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## **FEA president condemns Senate passage of SB 6**

Statement of Florida Education Association President Andy Ford on the passage of SB 6:

“The passage of Senate Bill 6 represents an all-out assault on the teachers of Florida. This destructive and wide-ranging bill was formulated without any input from educators in the classroom and without any interest in making it palatable to teachers and ramrodded through the Senate by the chairman of the state Republican Party. This bill has more to do with winning an election in November than in any attempts at improving education in Florida.

“Any real attempt to improve public education in Florida would set at its foundation the participation and full support of classroom and school practitioners. That just makes sense. But this process is only about punishing and scapegoating teachers, driving experienced and skilled teachers out of the classroom and creating more chaos in Florida public schools.

“If someone set out to destroy the confidence of teachers, raise questions about the quality of public education in parents and attempt to raze public education in this state, they could scarcely find a better blueprint to do it than what we’ve experienced in Florida for the past dozen years, culminating in the Senate passage of SB 6.

“We encourage the Florida House to restore sanity to this process and stop this assault on teachers and public education.”

*The Florida Education Association is the state’s largest association of professional employees, with more than 140,000 members. FEA represents pre K-12 teachers, higher education faculty, educational support professionals, students at our colleges and universities preparing to become teachers and retired education employees.*