

# THE DISTRICT 15 NEWSLETTER

State Representative

# REGGIE FULLWOOD



### COMMITTEES:

- PreK -12 Appropriations Subcommittee
- Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee
- K-20 Competitiveness Subcommittee
- Finance & Tax Committee
- Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee

### STAFF:

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## FROM THE DESK OF REPRESENTATIVE FULLWOOD

With the 2011 Legislative Session now over, it is important that I communicate to you the many bills and issues addressed during the 60-days of session. But before I discuss session, I would like to thank each of you for electing me last November as your District 15 representative in the Florida House. I am committed to serving you and focused on improving the quality of life for all residents of District 15.

My staff and I believe in being accessible and transparent so that we can provide the highest quality of constituent services that all of you deserve. The 2011 legislative session was filled with diverse legislation and issues unique to the state of Florida.

I am a firm believer that the core purpose of public service is helping our neediest citizens and focusing on programs and services that improve the quality of life for all Floridians. During this year's session I feel that the

legislature spent too much time on divisive issues and not enough time on economic development and job creation. As your State Representative, it is important that we create new job opportunities and protect the many committed Florida-based companies that employ so many Floridians.

Many of you wrote me during session to express your thoughts. I thank you and continue to look forward to hearing from you. This year's session was challenging and difficult to say the least, and the outcomes not most favorable, but I am in it for the long haul, and will continue to stand for people, not politics.

Faithfully Serving You,  
Representative Reggie Fullwood

# State Representative REGGIE FULLWOOD

## DISTRICT 15

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2011 DISTRICT NEWS

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## SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to the following youth in our community as winners of the 2011 NAACP ACTSO Competition



L to R: Iman Bethal - Bronz Winner; Jahaan Sweet - Silver Winner; Joshua Abbott - Silver Winner

## Redistricting is Coming in 2012

Congratulations Representative Fullwood for your appointment to the Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee.

**WHAT IS REDISTRICTING?** The redrawing of Florida's political boundary lines, every ten years, to reflect changes in population. The Florida Legislature must redraw the State's Congressional and Legislative boundary lines prior to the 2012 Elections.

**WHY IS REDISTRICTING IMPORTANT?** Everyone lives in districts...Congressional, Legislative, etc. Those districts tell the stories of their communities. Those communities shape representation at all levels of government.

**HOW CAN FLORIDIANS PARTICIPATE?** The Florida House of Representatives has developed MyDistrictBuilder, the online tool for Floridians and their Legislators to propose new boundary lines for Florida's Congressional, State

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?** Public meetings are currently underway throughout the State and will be through fall of this year. The meetings are opportunities for constituents to give their testimonies on redistricting. Visit [www.floridaredistricting.org](http://www.floridaredistricting.org) for dates and locations of the meetings.

# Representative Fullwood Stands in the Community!



(L to R) Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown, Representative Reggie Fullwood, Representative Mia Jones and Senator Tony Hill show their support for the 100 Black Men's Tackling Cancer Campaign at an event in downtown Jacksonville.



Representative Fullwood supports Duval County PTA Rally in Tallahassee.



Representative Fullwood met with Duval County Health Department Executives ((L to R) John Mosley, Dr. Dr. Aaron Hilliard, Dr. Robert G. Harmon, M.D and Tim Lawther to discuss process for interpreting State legislation that impact local Health Department.



Representative Fullwood reads to youth at MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation in North Jacksonville during Literacy Week.



Representative Fullwood speaks to teens during a Teen Leaders of America workshop in Edward Waters College in Jacksonville.



Representative Fullwood welcomed Members of United Way's Women In Local Leadership and Success By 6 Council to listen to them advocate in Tallahassee for access to high-quality early education for children.



Summer break is over! Rep. Fullwood wishes all students the BEST this upcoming school year!

## Representative Fullwood voted AGAINST the following bills:

### 2011-2012 Budget

- Cuts a combined approximate \$4 million for University of North Florida and Florida State College at Jacksonville for utilities/Infrastructure/Capital Renewals/ Roofs and infrastructure and site improvements /
- Cuts a half million to the Agape Community Health Center that would have been the sole provider of vital emergency dental services to our most vulnerable uninsured and underemployed adults throughout our community
- Eliminates jobs for thousands of state workers including 500 Florida Department of Children and Families jobs as well as 3,000 education sector jobs and that's only from 3 counties; Duval County may reduce art, music and physical education
- Reduces total funding for public schools by \$1.35 billion
- Offers tax breaks for corporations, but cuts to medically needy



### Election House Bill 1355

- Reduces early voting from 13 days to eight days
- Requires some voters who have moved to cast provisional ballots
- Tightens the time for third-party groups to submit voter registration forms
- Reduces the time that signatures on citizen-led ballot initiatives are valid

### Medicaid, House Bills 7107 and 7109

- Eliminate the existing fee-for-service structure
- Place recipients into managed care - HMOs - and other large, managed-care networks
- Makes it more difficult for recipients to sue Medicaid doctors and hospitals
- Establish eleven state regions within plans will compete for state Medicaid

### Unemployment Compensation House Bill 1355

- Reduces the duration of unemployment benefits from 26 to 23 weeks
- Change maximum \$275 weekly benefit amount to sliding scale based on the unemployment rate
- Requires claimant to complete an initial skills review through an online education or training program once he or she is found eligible
- Adds new authority for employers to challenge a laid-off worker's claim
- Unemployment benefits paid electronically only

### Education House Bill 7019, Teacher Tenure

- Ties public school teacher pay raises and job security to student performance on standardized tests

## Rep Fullwood's 2011 Legislative Session Sponsored and Co-Sponsored Bills Summary

Bill Number	Bill Name	Owner	Action
HB 11	Child-restraint Requirements	Cosponsor	Not voted on
HB 197	Employment of the Homeless	Cosponsor	Not voted on
CS/CS/CS/CS/HB 283	Seaports	Cosponsor	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 507	Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems	Sponsor	Postponed
HB 639	Affordable Housing	Cosponsor	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 937	Auditory-Oral Education Program	Cosponsor	Not voted on
CS/CS/HB 1145	Greyhound Racing	Cosponsor	Postponed
HB 1201	Public Health	Sponsor	Not voted on
HB 1219	Bedding Materials	Sponsor	Not voted on
CS/CS/HB 1231	Telecommunications	Cosponsor	<b>PASSED</b>
HR 9001	Bay of Pigs Memorial Day	Cosponsor	<b>PASSED</b>
HR 9045	Florida National Guard Day	Cosponsor	<b>PASSED</b>
HR 9077	Caribbean Heritage Month	Cosponsor	<b>PASSED</b>

## Are You Prepared for Hurricane Season

Do you still have your hurricane preparedness kit, even though Florida has not had a major storm since 2005? Because we have not experienced a direct hit for some years, Florida is still very vulnerable to hurricanes. Complacency can be catastrophic, and forecasts predict this hurricane season will be more active than most.

Now is the time to get prepared. If you are told to evacuate, do so with haste and take copies of important papers with you including:

- Checkbooks
- Driver's License
- Credit Card Information
- Birth Certificates
- Social Security Cards
- Other Forms And Documents Proving Ownership/Identity

Know your local evacuation routes, and if available, the location of nearby safe shelters. Have a family communication plan in place in order to contact or find each other. As the storm approaches, residents should listen to and closely follow instructions from local and state authorities. For more information on preparing for disaster emergencies, please visit [www.ready.gov/hurricanes](http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes) and [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).

