From:
 Peel, Jackson

 To:
 Press

 Subject:
 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Representative Matt Willhite Files Legislative Idea from High School Student

 Date:
 Tuesday, January 26, 2021 11:43:31 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2021

CONTACT

Thomas J. Valeo Legislative Assistant – Representative Matt Willhite <u>Thomas.Valeo@myfloridahouse.gov</u> (850) 717-5086

Representative Matt Willhite Files Legislative Idea from High School Student

Tallahassee, FL – This year, the Florida House of Representatives agreed to a rule change that expands the number of bills that a State Representative is permitted to file from six to seven bills. With this extra bill slot, **Representative Matt Willhite (D- Wellington)** decided to give this bill slot to a high school student who lives in District 86. After collecting submissions, **Representative Willhite** decided <u>on a bill</u> by **Ethan Douglas** from Wellington High School.

Representative Willhite issued the following statement:

"I recognize that young people are the future of our country. When I was provided this seventh bill slot, I thought it would be a great way to engage young adults, and help start building the bridge for our next generation of leaders. This bill idea came from a student in my district. <u>HB437</u> will require a minor operating or riding on a motorized vehicle to wear certain footwear."

"As a first responder, I've seen the awful injuries that can happen even in a low speed accident in something like a golf cart or motorcycle. If this bill becomes law, it will help protect young people from lifelong scars or disability due to improper footwear."

###