
CAPITOL CONNECTION

News and Views from
**Representative Trudi
Williams**



Florida, District 75
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TAXATION AND BUDGET REFORM COMMISSION PASSES PROPERTY TAX REFORM PLAN FOR NOVEMBER BALLOT

On Monday, the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission passed a property tax relief and reform measure for the voters' approval on the November ballot. The measure would eliminate the required local effort (the millage rate levied by school districts that is required by the state to participate in Florida's school funding program. The Legislature requires local governments to levy this tax to pay for education) and replace it with a potential one-cent sales tax. This measure is a modified version of the "swap plan" put forward by Speaker Rubio and the House Republicans last year. If this measure is approved, it could save Floridians over \$9 billion dollars.

CALL TO ACTION! HB 577

HB 577, the illegal immigration bill that I am sponsoring has not been heard in committee. My constituents have told me that more needs to be done to crack down on illegal immigration-and this bill does just that. HB 577 will issue a one way ticket to send non-violent illegal immigrants in our Florida jails back home. With approximately 3,500 to 5,000 illegal immigrants in our jails at a cost of \$20,000 per prisoner, this bill could save the Florida taxpayers over 70 million dollars. I urge you to contact [Representative Frank Attkisson](#), chair of the Government Efficiency & Accountability Council and let him know that you would like HB 577 to be placed on the agenda. Let your voice be heard and the will of the people be done!

TRUDI'S THOUGHTS

I would like to take this opportunity to remember two great men that have done so much for our community. Last week, Mike Rippe with the Florida Department of Transportation passed away. Mike was deeply committed to transportation improvements in Southwest Florida and I considered him to be not only a colleague, but a friend. He was a visionary in the field of transportation and Southwest Florida is better because of his service. This week John Fischer, the regional director of the Department of Financial Services-Consumer Services Division also passed away. John did an incredible job to bridge the gap between DFS and the local legislative offices. Anytime our office had a question or concern, John was there to assist us. These men and their dedication to the citizens of SWFL is what inspires me to continue the work that I do here in Tallahassee. I ask that you please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"This country was founded and built by people with great dreams and the courage to take great risks."- Ronald Reagan

Please send correspondence to Trudi.Williams@myfloridahouse.gov. All comments are reviewed by Representative Williams. To receive a response, please include your name, address and telephone number. To unsubscribe from this e-mail, send a blank e-mail to Trudi.Williams@myfloridahouse.gov with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.