



On The Move...Highlights from the First Half of the 2007 Legislative Session

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Half way there...

As we reach the half way point of the 2007 Session, I am pleased to report that we are continuing to make great progress up here in Tallahassee. In just 4 short weeks, Republicans and Democrats in the Florida House have been working together on the issues that are important to all Floridians and we have already achieved several significant accomplishments.

In addition to unanimously passing Governor Crist's tough anti-murder measure, another issue that we tackled successfully early on was our innovative \$147 million Teacher Merit Award Program that will reward success in the classroom and help attract and retain the best teachers for our local schools. Unlike prior teacher compensation proposals, this plan was supported by the local school districts, as well as the teachers, and was just signed into law by Governor Crist.

The House also passed legislation improving upon the \$250 million MySafeFloridaHome program created last year that assists Florida homeowners with incentives and matching grants for making improvements to their homes to better prepare for hurricanes.

I have also been working on a proposal ([HB 703](#)) that would require our state employee pension plan

CONTACT INFORMATION

State Representative Adam Hasner
P.O. Box 272669
Boca Raton FL 33432
phone: (561) 279-1616
email: adamhasner@hasner.org
web: <http://www.hasner.org>

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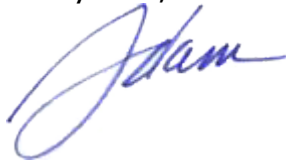
to divest its holdings in companies that are doing business in Iran's energy sector. This is a bipartisan effort that recently passed the State Affairs committee unanimously and was also supported by several of the groups that represent state employees.

Property Tax Relief and Reform remains my top priority, and I am fighting each day here in the Capitol to deliver on the promise of immediate relief and comprehensive reform for all Floridians. The House Republican proposal to roll back property taxes and potentially eliminate all property taxes on homestead property will be debated in the coming weeks. Others have recently released their plans and below you will find some articles of interest on this most critical issue. There is no question that we have reached a tipping point here in the Sunshine State and we can not allow a broken system and out of hand government spending to derail our state's economy and threaten the future stability of Florida's families and businesses. We must take action sooner rather than later. For more information on the House of Republican plan, please visit www.nomorepropertytax.com.

As we begin the second half of the legislative session, I want to remind you that my door is always open to you, and I look forward to hearing your ideas and your input on these and other important issues.

During this week, I also want to wish each of you and your families a Happy Passover and Happy Easter.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Adam".



TeenPact offers a program for both teens and children during each Session. Students visit Tallahassee to meet elected officials, interview lobbyists, observe legislative hearings and conduct their own TeenPact mock legislature.

The Florida House is on the Move

- The House passed [House Bill \(HB\) 211](#), which establishes a tax free holiday for purchasing hurricane supplies including any cell phone batteries, cell phone charges, portable generators, and storm shutter devices, etc.
- The Committee on Post Secondary Education passed [House Bill \(HB\) 215](#) which continues the Florida tradition of providing Florida's families with a tax free holiday for school supplies.
- [House Bill \(HB\) 1363](#), cosponsored by Rep. Hasner, passed the Safety and Security Council. It will help to help curb gang violence in our state. This bill will make it easier for law enforcement and prosecutors to take gang members off the streets and shut down any group involved in organized criminal activity.
- The House approved and Rep. Hasner cosponsored [House Bill \(HB\) 567](#), which provides for a cut in the Communications Services Tax, the tax on items like cell phone and satellite television services. This tax cut will provide \$59 million in savings for Floridians over the next two years if implemented.
- The House also passed a measure to move the state's presidential primaries to the first week in February. Moving the primary forward will give Floridians greater influence in selecting the nation's next president. Presidential

candidates of both parties will be forced to campaign in Florida and take positions on Florida's issues, such as the creation of a National Catastrophe Fund to help reduce the cost of property insurance.

Highway Safety Legislation Takes Effect

Pilot Program for Enhanced Traffic Penalty Zones Launches on April 2, 2007

TALLAHASSEE – Enhanced Traffic Penalty Zones will be launched on April 2 in Palm Beach County as a result of Legislation sponsored by State Representative Adam Hasner (R-Delray Beach), Deputy Majority Leader of the Florida House. This new effort will make our roads safer and offer new funding to medical trauma centers at the same time.

“One of my top priorities continues to be safety on our roadways,” said State Representative Adam Hasner. “This is an innovative approach to help make our highways safer and provide needed funding for our local trauma centers. It’s a win-win.”

The enhanced penalty zone in Palm Beach County runs north of State Road 806 at the Boynton Beach City Limit sign (Exit 52) and ends just south of Gateway Boulevard (Exit 59), within the limits of Interstate 95 mile marker 53 and mile marker 59. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will post Enhanced Penalty Speed Zone signs identifying the areas to the traveling public. The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) will begin issuing additional speeding fines of \$50 above the current speeding fine on May 1, 2007, in the enhanced penalty zones.

The enhanced penalty zone fines assessed will be distributed as follows:

Fifty percent of the \$50 fine will be allocated to the Health Care Administration to provide an enhanced Medicaid payment to nursing homes for brain and spinal cord injury Medicaid patients. The other fifty percent of the fine will be given for financial support to certified trauma centers in the counties where enhanced penalty zones are established.

The pilot program was developed through legislation ([HB 1465](#)) passed during the 2006 Legislative Session to create an initiative for enhanced penalty zones on state roads in areas with higher than average crash rates related to speeding.

FDOT, FHP and the FDOT Motor Carrier Compliance Office (MCCO) will launch and monitor this pilot program and its results closely. For more information about the Enhanced Penalty Zones visit <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/safety>.

Reach Out and Read, Florida!



Representative Hasner takes a few minutes out of the day to read Dr. Seuss' "Cat in the Hat" to students visiting the Florida Capitol as part of Reach Out and Read Florida efforts. To learn more, visit www.reachoutandread.org

Obsession: Radical Islam's War Against The West

Representative Hasner has invited members of the Florida Legislature to a screening of the documentary "Obsession: Radical Islam's War Against the West" to help educate members of the risk that radical Islam poses to our nation's security.

On Monday, April 16th, members of both the Florida House of Representatives and Senate, along with their staff, will attend this viewing at the IMAX Theatre in Tallahassee.

Additionally, nationally renowned author and security policy expert, Frank Gaffney, will be giving a national security briefing to the members of the legislature.

For more information on this movie, please visit www.obsessionthemovie.com or www.centerforsecuritypolicy.org

Adam Hasner...In The News

[3/31/07 - Legislature: Day 25 at a glance \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach, voted in favor of the bill (HB 7079), but said he wanted to make sure that money the legislature set aside last year for the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program was not put in jeopardy.

[3/30/07 - Freebie ban confuses lawmakers \(The News-Press\)](#)

Rep. Adam Hasner wanted to host a free screening of a documentary about radical Islam at the Tallahassee IMAX, with complimentary hors d'oeuvres, DVDs and books for lawmakers. Since the sponsor wasn't a registered lobbyist, House general counsel Jeremiah Hawkes approved the April 16 show.

[3/29/07 - Legislature: Day 23 at a glance \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

Hasner off the cuff: Rep. Adam Hasner, a haberdasher's darling, favors cuff links like his pair of bold silver elephants. The Delray Beach Republican owns about two dozen sets, including some pairs that at first glance appear to be mismatched. One pair of silver cuff links is engraved with two different numbers: 55 and 45. The others bear the numbers 58 and 42. Those are the percentages by which Hasner won his 2006 and 2004 elections, respectively. Hasner's new bride, Jillian, gave him the "victory cuffs."

[3/29/07 - State needs a strategy to combat rising gang violence \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

The issue, once so widely swept under the rug, has grabbed the Legislature's attention. "You know what I call it? Domestic terrorism," said Rep. Adam Hasner, of Delray Beach, a leader of the House Republican majority.

"We cannot allow this kind of violence to become entrenched in the neighborhoods," Hasner told me.

[3/29/07 - Bill pushes state to divest employee funds from Iran \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

The House Committee on State Affairs on Wednesday approved a bill pushed by Rep. Adam Hasner, R- Delray Beach, that would require the Florida State Board of Administration to divest from companies doing business in Iran. The committee unanimously approved HB 703, which also requires the administration create and periodically update a list of companies who deal with Iran's government. The list would also include companies the Iranian government invests in.

[3/28/07 - County backs state plan giving land to Broward \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

The commission's decision also pleased State Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach, who is sponsoring the House bill.

He plans to amend HB 1315 before the first legislative committee addresses it on April 11.

"This is a compromise that everybody should be happy with," Hasner said.

[3/25/07 - Cheney slams House vote on Iraq \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach, whose wife is the former executive director of the coalition's Florida chapter, said that South Florida has one of the highest Jewish populations in the country and said it was an "opportunity for Jewish Republicans to get together and talk about the issues important to them."

After Cheney's speech, Hasner said, "Like him or not, this White House remains the best friend the state of Israel has ever had."

[3/24/07 - Property-tax relief passes first key vote \(Orlando Sentinel\)](#)

"Should we be worried more about the loss to the county or should we be worried more about the people who can't afford to pay the taxes anymore?" asked Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach.

[3/24/07 - Speeding fines to rise \\$50 in risky I-95 zones \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

State lawmakers approved the program last year. Reps. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach, and Gayle Harrell, R-Stuart, sponsored the bill.

[3/24/07 - New House plan would put crimp in cash flow \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

"The whole premise of our plan is to provide immediate relief and comprehensive reform," said Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach. "We've come as far as we can to appease the local governments."

[3/23/07 - Tax Cut Plan Advances \(Capitol News Service\)](#)

"It's not about how much counties can't afford, it's about how the people can't afford it, and we need to provide meaningful and affordable tax relief, and that's what we're committed to doing," said Rep. Adam Hasner, (R) Delray Beach.

[3/23/07 - Hasner pushes for more medical training funds \(Boca Raton News\)](#)

Rep. Adam Hasner (R-Delray Beach) says the state legislature is considering an increase from two to four years in state budget recurring funding for medical training.

"This is great," Hasner told The Boca Raton News, in light of the 2011 planned

opening of a teaching hospital on the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) campus in Boca Raton.

[3/23/07 - Will Florida's Property Tax Plan Help or Hurt? \(WCTV - CBS\)](#)

Rep. Adam Hasner, (R) Delray Beach, FL said, "It's not about how much counties can't afford, it's about how the people can't afford it, and we need to provide meaningful and affordable tax relief, and that's what we're committed to doing."

[3/22/07 - Hasner touts using air taxi to lawmakers \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

Hasner hosted a meeting Wednesday between a small group of state lawmakers and representatives of DayJet Corp., a Delray-Beach based company that promises competitively priced flights between small airports such as those in Boca Raton and Tallahassee.

[3/21/07 - Today in Tallahassee \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach, invited members of Palm Beach County's legislative delegation to a screening of *Obsession, Radical Islam's War Against the West*, a documentary on radical Islamists. Hasner told the delegation they will be receiving a "save the date" card for the April 16 screening from House Speaker Marco Rubio.

[3/18/07 - Condo board's stance against mezuzah is totally meshganeh \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

"If displaying a mezuzah outside a condo is prohibited, then we've hit an all-time low," said State Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Boca Raton. "I can't believe that in South Florida this is even an issue."

[3/17/07 - Property tax bill moving forward \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

Also supporting the bill were Reps Adam Hasner, R- Delray Beach and Ellyn Bogdanoff, R-Fort Lauderdale.

[3/15/07 - Giuliani firm has Venezuela ties \(The Miami Herald\)](#)

State Rep. Adam Hasner, a Republican lawmaker from Delray Beach, has called for the state to boot Citgo gas stations from Florida's Turnpike.

"We do business with these companies at our own peril," Hasner said. ``It's important to send a message that we're not going to support countries that are hostile to us."

[3/13/07 - Crist looks to make global warming a hot- button issue \(The Palm](#)

[Beach Post\)](#)

"I think that Florida is now emerging as a leader and we are ready to seriously take on the challenges presented and establish ourselves in the top tier of states as it relates to alternative energy technologies," said Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach. "I think that's really what you are seeing, hopefully a kind of a convergence of right time, right place, right issue, and that leads to things getting done."

Important News from Around the State

[4/4/07 - Crist set to ask for automatic restoration of felons' rights \(The Tallahassee Democrat\)](#)

[4/3/07 - Dry-spell concerns continue to escalate \(The Bradenton Herald\)](#)

[3/30/07 - Educator bonus plan gets Crist's approval \(St. Petersburg Times\)](#)

[3/28/07 - House panel approves Everglades cleanup initiatives \(Naples Daily News\)](#)

[3/28/07 - House committees back splitting school districts \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[3/27/07 - Senate Democrats announce solution to state's property tax crisis \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

[3/25/07 - Lack of coordination hinders Palm Beach County's anti-gang efforts \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

[3/24/07 - Sales of existing homes dip across state; inventory soars \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[3/23/07 - Districts gain more say over teacher bonuses \(The Miami Herald\)](#)

[3/21/07 - Florida's Student Count Off By 3,500 \(The Tampa Tribune\)](#)

[3/21/07 - Property tax activists form statewide group to pressure legislators \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

[3/17/07 - Plan to change how assessments are done displeases appraisers \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[3/13/07 - Governor signs 'anti-murder' bill \(The Tallahassee Democrat\)](#)

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Adam Hasner, Republican for State Representative - District 87.