Groundbreaking



The Ralph W. Celson Jr. Institute for Skilled Trades and Advanced Manufacturing groundbreaking at Santa Fe College marks an important milestone in bringing technical training to our communities. This new facility will grow our workforce in key sectors providing over 22,800 sq. feet to train students in welding, HVAC and advanced manufacturing.

The project received \$5,864,124.00 from the Legislature and during the 2023 Florida Legislative session, my colleagues in the Senate and House of Representatives supported CTE programs by adding an additional \$150 million dollars in funding to State Colleges.



It was an honor to attend the groundbreaking at College of Central Florida for the new Nursing Center. The new 42,500 sq feet facility will add six classrooms, three skills labs, six simulation exam rooms and a testing lab.

With our nursing shortage expected to reach 59,000 registered nurses by the year 2035, this new facility will help fill the gap with over 324 new nursing students given the opportunity pursue Associate or Bachelor's degrees.

The project was funded with support \$20 million from the Florida Legislature as well as local support from the Marion County Hospital District and the Marion County Board of County Commissioners.





Toll Relief Program Provides more than \$300 Million in Customer Savings

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Department of Transportation announced that Floridians have saved more than \$300 million through the toll relief program since January 2023. The toll relief program was introduced by Governor DeSantis and enacted by the Florida Legislature. In the month of July, 1.1 million customers saved more than \$38 million, and in August, 1.2 million customers saved \$39.6 million. The year-long program automatically gives frequent users with at least 35 monthly toll transactions a 50 percent toll credit to their account.



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“As Florida families face the rising tide of Bidenflation, we are helping them save up to \$100 a month on tolls,” said Governor Ron DeSantis. “Coupled with the record tax relief we enacted, this toll relief helps Florida families cope with the harmful effects of federal government policies.”

TOLL RELIEF

TOLL RELIEF PROGRAM PROVIDES MORE THAN **\$300M** IN CUSTOMER SAVINGS

CUSTOMER CREDITS TOTAL OVER **\$77 MILLION** IN TOLL RELIEF FOR JULY AND AUGUST

1.1 MILLION
CUSTOMERS
SAVED MORE THAN
\$38 MILLION

JULY

1.2 MILLION
CUSTOMERS
SAVED MORE THAN
\$39.6 MILLION

AUGUST

THE PROGRAM RUNS THROUGH DECEMBER 31 AND IS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE

1.2 MILLION

DRIVERS WITH SAVINGS OF NEARLY **\$480** OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR



FLORIDA RANKS NUMBER ONE FOR EDUCATION FREEDOM

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Governor Ron DeSantis announced that Florida has been ranked number one for education freedom by the ALEC Index of State Education Freedom: A 50-State Guide to Parental Empowerment. The index evaluates each state on school choice and family empowerment policies, which allow students a choice of educational options that best meet their needs.

After a legislative session where Florida lawmakers passed universal school choice, the state was recognized as the nation's best in a recent report for its policies on education. The nonprofit American Legislative Exchange Council, which previously published the Report Card on American Education over the past 25 years, has a new publication, The Index of State Education Freedom: A 50-State Guide to Parental Empowerment. In the overall rankings, Florida was first with an A grade, followed by Arkansas and Indiana. Arizona was 4th with a B grade, followed by Iowa, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Idaho and Utah. West Virginia was ranked 10th.



“This new ranking further proves that Florida is the national leader in education,” said Governor Ron DeSantis. “By focusing on academic achievement, expanding school choice, and empowering parents, Florida continues to see unprecedented success in our classrooms.”

“Florida’s commitment to education shines through ALEC’s ranking, which has Florida leading the country in education freedom,” said Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr. “Florida’s dedication to universal school choice and protection of parental rights is the reason why Florida stands ahead of the rest.”



Florida Rankings by Category

- #1 overall
- #1 in funding and financing programs
- #1 in open enrollment

The full 2023 ALEC Index of State Education Freedom is available here.

In addition to today’s recognition, Florida ranked number one in the nation for education by U.S. News & World Report and number one on the Heritage Foundation Education Freedom report card. Florida is also ranked number one in the Parent Power Index.

