



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Florida Chamber of Commerce Endorses Congressman Adam Putnam For Florida's Commissioner of Agriculture**

**TALLAHASSEE, FL** – The Florida Chamber of Commerce today proudly announces the unanimous endorsement of Adam Putnam for Commissioner of Agriculture. Congressman Putnam's strong pro-business record demonstrates that he is a leader on issues of concern to Florida's businesses, and that he will work to protect and advance the state's business community as Commissioner of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"Congressman Putnam has been a long-time proponent of greater government efficiency and a careful steward of taxpayer dollars," said Steve Halverson, Florida Chamber board chairman and president of The Haskell Company. "I am confident that he will bring that same common sense leadership to the Florida Cabinet."

A citrus grower and cattleman from Polk County, Congressman Putnam is the clear choice for Florida Commissioner of Agriculture. His tenure of experience includes serving in both the Florida House of Representatives and the U.S. Congress where he served on the House Committee on Government Reform, Rules Committee, Agriculture Committee and the Financial Services Committee. Congressman Putnam is a recognized leader on issues ranging from agriculture and food safety, to energy and government efficiency.

"At no other time in Florida's history has it been more critical to elect leaders that are dedicated to keeping the doors to Florida businesses open," said Allan Bense, former Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives and Florida Chamber board chair-elect. "Congressman Putnam understands the important role Florida businesses play in our state's economy, and has a track record supportive of economic growth, job creation and a less intrusive government."

"I am honored to be the first candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture and the first statewide candidate this election year endorsed by the Florida Chamber of Commerce," Putnam said. "I look forward to working with the Florida Chamber to ensure a welcoming business environment, job growth and retention and a competitive economic environment for our great state."

"Adam Putnam is a pro-business leader that Florida needs," said Mark Wilson, President and CEO of the Florida Chamber. "Congressman Putnam understands the need to diversify our state's economy, and to create a business climate conducive for high wage, high skill jobs, and he can help Florida bridge to the next economy."

As the leading voice of business, today's endorsement allows the Florida Chamber to encourage its 139,000-member businesses and organizations to pledge their support to Congressman Putnam and help elect him as Commissioner of Agriculture.

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*Established in 1916 as Florida's first statewide business advocacy organization, the Florida Chamber of Commerce is the state's largest federation of employers, chambers of commerce and associations, representing more than 139,000 employers. The Chamber works within all branches of government to affect those changes set forth in the annual Florida Business Agenda, and which are seen as critical to the continued improvement of Florida's business environment. Visit [www.FloridaChamber.com](http://www.FloridaChamber.com) for more information.*