

# Florida House of Representatives

*Representative Keith Truenow*

District 26

**District Office:**

1951 Woodlea Road  
Tavares, Florida 32778  
(352) 742-6275  
Fax: 888-635-2334

**Tallahassee Office:**

417 House office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 717-5031

March 28, 2024

The Honorable Daniel Webster  
House of Representatives  
2184 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: UF Health Central Florida SIM Lab

Dear Representative Webster,

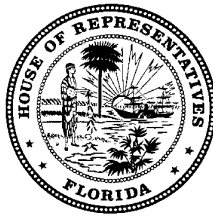
I write to you today to express my full support for the proposal put forth by the UF Health Central Florida to create a simulation laboratory facility ("SIM Lab"). The SIM Lab would be crucial to help train future medical professionals, to address the shortages anticipated in the healthcare workforce, and to ensure our future professionals are better-prepared to enter the healthcare space.

As you are no doubt aware, the SIM Lab equipment would be used to provide hands-on experience for existing medical staff and new hires in a controlled environment. This will provide them the opportunity to work in realistic patient care rooms with full-body patient simulator manikins, which mimic human anatomy and physiology for adults, children, and infants. By offering these simulated emergencies, it will improve healthcare team responses and address Florida's 31st ranking for infant mortality in the U.S.

The SIM Lab will also partner with local high schools to tie into our Student HealthCare Champions program – a program working to foster a positive impact on healthcare delivery, community engagement, and future healthcare workforce development. Both Lake Sumter and Lake Tech State Colleges will also be invited to participate in the SIM Lab programs to advance nursing knowledge and prepare them for the complexities of clinical practice. Studies have shown that lab use is correlated with improvements in skill performance, knowledge acquisition, and clinical performance, with further research suggesting a 74% reduction in medical errors and an 85% reduction in infection rates.

Funding for this program would cover the technology needed for a control room, six (6) state-of-the-art simulators, and the corresponding software installation. This project reflects UF Health's strategy to develop

**Chair of Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Judiciary Committee, Infrastructure Strategies Committee,  
Agriculture, Conservation, & Resiliency Subcommittee, Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law &  
Government Operations Subcommittee, Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee**



# Florida House of Representatives

*Representative Keith Truenow*

District 26

**District Office:**

1951 Woodlea Road  
Tavares, Florida 32778  
(352) 742-6275  
Fax: 888-635-2334

**Tallahassee Office:**

417 House office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 717-5031

innovative solutions and their long-standing commitment to provide students and UF Health Central Florida medical staff with enhanced training which, will in turn, also benefit the patients receiving care at UF Health facilities.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith Truenow".

Keith Truenow  
Florida House of Representatives  
District 26

**Chair of Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Judiciary Committee, Infrastructure Strategies Committee,  
Agriculture, Conservation, & Resiliency Subcommittee, Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law &  
Government Operations Subcommittee, Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee**

City of Leesburg  
P.O. Box 490630  
Leesburg, FL 34749-0630  
www.LeesburgFlorida.gov



Office of the Mayor  
James A. Burry, Jr.  
T (352) 728-9704  
F (352) 728-9706

---

March 25, 2024

The Honorable Daniel Webster  
House of Representatives  
2184 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Webster,

On behalf of the City of Leesburg I am writing to express support for UF Health Central Florida's proposal to create a simulation facility that trains future medical professionals, addressing healthcare workforce shortages and ensuring better-prepared individuals enter the sector.

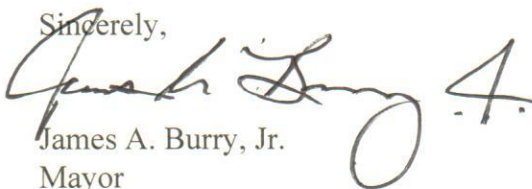
The SIM Lab equipment would be used to provide hands-on experience in a controlled, safe environment for current medical staff and new hires. This will provide realistic patient care rooms with high-fidelity simulated patients and manikins for adult, infant, and childcare practice. By offering simulated maternal and infant care emergencies, it aims to improve healthcare team response and address Florida's 31st ranking for infant mortality in the US.

By partnering with local high schools, our SIM Lab will tie into our Student HealthCare Champions program – a program working to foster a positive impact on healthcare delivery, community engagement and future healthcare workforce development. Lake Sumter and Lake Tech State Colleges will also be invited to participate in the SIM Lab programs to advance nurse knowledge and prepare them for the complexities of clinical practice. For clinical purposes, lab use is linked to significant improvements in skill performance, knowledge acquisition, and clinical performance; with research suggesting a 74% reduction in medical errors and an 85% reduction in infection rates. Funding for this program would cover the technology needed for a control room, six state-of-the-art simulators and the software installation.

This project reflects UF Health's strategy to develop innovative solutions and their long-standing commitment to provide students and UF Health Central Florida medical staff enhanced training which in turn will also benefit patients receiving care at UF Health facilities.

Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely,

  
James A. Burry, Jr.  
Mayor

City of Leesburg  
501 W. Meadow St.  
P.O. Box 490630  
Leesburg, FL 34749-0630  
www.leesburgflorida.gov



Office of the City Manager  
Al Minner  
T (352) 728-9704  
F (352) 728-9706  
al.minner@leesburgflorida.gov

---

March 25, 2024

The Honorable Daniel Webster  
House of Representatives  
2184 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Webster,

On behalf of the City of Leesburg I am writing to express support for UF Health Central Florida's proposal to create a simulation facility that trains future medical professionals, addressing healthcare workforce shortages and ensuring better-prepared individuals enter the sector.

The SIM Lab equipment would be used to provide hands-on experience in a controlled, safe environment for current medical staff and new hires. This will provide realistic patient care rooms with high-fidelity simulated patients and manikins for adult, infant, and childcare practice. By offering simulated maternal and infant care emergencies, it aims to improve healthcare team response and address Florida's 31st ranking for infant mortality in the US.

By partnering with local high schools, our SIM Lab will tie into our Student HealthCare Champions program – a program working to foster a positive impact on healthcare delivery, community engagement and future healthcare workforce development. Lake Sumter and Lake Tech State Colleges will also be invited to participate in the SIM Lab programs to advance nurse knowledge and prepare them for the complexities of clinical practice. For clinical purposes, lab use is linked to significant improvements in skill performance, knowledge acquisition, and clinical performance; with research suggesting a 74% reduction in medical errors and an 85% reduction in infection rates. Funding for this program would cover the technology needed for a control room, six state-of-the-art simulators and the software installation.

This project reflects UF Health's strategy to develop innovative solutions and their long-standing commitment to provide students and UF Health Central Florida medical staff enhanced training which in turn will also benefit patients receiving care at UF Health facilities.

Thank you for consideration.

Respectfully,

Al Minner  
City Manager

# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

## COMMITTEES:

Agriculture  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Committee on Criminal  
and Civil Justice  
Appropriations Committee on Health  
and Human Services  
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs  
Community Affairs  
Military & Veterans Affairs, Space and  
Domestic  
Security  
Rules

## SENATOR DENNIS BAXLEY

*President Pro Tempore*  
13th District

March 27, 2024

The Honorable Daniel Webster  
House of Representatives  
2184 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Webster,

On behalf of the City of Leesburg, I am writing to express support for UF Health Central Florida's proposal to create a simulation facility that trains future medical professionals, addressing healthcare workforce shortages and ensuring better-prepared individuals enter the sector.

The SIM Lab equipment would be used to provide hands-on experience in a controlled, safe environment for current medical staff and new hires. This will provide realistic patient care rooms with high-fidelity simulated patients and manikins for adult, infant, and childcare practice. By offering simulated maternal and infant care emergencies, it aims to improve healthcare team response and address Florida's 31<sup>st</sup> ranking for infant mortality in the U.S.

By partnering with local high schools, our SIM Lab will tie into our Student HealthCare Champions program – a program working to foster a positive impact on healthcare delivery, community engagement and future healthcare workforce development. Lake Sumter and Lake Tech State Colleges will also be invited to participate in the SIM Lab programs to advance nurse knowledge and prepare them for the complexities of clinical practice. For clinical purposes, lab use is linked to significant improvements in skill performance, knowledge acquisition, and clinical performance; with research suggesting a 74% reduction in medical errors and an 85% reduction in infection rates. Funding for this program would cover the technology needed for a control room, six state-of-the-art simulators and the software installation.

I appreciate your favorable response to this request.

Onward & Upward,



Dennis K. Baxley, Senate District 13  
President Pro Tempore

## REPLY TO:

- ☐ 206 South Hwy 27/441, Lady Lake, Florida 32159 (352) 750-3133
- ☐ 404 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5013

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO**  
President of the Senate

**DENNIS BAXLEY**  
President Pro Tempore