

GRASSROOTS ACTION ALERT

B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation Institute needs you to visit or write to your Florida State Representative and Senator (if you are a Florida resident) or write to Florida legislative leaders (if you live outside of Florida) to encourage them to pass pro-nudity legislation in the 2021 legislative session, which starts soon. Read on for details.

More Naturist/Clothing-optional beaches in Florida are within our reach. With your help, we can make it happen in 2021!

Remember when you first discovered the joy of innocent skinny-dipping and the therapeutic benefits of Florida's all-too-few clothing-optional beaches? Have you loved skinny-dipping at Blind Creek, Haulover, Playalinda, and/or Apollo Beach? Either way, you are the vital link we need now to secure additional, safe, clothing-optional beaches in Florida. We are so close! **Here's what we need you to do:**

1a) Florida residents, [find your Florida State Representative and Senator](#) and meet locally with or write to them. (Call them for their e-mail address or mail it to their district office.)

1b) If you live outside of Florida, write to legislative leaders. (For the House, scroll down to the bottom of the page.) [Senate majority](#) | [Senate minority](#) | [House majority](#) | [House minority](#)

(Additional guidance is offered in the postscript [below](#).)

3) [Donate](#) via PayPal to B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation Institute, a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization. Donations are tax-deductible in the U.S. Alternatively, make a check payable to B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation Institute and mail it to the address at the [bottom](#) of this e-mail.

4) [Give us your mobile phone number](#) for occasional text alerts and updates.

A little more about how you can help: If you're a Florida resident, you have a lot of influence as a constituent. Put on your business attire and meet with your State Representative and State Senator in their district offices from December through early February to educate them about our issues. If you are from outside Florida, you also have a voice, as tourism is Florida's number one industry. Our legislative leaders need to hear from you with new ideas and perspectives to bring tourists back. Share your

feelings about well-managed, family-oriented, clothing-optional beaches as part of the mix.

Additional resources: Read the [2020 legislative report](#) by B.E.A.C.H.E.S.' attorney and lobbyist, Jeff Kottkamp, who is also a former Lieutenant Governor. Further information is available on B.E.A.C.H.E.S.' website under [alerts](#), [blogs](#), and [elsewhere](#).

Background: Approximately 40 years ago, naturists had nearly 100 beach sites at which they could safely skinny-dip and sunbathe nude. Over time, most of those have been lost. Recently, however, B.E.A.C.H.E.S., in partnership with other all-volunteer, nude beach organizations such as [South Florida Free Beaches](#), [Treasure Coast Naturists](#), [Tampa Bay Free Beaches](#), and [Palm Beach Naturists](#), are working together to reclaim some of Florida's beautiful, historically clothing-optional beaches and to establish new ones on state park land.

As B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Founder and Executive Director, I spearheaded *Turnkey Free Beaches*, the initiative to reopen our state beaches for nude use. In the 2020 Florida legislative session, Senator Jason Pizzo introduced a bill on our behalf to clarify the existing indecent exposure law with language recognizing nude beach sunbathing. The bill passed every Senate committee that heard it, but did not make it to a floor vote before COVID-19 consumed attention in the final

days of the session. Senator Pizzo is reintroducing a nearly identical bill in 2021, and it's currently being considered for a companion bill in the House of Representatives.

Thank you in advance for joining our team and, if you can, reply afterward to tell us what actions you took to help in this effort. We will follow up with bill tracking info once the legislative session starts. With your assistance, Floridians and visitors alike will have the opportunity to enjoy more safe, clothing-optional beaches in various parts of Florida in the near future. Naturally yours,

Shirley Mason

Executive Director

B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation Institute

beachesfoundation.org  

***Keeping Our Beaches Bare* since
1999**

Getting an appointment with a legislator (for Florida residents)

- **Find your legislator's district office (see 1a, [above](#)) and call.**
- **Provide your name and contact info (address and phone number).**

- **State the purpose of the meeting; provide a brief narrative of the topic.**
- **State the expected length of the meeting and, optionally, your available times.**

Tips for visiting legislators

- **Looking professional is very important. Be well-groomed and dress in clean, neat business wear. If you have a name tag (e.g., board member), wear it.**
- **Give a warm, but polite greeting, starting with thanks for their service to the community.**
- **Bring business cards, if applicable, whether for your naturist association or other business(es) that you represent.**
- **Avoid the term, "lifestyle," which could be misinterpreted as "swingers." Replace words such as "nude," "nudity," "naked," and "topless" with words connoting fun and carefree innocence such as "skinny-dipping," "clothes-free," "top-free," etc.**

Talking points

- **Tell them who you are and a bit about your family, community, and job.**
- **Explain that you are an ambassador for naturism (i.e., a skinny-dipper) and that clothes-free sunbathing is your recreational option.**

- Say that Florida has a more than 75-year history of naturist organizations, communities, businesses, and clothing-optional beaches.
- Share your organization's mission and rules of conduct, your personal experience of naturism, including its respect for the natural environment, and an invitation to tour a clothing-optional beach or resort.
- Provide highlights from the economic impact study of clothing-optional recreation on [Haulover Beach](#) or the one for [Florida](#) (by AANR-Florida).
- Offer to help them during the next election cycle, including putting a sign in your yard.
- Get their commitment, if possible, to support pro-nudity language in legislation.
- If they are opposed to clothes-free recreation and/or beaches, remain polite and non-argumentative, and simply thank them for their time and for representing you.

Sample narratives for letters (for Florida residents and visitors, respectively)

Note: Most legislators disregard form letters. Use your own words. Do *not* duplicate the following. These are merely suggestions for your discussion.

- I'm your constituent in District (say which one) and I want to discuss the naturist tourism / recreation

market, which is underserved in Florida. Where it is accommodated, we've seen a great boost in the tax revenue to the community and to the state, with billions of dollars each year in economic impact. Unfortunately, due to a defect in legislation and an administrative rule, its growth has been severely limited. I hope to gain your support for a bill that's being reintroduced by Senator Jason Pizzo that will pave the way to expand this recreational use of Florida's state park lands.

- I found information on clothing-optional beaches on the Visit Florida web site approximately three years ago. Since then, I've been a frequent tourist vacationing in Florida, abandoning the beaches of the Caribbean for one or more of the four beaches on the east coast of Florida where I can safely skinny-dip and enjoy the sunshine, warm temperatures, and surf. Plus, I save two days of travel, which allows me to stay longer and spend more money in those communities.**

This innocent, leisurely, and therapeutic activity is something I cherish. Is there anything you can do to expand the number of locations throughout Florida so that I can enjoy this mode of recreation in more places? Having more clothes-free beaches would really help Florida's economy, too.

