BROWARD LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

# NEWSLETTER

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Broward Legislative Delegation Office provides a communication resource between the Federal, State, local governments and Broward County citizens to facilitate the legislative process. Our responsibilities include maintaining an efficient means for the local bill process and monitoring bills approved by the Delegation Members through the Legislature. The Legislative Delegation has a responsibility to monitor the appropriations process, securing State Revenues and other allocated funds for programs, organizations and government agencies in Broward County.

Week 1: Mar. 5 - 8

# The 2019 Legislative Session has officially started.



On Tuesday, March 5, 2019, the 2019 Legislative Session began and the 60 day clock to pass a balanced budget began. This Session begin with a new Governor, Ron Desantis, a new Senate President, Bill Galvano (Left), and a new House Speaker, Jose Oliva (right).



### GOVERNOR DESANTIS ADDRESSES THE LEGISLATURE.



TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis gave an anti-tax, pro-environment State of the State address Tuesday, asking lawmakers to be bold as they tackle issues like education, school safety and health care.

It was as much a recap of his whirlwind first two months in office as it was a blueprint for his goals as lawmakers begin their annual 60-day session.

Governor DeSantis told lawmakers gathered in the House chamber, "Be bold. Be bold in championing economic opportunity, be bold in protecting Florida's environment, be bold in improving education, be bold in defending the safety of our communities. Be bold, because while perfection is not attainable, if we aim high, we can achieve excellence."

DeSantis said he wants to keep building Florida's economy by keeping taxes low and reducing the regulatory burden on businesses and professional licenses.

Courtesy of <u>www.apnews.com</u>.

Photos Credit: The Florida Channel

# Medical Marijuana passes in the Senate.

#### TALLAHASSEE, Fla. —

Florida's ban on smokable medical marijuana could soon be coming to an end.

The Senate voted 34-4 Thursday for a bill that would allow patients to use smokable forms of the plant. The vote was one of the first actions the Senate took during the 60-day session that began Tuesday.

Voters approved medical marijuana in 2016, but lawmakers banned smokable forms of the plant in a bill signed by then-Gov. Rick Scott in 2017. The state was sued over the issue, and a judge declared the ban unconstitutional. Scott, now a Republican U.S. senator, appealed the ruling. Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis said in January that the current law doesn't represent the will of the voters. He said he'd drop the appeal if lawmakers didn't repeal it. The House will vote on its version of the bill next week.

Courtesy of www.wesh.com



**Senator Gary Farmer** Photo Credit: Senator Farmer

## Session Opening Day Photos





STAY CONNECTED

Old Capitol

Tallahassee

Welcome Dinner \*

101 South Adams Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

DoubleTree by Hilton - Downtown



10:00am

12:00pm

1:00pm

6:00pm

5:00pm





**Opioid Panel Discussion** 

Additional Appointments

Wrap Up Reception/ Trolley Tour

Legislative Series

Legislators

Lunch 216 The Capitol

(\*) Speakers and agendas being confirmed



Note: All Committee Meetings and Floor Sessions are available for live viewing and on demand at www.flsentate.gov or www.myfloridahouse.gov

Broward Legislative Delegation Office - Executive Director: Andrea C. Knowles

Broward Governmental Center, 115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 429, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

4:30pm - 6:00pm

6:30pm - 9:00pm

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