



OSCEOLA OFFICE HOURS

Two members of my staff will hold an Office Day in St. Cloud on Thursday, February 28. They will be available at our local office in St. Cloud City Hall Building B from 1-3 PM. Appointments can be made by calling (863) 413-2900, or feel free to drop in. Please take advantage of this opportunity to request assistance with state agencies, bring any of your concerns to my attention, or just stop by and meet my staff.

Bill Filed to Give Victims of Child Pornography a Voice

This week I participated in a press conference with Attorney General Bill McCollum to promote Senate Bill 1442, the Exploited Children's Rights Act, which will provide victims of child pornography with a voice in court proceedings against individuals who download and distribute images of the child's sexual abuse. It will also allow victims to seek no less than \$150,000 per incident from perpetrators.

Child pornography is the graphic representation of sex crimes against children, and we must take the strongest stand possible against those who promote and participate in such disgusting activity. My bill will give victims a voice, and will make the perpetrators feel the full strength of our state's outrage.

Lake County Days at the Capitol

Residents from Lake County were spotted at the Capitol this week during Lake County Days, held on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 19-20. It is always a treat to have visitors from my district come to participate in the legislative process and see what goes on in Tallahassee. While I was in committee meetings most of the day and did not get to see all of you, your presence was definitely noticed by my fellow Senators. Your lobbying efforts will help keep your important issues at the forefront as we head towards the Legislative Session.

Legislation on the Move

Senate Bill 1062, relating to Foreign Language Educator Certification, passed the Education PreK-12 Committee unanimously on Wednesday. The bill provides an alternative method for teachers to become certified in a foreign language. The goal is to encourage more certified teachers in the less common foreign languages, such as Italian, Hebrew, and Chinese. The state currently only has subject area examinations in the languages of Spanish, French, German and Italian.



Senator Dockery speaks to the Polo Park Homeowners Association on Monday, February 11, 2008 regarding property taxes, CSX, and water issues.

Committee Assignments:

Law & Justice Policy & Calendar Committee, Chair
 Criminal Justice, Chair
 Environmental Preservation
 Health Policy
 Transportation
 Education PreK-12 Appropriations
 Rules
 Public Service Commission Oversight

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