From: Arellano, Joey
To: Press

Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Bipartisan Response to Veteran Suicide

**Date:** Wednesday, September 22, 2021 12:16:36 PM

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**September 22, 2021** 

## **CONTACT**

Thomas J. Valeo Office of State Representative Willhite 850.717.5086 Thomas.Valeo@myfloridahouse.gov

## **Bipartisan Response to Veteran Suicide**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – In a bipartisan effort to encourage the Federal government to fully fund the suicide prevention efforts by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, **Representative Willhite (D-Wellington)** is joined by **Senator Burgess (R-Zephyrhills)**. Today, **Senator Burgess** filed **SM 302** to **Representative Willhite's <u>HM 63</u>** filed last month.

"In 2017, Senator Burgess and I came together to start the Legislative Veterans Caucus," said **Representative Willhite**. "As a Veteran and the former executive director of the Florida Department Veterans' Affairs, he understands how important our message is. It is a pleasure to be working with him again to bring veterans' issues to the forefront."

## After filing the Senate companion, Senator Burgess issued the following statement:

"The statistics tell a devastating story and our heroes need help. Every year in Tallahassee, the Legislature reaffirms our support for veterans and their families. Thank you to Representative Willhite for asking me to sponsor this memorial in the Senate. Serving our nation has no party affiliation and neither should serving our veterans."