

FLORIDA PTA 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE: KEY BILLS AS OF 4/15/2021

All PTA positions are determined by member-approved position statements

Bill Number	Title	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committees of Reference	Current status	Companion bill(s)	PTA Position	PTA Action(s)	Your Actions
CS/CS/SB 48	Educational Scholarship Programs	Appropriations Committee and Education Committee and Senator Manny Diaz; Co-sponsors: Senators Baxley, Brandes, Garcia, Perry	Consolidation of school voucher programs; expansion of student eligibility criteria; increase in scholarship amounts; decrease in state financial oversight; change in funding mechanism to Education Savings Accounts	Education; Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; Appropriations	Passed all committees; on Senate 2 nd Reading Calendar	HB 7045 ; Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee and Rep. Fine; on 2 nd Reading Calendar; combines McKay, Gardiner and Family Empowerment Scholarships; maintains Hope and Florida Tax Credit Scholarships; expands programs; same funding sources	Oppose	Spoke against bill in multiple committees; Sent alerts	Watch for new alerts, and prepare to contact legislators
SB 7070	Impact of COVID-19 on Educational Institutions	Education Committee		Education Committee (as proposed committee bill); Rules Committee	Passed Education Committee; on Rules Committee agenda for 4/14/21	HB 359 ; Sponsor: Rep. Bartleman; Co-Sponsors: Reps. Hinson, F. Robinson, Slosberg, Tant, Thompson, Valdés, Woodson; assigned to 4 committees; has yet to be heard	Favorable	Spoke in favor of bill in committee	Nothing; the bill's purpose was accomplished through an emergency order

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CS/HB 51	Charter Schools	Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee and Rep. McClain; Co-Sponsor: Rep. Duggan	Would allow entities other than school districts to sponsor charter schools; allows charter schools to offer CTE; alters a variety of provisions relating to charter school reporting, accountability, enrollment, curriculum, duplication	Post-Secondary Education & Lifelong Learning Subcommittee, PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee, Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee, Education & Employment Committee	Passed all committees	CS/SB 1028 ; Sponsors: Education Committee and Sen. Hutson; on agenda for last committee	Oppose	Opposed in committee	Stay tuned for potential alerts
CS/HB 1031	Charter Schools	Rep. Rodriguez; Co-Sponsor Rep. Fischer	Would allow entity other than school district to sponsor charter schools; alters provisions relating to charter school applications, enrollment, duplication, sharing of assets	Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee, Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee, PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee, Education & Employment Committee	Passed 3 of 4 committees	SB 1468 ; Sponsor: Sen. Gruters; has not yet been heard	Oppose	Watching closely	Stay tuned for potential alerts

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SB 590	Involuntary Examinations of Minors	Sen. Harrell	Requires parental notification when a child is subject to Baker Act provisions; mandates school data compilation and supplementary staff training	Children, Families & Elder Affairs; Education, Appropriations	On agenda 3 rd /e committees	CS/CS/HB 383 ; Sponsors: Education & Employment Committee and Early Learning and Elementary Education Committee and Rep. Plasencia; passed all committees; on House Special Order Calendar for 4/15/21	Support	Spoke in favor of bill and companion bill; sent alert	Continue to monitor
CS/CS/SB 86	Student Financial Aid	Sen. Baxley	Removes Bright Futures and Benacquisto fixed funding guarantee; provides for dashboard to allow postsecondary students to assess job prospects for chosen major	Education Committee, Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, Appropriations Committee	Passed Senate 22-18	No close House companion	Oppose	Spoke in opposition to bill; sent alerts	Continue to advocate in opposition; prepare to respond if the bill is scheduled for hearing in the House
CS/HB 711	Kindergarten Readiness Rates	Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee and Reps. Plasencia and Toledo; 13 bipartisan co-sponsors	Excludes English Language Learner students from kindergarten readiness rate calculations	Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee, Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee, PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee, Education & Employment Committee	Passed 1 of 4 committees	No Senate companion	Support	Spoke in favor in committee	Stay tuned to offer support; be prepared to push for further measures next year

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HB 7011	Student Literacy	Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee and Rep. Aloupis	Provides within DOE for a coordinated system of close monitoring, intervention, and professional development regarding student literacy in Grades PK-8	PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee	Passed final committee	SB 1898 ; Sponsor: Sen. Rodriguez; on final committee agenda; CS/HB 419 ; Sponsors: PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee and Rep. Grall; Co-Sponsors: Reps. Bartleman, Learned, Tant, Trabulsy; passed all committees SB 1282 ; Sponsor: Sen. Harrell; passed 2 nd of 3 committees	Support	Waived in support of companion bill HB 419	Stay tuned
CS/HB 149	Students with Disabilities in Public Schools	Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee and Reps. DuBose and Plasencia; Co-Sponsors: Reps. Grieco, Hunschofsky, Learned, Persons-Mulicka, Plakon, Tant, Toledo, Woodson	Prohibits use of seclusion on students; revises protocols for use of restraint; mandates professional development regarding interactions with students with emotional or behavioral disabilities	Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee; Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee	Passed House 118-0	CS/SB 192 ; Sponsors: Education Committee and Sen. Book; Co-Sponsor: Sen. Rodrigues; on agenda 3 rd /e committees	Support	Waived in support in committee	Continue to advocate

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CS/HB 7035	School Safety	Education & Employment Committee and Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee and Reps. LaMarca and Hunschofsky	Requires data analysis; refines Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act; reforms district policies	Education & Employment Committee	On House 2 nd Reading Calendar	No Senate companion	Support	Waived in support; sent alerts	Push for Senate companion bill; prepare to take further action next year
SB 274	Juvenile Diversion Program Expunction	Sen. Perry; Co-Sponsors: Sens. Taddeo, Famer, Gruters	Would require the Department of Law Enforcement to expunge the nonjudicial arrest record of certain minors who have successfully completed a diversion program	Criminal Justice, Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice, Appropriations	Passed Senate 39-0.	HB 93 , Sponsor: Rep. D. Smith; Co-Sponsors: Reps. Andrade, Bartleman, Daley, Driskell, Eskamani, Gottlieb, Gregory, Grieco, Hart, Learned, Sabatini, Trabulsy, Willhite, Woodson; on House 2 nd Reading Calendar	Support	Waived in support; spoke in support	These bills have bipartisan support and are likely to pass. No action required at this time.
HB 241	Parents' Bill of Rights	Rep. Grall; 21 Co-Sponsors	Establishes parental supremacy in decisions relating to a minor child's education, religion, upbringing & health care	Health & Human Services Committee, Judiciary Committee, Education & Employment Committee	Passed House 78-37	CS/CS/SB 582 ; Sponsors: Education Committee and Judiciary Committee and Sen. Rodrigues; Co-Sponsors: Sen. Baxley; on Senate 2 nd Reading Calendar	Neutral	We support the concept of parental rights, but do not consider them to be absolute. This bill goes too far and may harm children.	Be aware that these bills are likely to pass

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CS/CS/HB 259	Safety of Religious Institutions	Judiciary Committee and Education & Employment Committee and Reps. Williamson and Byrd; Co-Sponsors: Reps. Andrade, Bell, Beltran, Brannan, DiCeglie, Duggan, Fine, Fischer, Grall, Gregory, Harding, Hawkins, Ingoglia, Maggard, Maney, Massullo, McClain, Overdorf, Payne, Roach, W. Robinson, Rommel, Sabatini, Salzman, Shoaf, Sirois, D. Smith, Snyder, Yarborough	Would allow the holder of a concealed carry permit to carry a firearm on property owned, leased, borrowed or used by a religious institution, whether or not that property housed a school or child care center	Criminal Justice & Public Safety Subcommittee, Education & Employment Committee, Judiciary Committee	Passed House 76-37; on Senate Rules Committee agenda	CS/SB 498 ; Sponsors: Criminal Justice Committee and Sen. Gruters; Co-Sponsors: Sens. Brandes, Hutson, Baxley, Rodriguez, Rodrigues, Broxson, Albritton, Bradley, President Simpson; in 3 rd /3 committees	Oppose	Spoke out in opposition in committee	Continue to advocate in opposition