

Nassau County Delegation meeting
January 11, 2023

Jack Knocke comments
CCDFUSA – Nassau County
Executive Director



My name is Jack Knocke. I live at xxxxxxxxxxxx, Fernandina Beach

First, congratulations to both of you on your recent elections. We ask that you are blessed and guided by God in your deliberations and decision making.

Today, I come to you representing our local chapter of County Citizens Defending Freedom (CCDF) Nassau County as Executive Director. Our CCDF-Nassau Team is made up of a professional/full time staff and hundreds of local volunteers who want to see our elected leaders focus on protection of rights guaranteed by our Creator, by The Constitution & by our founding documents. Several of our local CCDF-Nassau leaders will also speak to you today.

Many others who speak to you today are seeking funding for their projects. We do not ask you for money, but for legislation that protects our children and secures our elections. These are two very important areas that have gone sideways in recent years. We need you as legislators to understand the issues and aggressively pass legislation to protect the citizens of Florida.

Due to time limitations, I'll keep my notes brief today. I would like to share my notes with you afterward. Our team is open to talk or meet as a follow up to provide any clarifications you may need. Our national team is also available to work with you on these proposed legislative priorities.

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I'll start with proposed Education legislation:

- 1. Expand HB 1557 to include pre-k through grade 8 and include language that prohibits school counselors and psychologists from circumventing parent rights**
- 2. Education Savings Accounts (ESA) for all K-12 students and expand parental choice options and eligibility to home education.** Parents deserve a choice if a local school system is not educating our children.
- 3. Children educated through the 8th grade in the 1800s were miles ahead of today's 8th graders. Something is wrong! We need a task force to review EVERYTHING from top to bottom to get our schools back on track. Take a page out of the charter school systems that have created VERY effective schools based on traditional values.**
- 4. Require that all districts have a supplemental materials policy, that includes digital resources that adhere to Florida statutes (FS 1003.42, FS Chapter 847 and FS 1006.28, FS 1006.283 including all Florida Child Abuse Statutes (FS Chapter 827)). Create strict rules that do not allow abusive, sexual materials into our schools. It is OK in fact EXPECTED that you err on the side of protecting children.**
- 5. We need a Harmful to Minors materials bill to strengthen Obscenity Chapter 847 to prevent exposure to pornographic and sexually explicit material. Publishers, NGOs, nonprofits need to be exposed, prohibited and subject to prosecution, if they breach child obscenity laws. "Gifts of these materials to schools" must stop. Block this loophole and prosecute.**
- 6. Opt-In bill putting parents in control, protecting children from sexually explicit materials in classrooms and on recommended reading lists K-12. Any opt-in proposals must be fully disclosed and totally transparent so that parents are not manipulated into an opt-in that could harm their child.**

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Moving to election issues.

We should not approach elections by saying “since we have been doing it this way, we cannot change”. Many recent changes in election laws were influenced by those who seek to make elections less secure. We need to reverse these policies and focus on ACCURATE, FAIR and ACCESSIBLE elections. While our local Supervisor of Elections, Janet Adkins, is a bulldog for obeying the laws to ensure that Nassau is free and fair, some election laws do not allow her to secure certain aspects of our elections. (ballot boxes, early voting, voter roll maintenance, cameras, system transparency). Here are our suggestions:

1. **Upgrade the requirements and guidelines for voter roll maintenance.** Ensure there is NO financial incentive to keep voters on the rolls (funding dependent on number of voters).
2. **Eliminate ERIC.** The ERIC system is NOT good for our state or our country. You should seek a new, non-partisan system that is focused on keeping ONLY ACTIVE/LEGITIMATE VOTERS on the rolls.
3. **Eliminate all secure ballot intake stations.** This relatively new practice should be totally eliminated. The US Postal service should once again be the mail-in tool. Our state could hold the US Postal service accountable for proper controls of our state ballots place in their system.
4. **Make Election Day a holiday.** If election day is a holiday, there should be ample opportunity for every voter to get to the polls.
5. **Reduce Early Voting to one week.** In fact, you should **consider eliminating early voting as this relatively new practice has been used to propagate fraud in our elections.**
6. **Information for all vendors supporting our local and state elections should be published by the Secretary of State and the local Supervisor of Elections with all systems, versions, contacts etc. for full transparency to the public.** Those vendors should be available and accountable directly to the public for their

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systems, processes, and results. They should not be able to hide behind a veil of privacy, confidentiality, and secrecy that could lead to fraud and/or manipulation.

Thank you for your time today and thank you for your service to the State of Florida.

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