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Representative Andrew Learned Files HB 6505: Providing Relief to Robert Earl DuBoise

Tallahassee, FL— Last night, **Representative Andrew Learned (D- Brandon)** filed [HB 6505](#) which will provide relief to Tampa Bay native **Robert DuBoise** who was wrongfully incarcerated for nearly 37 years.

“As a society, one of our most profound duties is to ensure that innocent people are not wrongfully imprisoned.” stated **Representative Learned**. “Our justice system failed Robert DuBoise in 1983 and he had 37 years of his life taken from him including 3 years spent on death row. Now, it is our responsibility to do what we can to make this right.”

Mr. DuBoise was released in September after a long battle to prove his innocence. The breakthrough came when the Innocence Project began investigating the case in 2018 and helped secure his release after DNA evidence excluded him as the assailant.

After hearing of his story, members of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers’ Social Justice Initiative (who will be appearing in the Super Bowl next Sunday) donated \$25,000 to Mr. DuBoise in November of last year.

“Robert has received assistance from the Innocence Project, the Bucs, and kind-hearted community members who know what a tragedy this is and want to help him begin a new life now that he has his freedom. As of now, he has not received any compensation from the state.” said **Representative Learned**.

Representative Learned’s [HB 6505](#) together with [SB 504](#) filed by **Senator Tina Polsky (D- Boca Raton)** will provide \$1.85 million dollars in compensation to Mr. DuBoise, \$50,000 per year for every year he had stolen from him.

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