WSMR Public Radio

Florida Matters Public Affairs Show

April 1-June 30, 2023

FLORIDA MATTERS – SECOND QUARTER, 2023

Florida Matters Quarterly report April 1- June 30, 2023

Time aired: Tuesdays at 6:30 – 7 p.m. on WUSF 89.7 FM; Monday at 10 – 10:30 p.m. on WSMR 89.1 FM

Florida Matters talks with former senator Jeff Brandes about his new Florida Policy Project June 27, 2023

Although term limits kept him from returning to Tallahassee, the former state senator still wants to help shape policy. (Politics, government, education, corrections, property insurance)

Florida Matters explores the impact of new state immigration laws on migrants and Floridians

June 20, 2023

The law is already having an impact, even though it doesn't go into effect until next month. (Immigration, minority issues, politics, business)

Educating young people about Juneteenth amid restrictions from lawmakers

June 13, 2023

Juneteenth has only been recognized as a federal holiday since 2021. But Black American communities have marked the occasion for more than 150 years. (Minority issues, government, education)

Florida emergency managers say they're making sure residents are prepared for hurricane season

June 6, 2023

With the 2023 Hurricane season underway, we discuss what causes storms to spin up in the Atlantic and lessons learned from Hurricane Ian. (Hurricanes, public safety, government)

Many Floridians struggle to pay for necessities, especially as pandemic relief ends, experts say

May 30, 2023

Two out of five Floridians are living on the edge of poverty, according to a report published last month by United Way Suncoast. (Economy, business, minority issues, government)

Florida Matters explores how new laws are changing public schools for teachers, parents and students

May 23, 2023

Colleges and universities are also facing big changes because of Gov. Ron DeSantis's administration. (Higher education, politics, government)

A new set of laws aimed at transgender people has some LGBTQ Floridians fearing the effects

May 16, 2023

Among new measures, they voted to ban gender affirming care for minors. (LGBTQ+ issues, education, health care, public safety, politics)

Florida Matters digs into the impact of the recent legislative session to Floridians

May 9, 2023

Lawmakers passed laws on guns, housing, education and a slate of bills that could help Gov. DeSantis if he runs for president. (Government, politics, public safety, health care, education, housing, environment)

<u>Voter education and registration groups react to the elections bill that targets their</u> <u>efforts</u>

May 2, 2023

On Friday, lawmakers approved Senate Bill 70-50. It now awaits the governor's signature. (Government, politics, voting, minority issues)

How limits on demonstration at the Florida Capitol affect free speech

April 25, 2023

Free speech advocates say new rules limiting demonstrations at the state capitol threaten the First Amendment rights of Floridians. (Voting rights, free speech, politics)

After 'Ruby Bridges,' a Tampa Bay writer speaks on parental rights and teaching Black history

April 18, 2023

"Ruby Bridges," a movie based on the story of a 6-year old girl's experience of school integration in New Orleans during the 1960s, will continue to be shown as part of Pinellas County Schools' curriculum. (Minority issues, education, public safety)

Professors say House Bill 999 would be horrific for academic freedom at Florida's state universities

April 11, 2023

The proposed bill also targets funding for diversity, equity and inclusion programs. (Higher education, politics, First Amendment rights)

Progress on permitless carry, school vouchers and more mark the Florida Legislature's halfway point

April 4, 2023

The 60-day legislative session hits the halfway mark this week. (Politics, government, Second Amendment rights, education, higher education, health care)