

*Bill Nelson
U.S. Senator*

The Florida PBA has endorsed Bill Nelson as the Democratic Candidate for U.S. Senate. If you would like to help with Bill Nelson's Campaign, see page 3.

“Learn everything you can, anytime you can, from anyone you can - there will always come a time when you will be grateful you did.”
~ Sarah Caldwell

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Call:
1-800-733-3722**

From Washington D.C.

Legislative News for PBA

I am proud to represent Floridians in the U.S. Senate, where one of my goals is to make sure our state receives its fair share of federal funds. These funds give our cities and communities the tools necessary to improve the quality of life of all Floridians. And as law enforcement now plays a greater role in the fight against terror, I understand the importance of making sure you receive adequate federal resources.

Homeland Security Funding

The Department of Homeland Security recently announced fiscal year 2006 funding allocations for the Homeland Security Grant Program. Florida was allocated a total of \$100,122,080 for its homeland security needs.

Through the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), which provides assistance to states and territories to prevent, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism, Florida received \$25,590,000.

The Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP) account, which supports prevention activities such as information sharing, target hardening, threat recognition, interoperable communications, and interdiction efforts, received \$18,610,000.

And through the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), 5 cities are eligible for a total of \$53,470,000 in grants. Fort Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando and Tampa will be able to use these funds to enhance and sustain their capacity to prevent, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism.

Law Enforcement and local officials have told me how vital this funding is to protecting Florida's economy and infrastructure from terrorist threats. I will continue working to ensure that Florida's security needs are met with adequate funding.

Immigration Reform

Last month, the Senate passed an immigration reform bill. This legislation will help secure the country's borders while also dealing fairly with the millions of illegal immigrants already living and working in the country. The bill would authorize \$400 million a year for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, which provides reimbursements to state

and local government for the jailing of criminal illegal aliens. Immigration policy is the responsibility of the federal government – not state and local governments – and I'm a strong supporter of this program.

Further, the bill contains my provisions to keep suspected members of criminal street gangs from entering the U.S. As you are all too aware, gangs, such as Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13), have been responsible for human smuggling, drug and arms trafficking, and murder.

Overall, I believe this bill will make our country safer. I am hopeful the House and the Senate will be able to resolve their differences and agree on a final version of the bill before the end of the year.

Protecting Our Children from Sex Offenders

The Senate passed the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act on May 4. This bill creates a national database of sex offenders and toughens current laws by requiring monthly in-person registration by sex offenders. Failure to register will constitute a felony. Included in this bill is a provision I authored and named after **Jessica Lunsford**, of Homosassa, Florida, and **Sarah Lunde**, of Ruskin, Florida, two girls murdered by convicted sex offenders last year. The Lunsford/Lunde section of this bill will provide \$30 million in grants over three years to support states with programs that get tougher on those convicted of preying on children. These grants will help fund Florida's new

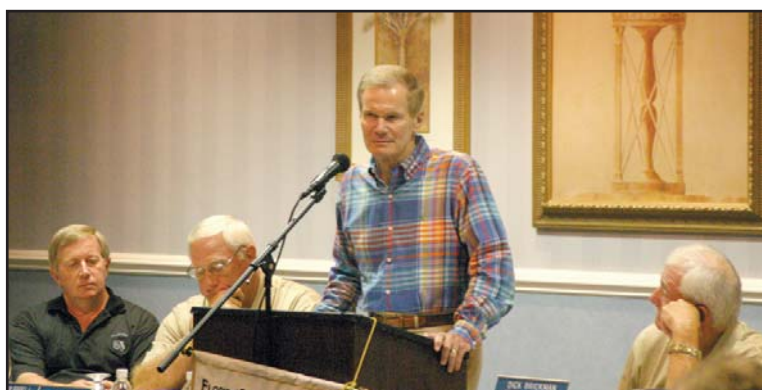
program, requiring lifetime tracking of sex offenders by global positioning satellites (GPS), and I am hopeful they will encourage other states to adopt similar initiatives.

I believe funding is key to making sure tough laws are effective. The House of Representatives passed a similar measure and a bill should soon be headed to the president for his signature.

It is an honor to advocate on your behalf for these and other programs that will assist law enforcement and improve the quality of life of all Floridians. If you have suggestions on ways I can better serve you, don't hesitate to contact my offices in Washington, D.C. or here in Florida.

Thank you. 🇺🇸

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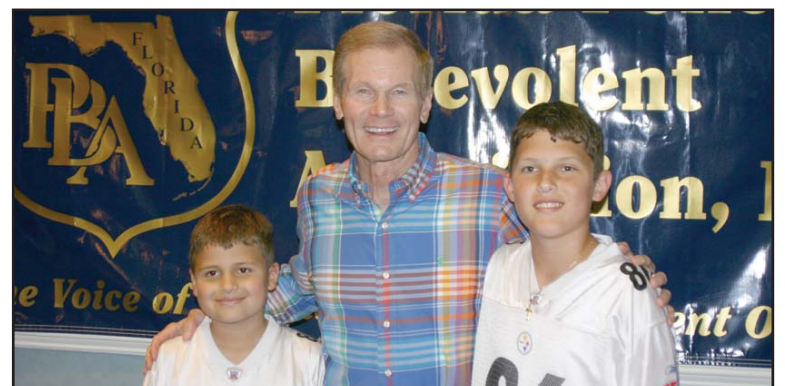
Senator Bill Nelson addressing PBA at the June Board Meeting.



Senator Nelson with the Florida PBA Executive Board of Directors.



Senator Nelson shares a lighter moment with Florida PBA Executive Director David Murrell.



Senator Nelson with a couple of our younger PBAers!