

Florida Voices

Find the state leaders who represent Florida citizens.

SS.4.CG.2.3 "Identify individuals who represent the citizens of Florida at the state level."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each title of a state-level representative. Circle the words that tell whether the person represents all Floridians or people in one district.

Who Speaks for Florida?

- ① Floridians choose people to speak and make decisions for the state. The governor leads Florida's executive branch and works for people across the whole state. Florida voters elect one governor. A governor may sign bills into laws or veto them. Because the governor represents all Floridians, a family in Pensacola and a family in Key West have the same governor.
- ② Florida is divided into voting areas called districts. People in each district elect a state representative to the Florida House of Representatives and a state senator to the Florida Senate. These lawmakers listen to people in their own districts. They introduce bills, debate ideas, and vote on possible state laws. Each Florida resident has one state representative and one state senator for that resident's district.
- ③ Suppose Nia wants to share an idea about safer crosswalks near her school. She can contact her state representative and state senator because they represent her district in the Legislature. She can also contact the governor, whose decisions affect all of Florida. Nia should give her home address when she writes, so a lawmaker's office can tell which district she lives in and respond to her.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which state-level representative works for people across all of Florida?

2 What two state-level representatives do people elect in each district?

3 Nia wants to share an idea about her school area. Which two representatives should she contact because they represent her district?

4 Why should Nia include her home address when she writes to a lawmaker?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write exactly three sentences about an idea for improving your community. Include the titles governor, state representative, and state senator, and tell who each one represents.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each title of a state-level representative. Circle the words that tell whether the person represents all Floridians or people in one district. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which state-level representative works for people across all of Florida?	The governor.
2	What two state-level representatives do people elect in each district?	A state representative and a state senator.
3	Nia wants to share an idea about her school area. Which two representatives should she contact because they represent her district?	Her state representative and her state senator.
4	Why should Nia include her home address when she writes to a lawmaker?	The lawmaker's office can find her district and respond to her.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I want state funding for safer crosswalks near schools. My state representative and state senator represent my district, so I would share the idea with them. The governor represents all Floridians, so I could also send the idea to the governor.

Accept responses that correctly identify the governor as representing all Floridians and the state representative and state senator as representing the student's district. Students may choose any reasonable community idea.