
CAPITOL CONNECTION

News and Views from
**Representative Trudi
Williams**



Florida, District 75
April 2006, Issue 10

TRUDI'S BILL TRACKER

HB 245 – Florida Retirement System – This bill redefines the term “compensation” to include certain supplements to firefighters, paramedics and emergency medical technicians. This bill was heard in the Governmental Operations Committee on Wednesday, April 5, 2006 and it passed out unanimously.

HB 1343-Environmental Protection – This accelerates Florida Forever funding allowing the state to compete with rising land values to purchase environmental lands. It also requires the Department of Protection to develop a mechanism to allow the department of Environmental Protection to issue permits based on US Army Corp. of Engineers standards. This bill passed out of the Environmental Regulation Committee this week and has two more committee stops before becoming law.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

\$3.8 million- Florida Gulf Coast University – Construction of Library
\$500,000 – Matlacha Pass Hydrologic Restoration
\$300,000 – Spanish Creek Hydrologic Restoration
\$168,300 – Regional Perinatal Intensive Care Center
\$150,000 – Lake Okeechobee Advisory Council
\$50,000 – Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Center
\$50,000 – Our Mother’s Home

TRUDI'S THOUGHTS

Over the course of the last month, I have had the privilege of working on a number of policy issues that impact our community. I would like to thank everyone who has taken time to contact me through e-mail, phone calls, letters and even visits to our office here in Tallahassee. My job as a legislator depends on feedback from you! Your input and feedback are vital. I am extremely hopeful that the 2006 Legislative Session is shaping up to be one of the most beneficial for Southwest Florida.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
-Ralph Waldo Emerson