

Representative **Jamie Grant**

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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

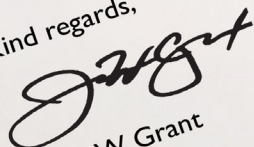
It continues to be a tremendous honor to serve as your voice in the Florida House of Representatives. As the 2017 legislative session was recently brought to a close, I want to thank you for the opportunity to represent District 64 and I look forward to representing your interests in the years to come.

The House had a busy session this year. We began by passing sweeping ethics reforms, including the longest lobbying ban in the nation and the most open and transparent budget rules in Florida's history. Additionally, we fulfilled our constitutional responsibility to pass a balanced budget, cut taxes, put a constitutional amendment on the 2018 ballot to increase the homestead exemption on property taxes, and maintained our state's AAA credit rating.

This year I sponsored several major pieces of legislation aimed at improving our community and the state of Florida. Moffitt Cancer Center is the premier cancer research and treatment center in this state, and I am proud to have sponsored legislation that would have granted Moffitt an increase in their share of the state cigarette tax revenue, allowing for additional research and treatment capacity. Another priority of mine this year was a bill recently signed into law by the Governor to abolish the Hillsborough County Public Transportation Commission. The many indiscretions committed over the years by leaders at the commission and their intransigence towards the innovation economy culminated in a situation where the public had lost complete faith in their ability to regulate transportation services credibly, equitably, and efficiently. I will continue to stand on the side of innovation over protectionist regulation that serves only to protect the entrenched few. My final priority this session was a juvenile justice bill that addresses public safety and aims to keep our neighborhoods safe. By targeting a narrow class of serious, repeat juvenile offenders, we will be able to keep criminals off the streets and make our communities safer.

I am pleased with the work that the House of Representatives was able to do on behalf of the people of Florida this session. We sent a clear message about fiscal responsibility by continuing the live within our means, targeting waste of taxpayer dollars, and a renewed commitment to economic development grounded in broad-based tax relief, cutting regulations, and by making smart investments and policy decisions in education, infrastructure, and public safety. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the overwhelming support and input from you. I appreciate the time many of you took to write, call, or stop by my office. Your feedback is critical to my office's ability to represent you in Tallahassee. Please continue to stay in touch and let us know if there is anything that my office can do to help you.

Kind regards,


James W. Grant



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2017 Legislative

Session Update

from Representative
Jamie Grant



Funding the Fight Against Cancer

In the fight against cancer, research is one of our strongest weapons. The Moffitt Cancer Center, located right here in Tampa Bay, has had a tremendous, worldwide impact on the search for a cure.

This year I filed legislation that would have allowed Moffitt an increase in revenues generated from the state cigarette tax to expand facilities, create jobs, and increase research capacity. While our initial effort fell short, I am proud to report to you that we extended by twenty years, Moffitt's eligibility to receive state funding, allowing additional capacity to bond expansion projects that will lift our areas economy.

I remain committed to supporting Moffitt Cancer Center's mission and look forward to the day we witness the ground-breaking for the next generation of cancer care.



Promoting Innovation

From before the time I was first elected, I have been committed to the idea that Florida can be the #1 ecosystem for tech talent and investment in the country. Our willing laws have not been updated since English common law first developed rules for the execution of wills in the 1600s.

For this reason, I sponsored HB 277: Wills and Trusts, to update our willing statutes and bring Florida into the 21st century. This bill would have enabled individuals to create wills electronically, and be signed electronically by you, two witnesses, and a notary public. HB 277 was vetoed by the Governor, despite passing both the House & Senate with large majorities. I will continue to be relinquishing in my advocacy for innovation, and I look forward to working on this and other tech projects in the sessions to come.

Legislature Passes Uniform Rules for Ridesharing Companies

Two of the most significant bills to become law this year were the abolition of Hillsborough County's Public Transportation Commission, and the approval of a statewide set of standards governing and authorizing ridesharing services such as Uber & Lyft. I am proud to have sponsored both of these bills in the Florida House, which clear the way for innovation and improved transportation options for Florida's residents.



Tax Cuts for Millions of Floridians

Putting money back in the hands of taxpayers continues to be the best policy for promoting economic development. This year, the Legislature passed measures to return \$1.3 billion to Floridians. This means more money in the pockets of students, families, business owners, homeowners, and many other Floridians.

Additionally, I am proud to have voted for an increase in the homestead tax exemption, extending existing exemptions by up to \$25,000 on the assessed value of your home between \$100,000 and up to \$125,000. This property tax cut will be on the 2018 ballot for voters to decide on approval of this tax relief measure.

Legislature Passes Balanced Budget

The legislature passed a constitutionally-required balanced budget for 2017-2018. The budget cuts wasteful spending while funding our state's critical needs, including significant investments and reforms in education. This year's budget also includes tax cuts that put more money in the pockets of students, families, business owners, homeowners, and many other Floridians. Finally, the budget responsibly plans for the future by placing \$3.2 billion in reserves to prepare for any unforeseen future economic uncertainty. This budget not only saves taxpayers money by eliminating wasteful spending and cutting taxes, but ensures our state's critical needs are met. I was proud to support this great budget that puts Floridians first.

Budget Appropriation Projects

HB 3487: \$500,000

Family First - All Pro Dad's Fatherhood Involvement Literacy Campaign

HB 3521: \$500,000

LaunchCode Tampa: Technology Job Training and Placement.

HB 3493: \$500,000

Hillsborough Community College - Apprenticeship Tampa Bay

Awards

Champion of Florida Families
I am honored to be named by the Florida Family Policy Council as a Champion for Florida Families!

Florida Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Advocate

I am a proud supporter of legislation to help homeowners and small businesses across Florida that are experiencing rising property insurance rates because of assignment of benefits fraud. I am grateful to have a partner like the Florida Chamber as I seek to provide relief to this problem and put money back in families and job creator's pockets.

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