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October 17, 2017

The Florida Constitution Revision Commission
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

RE: Florida Chamber Opposes Public Proposal 700540

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of Florida's business community, I want to thank you for your service as a Commissioner on the 2018 Constitution Revision Commission. The work that you undertake through this unique Florida process has the potential to set Florida on a path to continued prosperity. By 2030, Florida can expect another 5.5 million new residents in addition to hundreds of millions of visitors. Planning for this influx of new residents is vital to Florida's competitiveness.

While there have been many successes over the past century of economic growth, it is important to recognize that there have been barriers and burdens to Florida's sustainable future. One of those has been unwieldy and often-unnecessary additions to Florida's Constitution. Another is Florida's bottom five legal climate. The Florida Chamber of Commerce has consistently opposed measures that create excessive burdens on businesses or establish even more unneeded legal liability on Florida's job creators.

It is our understanding that the Constitution Revision Commission might take up Public Proposal 700540. While responsibly protecting our natural resources is essential, the Florida Chamber believes that this constitutional proposal will impose opaque demands on Florida's sustainable growth as well as become a vehicle for a potentially limitless number of lawsuits. The creation of legal liability contained in this proposal is far too expansive, which could lead to out-of-state billionaires with agendas bringing damaging lawsuits against community consensus projects.

The Florida Constitution should be a welcome sign for our great state – not amended to being a closed for business billboard. The Florida Chamber of Commerce asks you to vote against this shortsighted proposal to ensure that the next generation has as much opportunity as the last.

My best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark A. Wilson
President & CEO, Florida Chamber of Commerce

CC: Bob Gramming, Chair, Florida Chamber of Commerce