



DISTRICT 15 E-UPDATE

From State Representative Audrey Gibson

2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION · WEEK THREE
March 16th—20th, 2009



Dear Constituent and Friend,

State financial news, and how the Legislature will address a projected \$6.7-billion state budget deficit, were the primary focus of discussion, as committees continued to meet.

Additionally, a good amount of time has been spent attempting to understand the complexities of the federal economic recovery package and getting assurances from the Majority party that the stimulus dollars will be put to use for the maximum benefit of all Floridians. House Democrats believe that all the available federal stimulus dollars should be used to help get our state moving in a way that increases revenue to pay for state needs.

Of serious concern however, is Florida's potential ineligibility for education-related stimulus dollars unless a federal waiver is sought and approved to exempt the state from the rule within which requires spending as many state dollars on education as was spent three years ago. Unfortunately, cuts in education spending, in recent years, jeopardizes our ability of getting federal stimulus monies in this area. While the Governor has officially requested the waiver, there are no guarantees because of partisan politics at the expense of our children. I remain cautiously optimistic that we will qualify for the funds, and will update you as information becomes available.

Finally, it is expected that the House will put forward a preliminary budget on April 3, 2009. This will be a starting point, moving quickly forward. I encourage you to sit down with friends and family to review the document upon its release and call my office with questions or concerns so that I may address as many of the issues as possible through the amendatory process or debate. This is our state family budget and every one should have a seat at the table!

Sincerely,

Audrey Gibson
State Representative
District 15

PHOTO RECAP



Rep. Gibson with members from Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)



Rep. Gibson with members from Jax Mortgage Brokers Association



Above/Below: Rep. Gibson with members from Equality FL of Jacksonville



Above/Below: Rep. Gibson with members from North FL Central Labor Union



Rep. Gibson with Architects from AIA Jacksonville



Rep. Gibson with members from AFSCME



Rep. Gibson with members from Duval PTA



Rep. Gibson with members from Film Florida



Rep. Gibson with members from the Epilepsy Foundation



Rep. Gibson with members from FL Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Stores

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COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Economic Development & Community Affairs Policy Council
Democratic Ranking Member

Rules & Calendar Council

Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee

Roads, Bridges & Ports Policy Committee

Civil Justice and Courts Policy Committee

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee

Select Committee on Seminole Indian Compact Review

Duval County Legislative Delegation - Vice Chair



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Mon. - Fri. 6PM
Sun. - 10:30 AM

PBS Channel 7
Comcast Channel 8



It is an Honor and a Pleasure to serve you in the Florida House!

