

# GUIDE TO BILLS, WITH TALKING POINTS

(Bills preceded by \* are still under consideration)

Color code: red = oppose; green = support; blue = watching

## Education and Equity Bills

[CS/CS/CS/CS/HB 1](#) (Education)—passed Legislature; next action will be by Governor.

\*[HJR 31/SJR 94](#) (Partisan Elections for Members of District School Boards)—the primary focus of school board members/candidates should be the best interests of students, not adherence to political ideologies.

\*[HB 459/SB 1654](#) (Education)—ask to eliminate section allowing computer science credits to be substituted for foreign language credits; we support computer science instruction, but not at the expense of replacing foreign language courses.

\*[CS/CS/HB 633/SB 1236](#) (K-12 Education)—this bill eliminates school district financial penalties for exceeding class sizes. Insist that since class size limitations were put in the Constitution through citizen initiative, that removing financial penalty for non-compliant districts must be replaced by alternate enforcement mechanism (carrot versus stick?).

\*[CS/CS/HB 7039/SB 1424](#) (Student Outcomes)—this would alter reading instructional methodology and emphasize identifying math deficiencies in the primary grades. Stress pleasure in seeing math deficiencies identified early while emphasizing that this should not lead to increase in high stakes testing; stress importance with respect to reading to target approach to student need.

\*[CS/HB 1537/SB 1430](#) (Education)—Most of this bill is beyond the PTA scope, but it does include one section that would count 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ELA results twice in school grade calculations. This is inadvisable, given that we have just gone to a progress monitoring system for which the State Board of Education has not yet established cut scores, and given that we do not wish to make the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ELA exam more of a high stakes test than it already is.

\*[CS/HB 733/SB 1112](#) (Middle School and High School Start Times)—aligns with PTA position statement on Healthy Sleep for Adolescents.

\*[HB 891/SB 1564](#) (Year-round School Pilot Program)—a pilot program to provide flexibility in learning to accommodate student needs; needs to be calendared in the Senate, so bring it to the attention of Senators.

\*[HB 551/SB 804](#) (Required African-American Instruction)—reinforces current statutory requirements by holding districts accountable that instruction has been provided.

\*[HB 287/SB 294](#) (Required Instruction in the History of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders)—allows students of API descent to access curriculum that includes their families, and exposes non-API students to richness of Florida's history.

\*[HB 863/SB 832](#) ([Holocaust Remembrance Day](#))—in alignment with current statutes that emphasize importance of teaching the Holocaust; aligns with PTA values of inclusiveness.

\*[HB 141/SB 196](#) ([Guidance Services on Academic and Career Planning](#))—enhances student and parent knowledge of acceleration and CTE options, allowing students to reach their full potential.

\*[CS/HB 455/SB 1468](#) ([Career-themed Courses](#))—enhances student and parent awareness of CTE offerings from middle school on, thereby providing additional options for students to reach their full potential.

\*[CS/HB 703/CS/SB 478](#) ([Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Program](#))—introduction to the arts at a young age enhances student learning capacity and personal growth.

## ESE

\*[CS/CS/HB 19/CS/SB 636](#) ([Individual Education Plans](#))—it is appropriate for parents and developmentally challenged students to be aware of legal changes that kick in at age 18.

\*[CS/HB 223/CS/SB 290](#) ([Public School Student Progression for Students with Disabilities](#))—it is appropriate for students who have already been held back through parental choice at the PreK level due to reading deficiencies, and who have received supplemental reading instruction in the primary grades but who have still failed the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ELA exam to be promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade without being held back a 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

## Anti-LGBT

\*[CS/CS/HB 1069/CS/SB 1320](#) ([Education](#))—expansion of HB 1557 (Parental Rights in Education) that does not correct the vagueness of last year’s bill by defining what constitutes “instruction” in sexual orientation or gender identity. Last year’s bill has been proactively interpreted to mean that censorship is necessary.

\*[HB 1423/SB 1438](#) ([Gender Clinical Interventions](#))—interferes with parent’s right to determine the medical care of their child, in consultation with the child’s medical provider; runs counter to the recommendations of medical authorities in the field.

## Funding Bills

\*[HB 1259/SB 1328](#) ([Education Funding](#))—would make sharing of public school capital outlay tax revenues with charter schools mandatory, regardless of how much money given by state; no requirement for charter school capital plan; amount of allocation determined by number of enrolled charter school students rather than by need.

\*[SB 2500](#) ([Appropriations](#))--watching

\*[SB 2502](#) ([Implementing the 2023-2024 General Appropriations Act](#))--watching

\*[HB 5101](#) ([Education](#))--watching

\*[PCB APC 23-01](#) ([Appropriations](#))--watching

\*[PCB APC 23-02](#) ([Implementing the 2023-2024 General Appropriations Act](#))--watching

## School & Community Safety Bills

\*[HB 39/SB 542](#) ([Emergency Opioid Antagonists](#))—would provide for opioid antagonists on Florida College campuses; needed to preserve life

\*[CS/HB 783/SB 704](#) ([Emergency Opioid Antagonists](#))—would allow additional trained personnel to administer opioid antagonists; needed to preserve life

\*[CS/CS/HB 121/SB 246](#) ([Florida Kidcare Program Eligibility](#))—raises income cap from 200% to 300% of the federal poverty level; increases number of children eligible for coverage in a time when family budgets are under duress.

\*[HM 581/CS/SM 814](#) ([Prohibit Use of SNAP Benefits to Purchase Soft Drinks](#))—this is an advisory to Congress; we support healthy food choices.

\*[CS/HB 721/CS/SB 670](#) ([Paid Family Leave Insurance](#))—this would allow insurers to offer businesses family leave insurance to cover the costs of employee compensation during granted family leave to care for newborn, newly adopted child, ill child, and other family crises.

\*[CS/CS/HB 143/CS/SB 204](#) ([Task Force on the Monitoring of Children in Out-of-Home Care](#))—in the wake of scandals involving human trafficking of adolescents living in state-supported group homes, this would provide a systematic look into current and best practices.

\*[HB 1339/SB 1306](#) ([Placement of Surrendered Newborn Infants](#))—this would mandate adoption agencies to pre-screen prospective parents interested in adopting a surrendered newborn so that a list could be established in advance of need.

\*[HB 1007/CS/SB 1064](#) ([Children Removed from Caregivers](#))—this would provide trauma-informed medical and mental support for children removed from caregivers.

\*[CS/HB 1557/SB 1690](#) ([Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking](#))—this would require the posting of signage warning of human trafficking in state-supported facilities housing children and abused women.

\*[HB 195/SB 178](#) ([Upgrades to Education Facilities as Emergency Shelters](#))—this is an environmentally-friendly bill that would allow schools that serve as emergency shelters to install solar panels despite exceeding current caps on the cost per student station. The energy generated would save money during the entire school year.

\*[HB 263/SB 1544](#) ([Cardiac and Medical Emergencies on School Grounds](#))—this would provide for defibrillators on school campuses as well as training of school staff and students (with parental permission) in life-saving techniques to address cardiac and medical emergencies. A current legislative aide, daughter of a longtime PTA parent, has requested our help in pushing this bill to be calendared.

\*[HB 1211/SB 1374](#) ([Child Restraint Requirements](#))—this enhances child safety by increasing the age requirements for child restraint devices in personal vehicles.

\*[CS/HB 657/CS/CS/SB 588](#) ([Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits](#))—enhances child safety; would allow for electronic monitoring of school zones and the issuance of citations for violations of 10 mph over the limit.

\*[CS/HB 741/SB 766](#) ([Photographic Enforcement of School Bus Safety](#))—enhances child safety; allows for monitoring of vehicles passing a school bus stopped to take on or discharge students.

\*[CS/HB 301/CS/SB 212](#) ([Emergency Response Mapping Data](#))—enhances school safety by providing funds to school districts to create military-style standardized maps of school campuses for use during emergencies.

\*[CS/HB 379/CS/CS/SB 52](#) ([Student Use of Social Media Platforms](#))—enhances student safety by requiring instruction, accessible to parents as well, in advantages, disadvantages, and proper use of social media.

\*[CS/HB 591/SB 792](#) ([Social Media Protection for Minors](#))—enhances student safety by establishing disclosure requirements for social media platforms and prohibiting school districts from requiring students to register on social media platforms as a unique source of accessing information.

\*[HB 699/SB 662](#) ([Student Online Personal Information Protection](#))—enhances student safety by putting guardrails on internet providers and software programs regarding the use and dissemination of student data.

\*[CS/HB 655/SB 914](#) ([Suicide Prevention](#))

\*[CS/HB 221/CS/SB 214](#) ([Sales of Firearms and Ammunition](#))—endangers the public by disallowing credit card companies from flagging large purchases of firearms and/or ammunition with a special code. Already passed the Senate.

\*[CS/HB 543/CS/SB 150](#) ([Public Safety](#))—endangers the public, including students, by allowing for permitless carry. Already passed the House.

\*[HB 1543](#) ([Minimum Age for Firearm Purchase or Transfer](#))—endangers the public by lowering the post-Parkland age increase in long gun purchase eligibility back down from 21 to 18. No Senate companion bill, but could be proposed as a committee bill or be amended to a current Senate bill.

## Early & Higher Education Bills

\*[CS/HB 931/CS/SB 958](#) ([Postsecondary Educational Institutions](#))—much is beyond the PTA scope, but would disallow so-called “political loyalty tests” and allow for the creation of an alternative to the Florida Student Association by the Chancellor of the State University System should the FSA not remain in compliance with state requirements.

\*[CS/HB 999/CS/SB 266](#) ([Public Postsecondary Educational Institutions](#))—would upend higher education by allowing for viewpoint control through faculty hiring, review, and retention practices.