



**Representative Ronald A. Brisé
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Florida House of Representatives**

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Rep. Brise Statement on HJR 7231 and Its Attempt to Mislead Floridians

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. -- State Representative and Vice-Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus Ron Brise (D-North Miami) issued the following statement in response to the Republican-led legislature's attempt to mislead Floridians with House Joint Resolution (HJR) 7231:

"We, as legislators, have the great responsibility to protect the will of the people and our time is spent serving them. So, when some in the Legislature attempt to disregard the voices of the voters who put them in office, we should all be greatly concerned.

"Citizens of Florida worked to get Amendments 5 & 6 on the ballot so that the legislature will have to follow fairness standards when redrawing congressional and legislative district lines. These amendments also strengthen minority-voting rights in Florida.

"In a very despicable attempt to avoid the will of the people, some members of this legislature have proposed HJR 7231. This resolution would place another constitutional amendment on the ballot to confuse voters. HJR 7231 has the potential to render the standards of the citizens' initiative invalid. The proponents of this additional and unnecessary amendment simply want to retain the power to draw districts with no rules in order to protect themselves instead of protecting the voters.

"I urge all my esteemed colleagues, Republican and Democrat, to show statesmanship and leadership and vote NO on HJR 7231."

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