



WHERE WE STAND

A Guide to the Florida Chamber's 2018 Jobs and Competitiveness Agenda



FLORIDA
CHAMBER
of Commerce
SECURING FLORIDA'S FUTURE
FloridaChamber.com

Open Letter to Florida's Business Leaders



Bob Grammig
2017-2018 Chair
Florida Chamber of Commerce



Mark Wilson
President and CEO
Florida Chamber of Commerce

Florida Chamber Members and Friends:

Year after year, the Florida Chamber of Commerce has been at the forefront of solving issues that impact the competitiveness and future of Florida's business climate. While time passes, our focus remains the same – to be the driving force in uniting Florida's business community, creating economic opportunities and growing jobs.

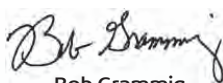
In many ways, Florida is moving in the right direction; but the truth is, things are fragile. Political inaction and uncertainty, changing demographics and unprecedented amounts of out-of-state special interests pose a threat to Florida's sustainability and competitiveness.

As the Florida Chamber enters the 2018 Legislative Session, we are reminded that choices matter. The Florida Chamber's annual jobs and competitiveness agenda, commonly referred to as the Florida Business Agenda, is a set of policy priorities that will help grow private sector jobs, continue to create economic opportunity in Florida and diversify our economy.

A little more than 100 years ago, Florida's business community created the Florida Chamber so businesses would have a strong voice. If you believe free enterprise and Florida's future are worth fighting for, join us.

We look forward to continuing to work with Governor Rick Scott, the Florida Cabinet, the Florida legislature, agency leaders in Tallahassee and Washington D.C., our congressional delegation and **YOU** to make sure the right things happen in Florida.

Sincerely,



Bob Grammig
2017-2018 Chair
Florida Chamber of Commerce



Mark Wilson
President and CEO
Florida Chamber of Commerce

GET INVOLVED:

Make a difference by contacting Joshua Gabel in our Grassroots Engagement office at 850-521-1215, by email at jgabel@flchamber.com or visit www.FloridaChamber.com for more information.

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Free Enterprise Isn't Free



Bob Gramming, Chair and Syd Kitson
Immediate Past Chair of the Florida
Chamber of Commerce

“The Florida Chamber of
Commerce is the non-profit in
Florida fighting to make sure
you don't become one too.”

MARK WILSON
President and CEO
Florida Chamber of Commerce

The Florida Chamber of Commerce unifies Florida's business community every day—24/7, 365 days a year. Our focus, through smart policy, electing pro-jobs legislators and forward-looking research is to make Florida more competitive so Florida's job creators can create jobs, wealth and grow competitive for everyone.

Today, Florida's future remains our number one priority as we continue to be the state that others look to for leadership.

Consider the facts:

- ▶ Florida is the third most populous state in the nation, and is expected to grow to 26 million people by 2030—that's 5.5 million more residents,
- ▶ Nearly 1 in 10 jobs in the United States are created in Florida,
- ▶ Voter turnout continues to increase with 74 percent of registered voters coming out to vote,
- ▶ Florida is number two in the nation for 4-year public college affordability and,
- ▶ Unemployment rates continue to decline, with Florida's unemployment rate at 3.8 percent as of September 2017.

The truth is, things are fragile. There are those who would have you believe Florida's success is due only to the beauty of our natural resources, no personal income tax, our white sandy beaches and our world-famous sunshine, but the Florida Chamber knows better. Experience has shown that Florida moves forward when our business community unites around the principle of free enterprise. Only then, together, can we build a stronger Florida—a Florida that can be a leader in private-sector jobs not just in the U.S. but globally.

However, Florida stands on the precipice of a crisis once more. This time, short-term politics instead of long-term economic prosperity, combined with the special interest agendas of environmental extremists, government unions, plaintiff trial lawyers and out-of-state billionaires with extreme agendas have made Florida's position precarious.

Environmental extremists continue in their efforts to over-regulate Florida and disrupt smarter growth policies that protect the environment using sound science as we prepare for the water and energy needs of a growing population.

Unions who think their interests come before the needs of Florida's students and workers are still trying to take options away from educators, families and even employees.

Plaintiff trial lawyers continue to look for payouts at the expense of Florida's families and small businesses. From Florida's worsening lawsuit abuse problem to our state's workers' compensation crisis, Florida's business climate is on the line if we don't fight back.

GET INVOLVED:

Help the Florida Chamber make Florida more competitive by contacting Joshua Gabel in our Grassroots Engagement office at 850-521-1215, by email at jgabel@flchamber.com or visit www.FloridaChamber.com for more information.



Where We Stand

For those interested in fighting against special interests and who believe in Florida's future — we invite you to join the fight. The battle for free enterprise continues and we welcome your support. For those of you who have already joined us in the arena to fight for free enterprise, we thank you.

Despite the unlimited resources of anti-business, anti-jobs groups, their policies of less freedom and less competitiveness have never worked—and they never will. That's why the Florida Chamber, its members and partners will keep fighting to make Florida America's best hope. We won't give up the fight for what's right for Florida—from the Florida Legislature to the Florida Cabinet, from state to federal agencies, from the court of law to the court of public opinion. When the battle is about what is best for Florida's future, the Florida Chamber is on the front lines. When businesses stay unified, we win.

At the Florida Chamber, we believe:

- ▶ In a **robust free enterprise system** with limited intrusion by government in the marketplace,
- ▶ In a **high-quality education and workforce development system** that will enable all Floridians to compete in the 21st century global economy,
- ▶ In **fair and predictable laws and regulations** that promote economic development and do not impose unreasonable costs on businesses or their customers,
- ▶ In a **simple, fair and globally competitive tax structure**,
- ▶ In **fiscal responsibility, public accountability and transparency** in government,
- ▶ In a **reliable and sustainable infrastructure** to support the health and prosperity of all Floridians,
- ▶ In a **constructive and positive labor environment** in Florida that generates jobs, and
- ▶ In a **unified and responsible business community** that acts in the long-term interest of Florida.

On behalf of Florida's leading business employers, we would like to thank those legislators, Democrats and Republicans, who put job creation ahead of short term politics.



United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos discusses Florida's education needs with President and CEO of the Florida Chamber of Commerce, Mark Wilson.

“Your focus on developing talent and meeting the needs of business and industry is exactly the place you need to be in looking forward.”

BETSY DEVOS
Secretary of the United States
Department of Education

GET INVOLVED:

If you believe in free enterprise, support our cause by investing, volunteering, writing your legislator or sharing your voice with us. Contact the Florida Chamber's Grassroots Engagement office at jgabel@flchamber.com or by calling 850-521-1215.



2018

Florida Chamber Board of Directors

The Florida Chamber Board of Directors is comprised of business leaders representing every region and industry in Florida, from start-ups to small businesses to multi-national corporations.

Florida Chamber board members invest their time, resources and expertise to further the substantial pro-business legislative, research, political and grassroots activities of the Florida Chamber and our members. The Florida Chamber board invites you to join the fight for free enterprise.

CHAIR
Robert Grammig
Holland & Knight LLP



CHAIR-ELECT
Stan Connally
Gulf Power



IMMEDIATE
PAST CHAIR
2016-2017
Syd Kitson
Kitson & Partners



Paul Anderson
Tampa Port Authority



John Attaway
Publix



Charles Bailes III
ABC Fine Wine
and Spirits Inc.



Robert Bennett
Merrill Lynch, Pierce,
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CHAIR
FLORIDA CHAMBER
POLITICAL INSTITUTE
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Cooperative



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Warren Averett



Cressman Bronson
PNC Bank



David Call
Fifth Third Bank



Charley Caulkins
Fisher & Phillips LLP



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A. Duda & Sons, Inc.



Susan Connelly
Darden Restaurants, Inc.



Lori Costantino-Brown
Bridges of America



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Regions Bank



Carol Craig
Craig Technologies



Husein Cumber
Florida East
Coast Industries



Kevin Darrenkamp
Lockheed Martin
Corporation



CHAIR
FLORIDA CHAMBER
FOUNDATION
Doug Davidson
Bank of America
Merrill Lynch



Paulee Day
MarineMax



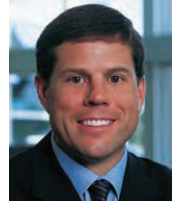
Fred Donovan, Jr.
Baskerville-Donovan



Dan Doyle, Jr.
Dex Imaging



Jonathan P. Ferrando
AutoNation, Inc.



David Fuller
SunTrust Foundation



Danny Gaekwad
NDS InfoTech



Michael Gallagher
SantaFe
HealthCare, Inc.



Todd Gates
GATES



Gordon Gillette
Tampa Electric &
Peoples Gas



Jorge Gonzalez
St. Joe Company



Debbie Harvey
Ron Jon Surf Shop



PAST CHAIR
1990-1991
Glenda Hood
triSect



PAST CHAIR
2012-2013
Lars Houmann
Adventist Health
System - Florida
Division



2018

Florida Chamber Board of Directors

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UF Health Shands
Hospital



Dana Jones
Putnam County
Chamber of Commerce



Belinda Keiser
Keiser University



Quintin Kendall
CSX Transportation



John Kenning
G4S



Beth Kigel
Palm Beach
North Chamber of
Commerce



PAST CHAIR
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Beall's, Inc.



Rena Langley
Walt Disney Parks
& Resorts



Charlie Lydecker
Halifax Insurance
Partners



Allen McGlynn
State Farm Insurance
Companies



Ergetu Merete
Wells Fargo



Carlos Migoya
Jackson Health



Scott Mikuen
Harris Corporation



Michael Minton
Dean, Mead, Minton
and Zwemer



Trey H. Paris
General Electric
Company



Florida Chamber Board of Directors

Todd Powell
Weyerhaeuser



G. Lee Sandler
Sandler, Travis
& Rosenberg



Jackson Sasser, Ph.D.
SantaFe College



Mike Sheely
Allstate Insurance
Company



Harry Sideris
Duke Energy



PAST CHAIR
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Florida Power &
Light Company



David Strong
Orlando Health



David Sweeney
RS&H



Jon Urbanek
Florida Blue



Will Weatherford
Weatherford Partners



Steve Weinstein
RenaissanceRe
North America
Holdings, Inc.



Bob White
The Doctors Company



Mark Wilson
Florida Chamber
of Commerce



Joe York
AT&T



Governmental Advocacy Team

The Florida Chamber Advocacy Team closely tracks thousands of votes each session and testifies continuously throughout the year, making sure the voice of job creators is heard.



Mark Wilson
President
and CEO



David Hart
Executive Vice
President of
Governmental Affairs
& Political Operations



Frank Walker
Vice President of
Governmental
Affairs



Marian Johnson
Senior Vice
President of
Political Strategy



Edie Ousley
Vice President
of Public
Affairs



Andrew Wiggins
Senior Director
of Campaign
& Elections



Carolyn Johnson
Director of
Business, Economic
Development &
Innovation Policy



Brittney Hunt
Director of Talent,
Education and
Quality of Life
Policy



Christopher Emmanuel
Director of
Infrastructure
and Governance
Policy



Alice Ancona
Director of
Global
Outreach



Dan Tapia
Manager of
Global
Outreach



Joshua Gabel
Director of
Grassroots
Development and
Engagement



Hannah Kaplan
Governmental
Affairs
Coordinator

Legislative Advocates

In addition to our year-round internal Advocacy Team, the Florida Chamber partners with some of the most trusted, successful and well-connected lobbying professionals in Florida on competitiveness issues ranging from taxation, regulations, workers' comp and legal reform to education reform, innovation, water science, transportation, healthcare and more. These experts work together with Florida Chamber staff and volunteers.



**Josh
Aubuchon**



**Travis
Blanton**



**Melanie
Bostick**



**French
Brown IV**



**Melanie
Brown**



**Matt
Bryan**



**David
Childs**



**David
Daniel**



**Mark
Delegal**



**Jennifer
Green**



**Thomas
Griffin**



**Jeff
Hartley**



**Gary
Hunter**



**Lisa
Hurley**



**Jon
Johnson**



**Ryan
Matthews**



**Darrick
McGhee**



**Tim
Parson**



**Andrea
Reilly**

"I look forward to working with the Florida Chamber to ensure that career readiness and workforce skills remain an important metric in every child's education."

SENATOR BILL MONTFORD

"I am looking forward to working with the Florida Chamber to advance more pioneering policies in the years to come."

SENATOR JEFF BRANDES

2017 DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATE AWARDS



The Florida Chamber's Distinguished Advocate Award recognizes legislators who have championed key Florida Business Agenda legislation. The award is designed to acknowledge legislators who ensured consideration of the business community's legislative priorities and who fought tirelessly for the passage of pro-jobs legislation.

THE FLORIDA CHAMBER'S 2017 DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATES IN THE SENATE WERE:



**SENATOR JEFF BRANDES
(R-St. Petersburg)**

passed ridesharing and autonomous vehicle legislation that welcomes innovation and helps make Florida's transportation system more modern, efficient and competitive.



**SENATOR JACK LATVALA
(R-Clearwater)**

fought for proven investments in economic development and tourism marketing, took a stand against repealing the Insurance Premium Tax Credit, and combated the trial lawyer agenda as the lone vote against prejudgment interest legislation in committee.



**SENATOR BILL MONTFORD
(D-Tallahassee)**

worked side-by-side with the Florida Chamber to strengthen Florida's education accountability system and ensure that students remain prepared to compete in the workforce.



**SENATOR KEITH PERRY
(R-Gainesville)**

passed legislation that would shield injured workers' private personal information from trial lawyers in workers' comp cases.



**SENATOR KELLI STARGEL
(R-Lakeland)**

showed leadership in advocating for the Florida Chamber's education and tax priorities.

"I am proud to share the Chamber's value of economic prosperity and free enterprise."

REPRESENTATIVE TOM LEEK

"I am proud to stand beside the Florida Chamber of Commerce to promote economic prosperity for all employees."

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT PLAKON

THE FLORIDA CHAMBER'S 2017 DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATES IN THE HOUSE WERE:



**REPRESENTATIVE
BEN ALBRITTON
(R-Bartow)**

fought to keep injured workers' personal information private for workers' comp claims.



**REPRESENTATIVE
MICHAEL BILECA
(R-Miami)**

fought for continued improvements to Florida's world-class educational systems.



**REPRESENTATIVE
JIM BOYD
(R-Bradenton)**

led efforts to reduce the business rent tax and offer other tax relief for Florida families and businesses.



**REPRESENTATIVE
DANNY BURGESS
(R-Zephyrhills)**

led the charge for major workers' comp reforms, one of the Chamber's top priorities.



**REPRESENTATIVE
MANNY DIAZ JR.
(R-Hialeah Gardens)**

remained committed to students and teachers in Florida by advocating for a more flexible and accountable education environment that puts students first.



**REPRESENTATIVE
JAY FANT
(R-Jacksonville)**

fought the trial lawyer agenda on everything from prejudgment interest to workers' comp to accuracy in damages this legislative session. He also supported funding economic development initiatives and tourism marketing.



**REPRESENTATIVE
JAMES "J.W." GRANT
(R-Tampa)**

worked to reduce Assignment of Benefits (AOB) fraud and abuse, which is driving up property insurance rates for Floridians.



**REPRESENTATIVE
MIKE LA ROSA
(R-Saint Cloud)**

led the House's efforts to protect Florida's family-friendly brand from the expansion of Las Vegas-style casino gambling, and passed legislation that will help bring faster digital connections to all Floridians.



**REPRESENTATIVE
TOM LEEK
(R-Daytona Beach)**

pushed for reforms to Florida's bottom-five legal environment by passing legislation to slow down unwarranted lawsuit abuse.



**REPRESENTATIVE
SCOTT PLAKON
(R-Longwood)**

fought against union leaders and for the rights of government workers by pursuing transparency in the collective bargaining process.



**REPRESENTATIVE
CHRIS SPOWLS
(R-Clearwater)**

championed providing a consistent regulatory framework for innovative ridesharing technologies demanded by Floridians and visitors.

Find out why these legislators earned a Florida Chamber Distinguished Advocate Award by visiting www.FlChamber.com/AdvocateAward

Closing Florida's Talent Gap by Improving Educational Opportunities



Florida Education Commissioner Pam Stewart discussing Florida's education system and the need for reform at the Florida Chamber Foundation's Annual Learners to Earners Education Summit.

Why It Matters To Florida

From local businesses to major corporations, a qualified workforce is a top concern for job creators. To secure Florida's future, employers need talent that is prepared to enter the workforce. Florida wins when we close the gap by putting students ahead of special interests. The Florida Chamber will continue working with education, business and workforce partners to champion the best education system for our state.



For a more in-depth look at these issues and more, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/Issues.

“Free markets really benefit when we have free minds and people who are capable of educating students in a way that they can take ownership of their future.”

JONATHAN HAGE
Charter Schools USA

“Our students need the skillsets to meet their employer's needs and we must focus on preparing students for tomorrow's economy.”

NANCY KEEFER
Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS:

- ▶ CareerSource Florida
- ▶ Children's Movement of Florida
- ▶ Florida College System
- ▶ Florida Council of 100
- ▶ Florida Council on Economic Education
- ▶ Florida Department of Education
- ▶ Florida Research Consortium
- ▶ Florida State University System
- ▶ Florida TaxWatch
- ▶ Foundation for Excellence in Education
- ▶ Foundation for Florida's Future
- ▶ Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida
- ▶ James Madison Institute
- ▶ U.S. Chamber of Commerce

The Florida Chamber's Focus Includes:

EARLY LEARNING

Ensuring All Students Are Prepared For 4th Grade

Ensuring a talented workforce for tomorrow begins with empowering our youngest learners today. Preparing children to learn provides a foundation for future successes and helps them develop skills such as self-discipline, persistence and cooperation-skills that are essential to their future success in the workforce.

“We have to make sure we have a talented workforce to fill the needs that companies have. Nobody wants our grads to go to Atlanta or Charlotte or Austin to find a job.”

CISSY PROCTOR | Florida Department of Economic Opportunity



Talent Supply & Education

K-12

Further Improving Florida's K-12 System

Continuing to advocate for advancements in assessment and accountability systems at all levels of Florida's education system will help secure a globally competitive talent pipeline. We will continue to focus on legislation that supports rigorous standards for schools and effective measurements for students success.

Championing School Choice Options

At the Florida Chamber we recognize that education is not a one-size fits all option. Allowing parents to choose the best learning environment for their children gives students more opportunities for success and encourages improvements in Florida's education system.

STEM Matters More Than Ever

Recent available data shows that of the 221,100 job openings currently available in Florida, more than 66,000 are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) related. The Florida Chamber will continue to support a focus on STEM initiatives throughout Florida's education system to ensure our students become globally competitive.

HIGHER EDUCATION

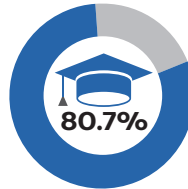
Expanding Access to Higher Education and Attainment

Advocating for increased attainment and making college more affordable is a top priority for the Florida Chamber. In addition to adequately preparing Florida's students to enter the workforce, we must also focus on attracting and retaining world class talent.

WORKFORCE

Preparing Florida's Workforce and Addressing Our Skills Gap

In order for Florida to remain one of the top business climates in the nation, we must increase educational opportunities in both higher educational institutions and in the 21st century vocational trades. We will continue to fight for a stronger emphasis on quality workforce education programs that link education to job creation.



DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly **81%** of students in high school in Florida are graduating.

You can learn more about these numbers at www.TheFloridaScorecard.org.

Talent is Florida's Best Economic Development Tool

- ✓ Achievement gaps are closing
- ✓ High School graduation rates are at an 11-year high
- ✓ Third grade reading scores are improving

YET between now and 2030, **2 million** more jobs will be needed.

By 2030, **60 percent** of jobs will require a post secondary degree.

There are more than **383,000** people looking for jobs and **221,100** Florida jobs looking for people.

THE GAP Florida's wins when we focus on a cradle to career continuum that provides education opportunities and training pathways for all our state's learners.

GET INVOLVED:

Businesses can make the difference – see how you can be part of the learners to earners conversation by emailing TLowe@FLFoundation.org to get involved.

Source: TheFloridaScorecard.org; Florida Department of Education



Diversifying Florida's Economy and Creating High-Wage Jobs



Cissy Proctor, Executive Director, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity discusses strengthening Florida's workforce and economic development.

“The math is simple. More jobs plus more people traveling around our state equals a stronger economy. I appreciate the Chamber's work and advocacy on this issue.”

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS SPROWLS

“To diversify Florida's economy, we must continue to invest in innovative technologies that diversify our economy and bring in high-wage job opportunities to Floridians.”

BOB ROHRLACK
Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS:

- ▶ The Beacon Council
- ▶ Enterprise Florida, Inc.
- ▶ Film Florida
- ▶ Florida Airports Council
- ▶ Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- ▶ Florida Department of Transportation
- ▶ Florida Economic Development Council
- ▶ FloridaMakes
- ▶ Florida Ports Council
- ▶ Florida Small Business Development Centers
- ▶ Manufacturers Association of Florida
- ▶ Space Florida
- ▶ VISIT FLORIDA

Why It Matters To Florida

Diversifying Florida's economy is key to creating jobs and opportunities. To do so, the Florida Chamber will continue to build tourism, agriculture, and construction while diversifying Florida's economy into next generation targeted industries. We must continue to attract growing and innovative industries and new technologies that will allow Florida to lead the way in job creation.



For a more in-depth look at these issues and more, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/Issues.

The Florida Chamber's Focus Includes:

INNOVATION ECONOMY

Diversifying Our Economy and Creating Jobs Through Economic Development

The Florida Chamber understands the impact legislative decisions can have on the future of Florida's economy. We will continue to fight for investments in economic development and champion initiatives for job creation and capital investment as well as workforce development and infrastructure.

Championing Rural Business Opportunities

As Florida's population increases, the Florida Chamber will continue to support job creation in rural communities to help increase economic growth across all of Florida.

Fostering Innovation by Growing Targeted Industries

The Florida Chamber supports projects that will diversify Florida's economy and attract businesses through innovations in technology, research and development, and public-private partnerships.

ENTREPRENEURISM

Growing Florida's Small Businesses

Small businesses are increasingly concerned about workforce quality and government intervention in their business. The Florida Chamber will continue to support small businesses and reforms that allow small businesses to have access to resources and support they need.

To learn more on the issues facing Florida's small businesses visit www.FloridaChamber.com/SmallBusiness.



Innovation & Economic Development

GLOBAL TRADE

Increasing Trade to Florida's Employers

Florida is uniquely positioned for international trade. The Florida Chamber is committed to strengthening Florida's position as a global trade leader and increasing foreign direct investment.

Growing Florida's Manufacturing Industry

Attracting and creating high-wage jobs in Florida is important for long-term success. The Florida Chamber will continue to champion efforts that support Florida's manufacturing industry.



DID YOU KNOW?

More than **2.4 million** jobs in Florida depend on international trade. You can learn more about these numbers at www.FloridaWins.org/InternationalTrade.

AVIATION & AEROSPACE

Strengthening Florida's Leadership in Space Exploration

The Florida Chamber will support efforts that strengthen Florida's role in space exploration by supporting public and commercial space projects and investing in a skilled aerospace workforce.

"Thanks to organizations like the Florida Chamber of Commerce, who push to make Florida more competitive, we are able to develop technologies that strengthen Florida's economy."

SCOTT MIKUEN | Harris Corporation

VETERANS, DEFENSE AND MILITARY INDUSTRY

Supporting Florida's Veterans, Defense and Military Industry

With more than 20 military bases and three combatant command centers in our state, the Florida Chamber will continue to support efforts that keep skilled veterans in high-wage jobs and allow the defense industry to flourish.



DID YOU KNOW?

More than **1.5 million** veterans call Florida home. www.FloridaWins.org/Military

Florida is a Small Business State

The Florida Chamber's most recent Small Business Index Survey shows top small business concerns include:

- ✓ Workforce Quality
- ✓ Government Regulations
- ✓ Economic Uncertainty
- ✓ Healthcare Costs

YEAR OVER YEAR JOB CREATION HAS PEAKED

APRIL 2016
305,400 JOBS

AUGUST 2017
221,400 JOBS

↓
SEPTEMBER 2017
127,400 JOBS

HOWEVER, JOBS WERE LOST IN SEPTEMBER.

Can Florida continue to diversify it's economy and create high-wage jobs?

FLORIDA CONTINUES TO GROW

Yet California had **25 TIMES** the number of deals funded by venture capital over the past year than Florida.

In fact, California gets in **20 days** the amount of venture capital Florida gets in **1 year**.

**T
H
E
G
A
P**

In order to continue growing the best business climate in the nation, we must continue to provide opportunities for small businesses and entrepreneurs to succeed.

GET INVOLVED:

Two out of three Florida jobs are created by small businesses. Help keep Florida's small business community thriving by joining the Florida Chamber's Small Business Council. Contact Carolyn Johnson at CJohnson@FLChamber.com today.

Sources: Florida Chamber Foundation; Tax Foundation; Florida Governor Scott



Preparing Florida's Infrastructure for Future Growth



Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam discusses the future of Florida's economy at the Florida Chamber Foundation's annual Future of Florida Forum.

“We have to continue to work with local and state entities like the Florida Chamber of Commerce... to make sure that we are all communicating with a unified voice on the planning and infrastructural needs of Florida's businesses.”

DOUG WHEELER
Florida Ports Council

“With six million more people expected to live in the state by 2030, Florida must be ready to expand infrastructure to support Florida's new and existing residents.”

TIFFANY ESPOSITO
Bonita Springs Chamber of Commerce

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS:

- ▶ Associated Builders & Contractors of Florida
- ▶ Florida Airports Council
- ▶ Florida Department of Transportation
- ▶ Florida Electric Cooperatives Association
- ▶ Florida Farm Bureau
- ▶ Florida Home Builders Association
- ▶ Florida Land Council
- ▶ Florida Natural Gas Association
- ▶ Florida Ports Council
- ▶ Floridians for Better Transportation
- ▶ NAIOP of Florida
- ▶ Space Florida

Why It Matters To Florida

By 2030, 5.5 million more people will call Florida home. A growing Florida means a growing need for infrastructure to support an increasing population. The Florida Chamber is focused on creating long-term investments in Florida's energy, water, transportation, telecommunications, agriculture and other hard and soft infrastructure. As the third most populous state, it is crucial that we focus on the right policies that will position Florida for smart growth.



For a more in-depth look at these issues and more, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/Issues.

The Florida Chamber's Focus Includes:

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Supporting Proactive Economic Planning and Development

The Florida Chamber will continue to work toward streamlining state, regional and local processes by embracing proactive growth leadership initiatives and reducing the amount of bureaucratic barriers holding businesses back.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Championing Innovations in All Modes of Transportation

By the year 2030, Florida will have 4-5 million new drivers. Innovations that will support these new residents, provide jobs and keep Florida competitive are vital. The Florida Chamber will champion technologies like ride-sharing options, electric cars and other innovative modes of transportation to accommodate a growing Florida.

“Making sure we are doing everything we can to keep up with the current growth and anticipate future need is of crucial importance... Across the board there is a recognition in the importance of investment in transportation infrastructure.”

MIKE DEW | Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation



Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

ENERGY

Advocating for Efficient and Sustainable Energy Solutions

The Florida Chamber will continue to advocate for sustainable long-term energy solutions that support economic growth and ensure cost-efficient and modern energy sources for all Floridians.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Championing Long-Term, Sustainable Water and Environmental Policies

The Florida Chamber will continue to advocate for science-based solutions that support Florida's water supply needs in the future.



DID YOU KNOW?

By 2030 Florida will need **20 percent more water**.
To learn more about changes to Florida's environmental future join us at our Environmental Permitting Summer School and visit www.FloridaChamber.com/SummerSchool.

“With a portfolio of world-class coastal assets, Florida has much to gain by taking a strong leadership role in coastal restoration and goals.”

DUANE DE FREESE, Ph.D.

Indian River Lagoon Council & Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program

RISK PREPAREDNESS

Ensuring Floridians Are Prepared For a Storm, No Matter What

Florida is no stranger to hurricane season. The Florida Chamber continues to support families and businesses affected by Hurricane Irma and other storms to ensure a quick recovery.

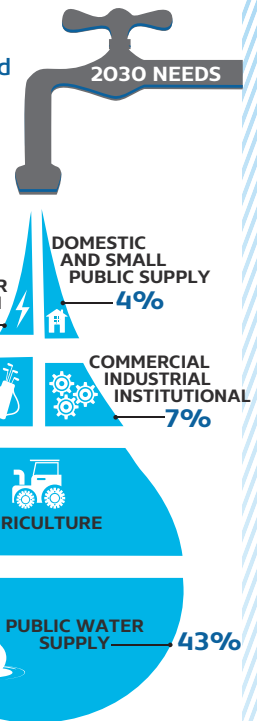
JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Register today for the Florida Chamber Foundation's Annual Transportation Summit to learn more about Florida's growing transportation systems.

www.FloridaChamber.com/TransportationSummit

Florida's Future Requires Long-Term Water Solutions

By 2030, it's estimated water demand will increase by **20%**.



Science-based water policies can help meet demands and solve current and future water quality issues.

THE GAP With an estimated **9 billion gallons** of water consumed each day by 2030, Florida needs science-based solutions to meet future needs.

GET INVOLVED:

Help secure Florida's water future by contacting Christopher Emmanuel at CEmmanuel@FLChamber.com.



Sources: Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Florida Chamber Foundation



Keeping Florida's Business Climate Competitive



Florida Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis discusses insurance fraud's impact on Florida's economy at the Florida Chamber Foundation's annual Future of Florida Forum.

“Assignment of Benefits is a Category 5 hurricane.

It's an issue that effects every single policy holder in the state, it will change the dynamics of insurance and it will have a ripple effect on our state liability.”

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER JIMMY PATRONIS

“We will continue to work with the Florida Chamber to ensure that proper tools exist to provide a catalyst for economic growth as we aggressively recruit jobs and capital investment in today's global economy.”

CHRIS QUINN
Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS:

- ▶ Florida Association of Insurance Agents
- ▶ Florida Insurance Council
- ▶ Florida Institute of CPAs
- ▶ Florida Justice Reform Institute
- ▶ Florida Realtors®
- ▶ Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association
- ▶ Florida Retail Federation
- ▶ NAIOP
- ▶ National Federation of Independent Businesses
- ▶ Florida's Small Business Development Center Network
- ▶ R Street Institute

Why It Matters To Florida

To ensure Florida's economy remains competitive we must address Florida's broken legal climate. The Florida Chamber continues to fight for a Florida that can remain a leader in U.S. job creation and ensure that dated and costly regulations become a thing of the past. By continuing to build an environment that invites businesses and investments worldwide, as well as retaining Florida's already growing businesses, Florida can create a strong and successful business climate.



For a more in-depth look at these issues and more, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/Issues.

The Florida Chamber's Focus Includes:

COMMERCIAL INSURANCE

Fixing Florida's Workers' Compensation System

Recent increases in workers' compensation rates are putting Florida's businesses at risk. This means a \$1.5 billion impact to Florida's business community. An unstable and unpredictable workers' comp system leaves injured workers, employees and employers footing the bill. The Florida Chamber will continue to fight for fair policies and workers' comp reforms that will reduce rates, protect injured workers and bring stability to the system.

“I am so proud of the work that the Florida Chamber does as a leading voice for Florida businesses.”

SUSAN CONNELLY | Darden Restaurants



Business Climate & Competitiveness

Creating Competitive and Stable Insurance Markets

Assignment of Benefits (AOB) fraud continues to rise in Florida, threatening Florida's homeowners and auto owners with unnecessarily high insurance premiums. The Florida Chamber will continue its efforts to create a stable and competitive insurance market, exposing shady contractors and trial lawyers.

DID YOU KNOW?

There were more than **28,000 AOB cases** in 2016 – up from 405 a decade ago.

Be a part of the conversation. Join the Consumer Protection Coalition at www.FightFraud.today.



Further Making Unemployment Compensation Taxes Competitive

No business should be burdened by the excessive costs of unemployment compensation taxes. To make Florida more competitive, the Florida Chamber will continue advocating to protect employers by lowering these taxes when necessary.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Be the first to know when registration opens for the next Florida Chamber of Commerce Insurance Summit at www.FloridaChamber.com/InsuranceSummit

The Cost of Living in a Judicial Hellhole

A bottom-five legal climate is an open invitation for "gotcha" lawsuits.

THE COSTS:



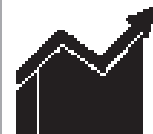
BOTTOM-FIVE LEGAL CLIMATE: **\$3,400** a year per family



AOB INSURANCE FRAUD: **10% Increase** in property insurance rates



WATER CLAIMS WITH AOB FORM: **50% more costly** than those without



FLORIDA'S LEGAL CLIMATE RANKING
46TH WORST

THE GAP

In order to change Florida's 'Judicial Hellhole' reputation, we must continue to push for a better legal climate and say "no" to special interest agendas of trial lawyers.

GET INVOLVED:

Florida's bottom-five legal climate hurts our ability to remain competitive in the global marketplace. Join the Florida Chamber's efforts to reform Florida's broken legal system by contacting CJohnson@FLChamber.com.

Sources: Florida Office of Insurance Regulation; www.FightFraud.Today



Keeping Florida's Business Climate Competitive



Syd Kitson, Past Chair of the Florida Chamber, discusses federal issues with U.S. Senator Marco Rubio at the Florida Chamber Foundation's annual Future of Florida Forum.

“I think the Chamber’s success comes in part from uniting diverse business interests and diverse economic drivers under one common goal- and that’s to make Florida simply more competitive.”

STAN W. CONNALLY JR.
Gulf Power Company, Pensacola

“When Florida fights for small businesses and free-enterprise, the entire state wins.”

ROBIN SOLLIE
Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce

TAXES

Furthering Smarter and Competitive Tax Policies

The Florida Chamber believes in a competitive and equitable tax system for Florida. By supporting “e-fairness” efforts, calling for the elimination of the Florida-only business rent tax and discouraging discriminatory tax policies, Florida’s businesses will be able to grow and remain competitive.

We will continue advocating for:

- ▶ Reducing unemployment compensation taxes,
- ▶ Reducing Florida’s corporate income tax,
- ▶ Reducing the Florida-only tax on business rent,
- ▶ Increasing the Research & Development Tax Credit,
- ▶ Providing consumers with sales tax holidays and
- ▶ Campaigning for the constitutional amendment that continues to cap assessments on non-homestead properties.

REGULATIONS

Streamlining Regulations to Grow Florida’s Jobs

Thanks to Governor Scott’s leadership and the Florida Legislature’s focus on jobs, Florida has eliminated more than 4,500 outdated, ineffective and duplicative regulations. The Florida Chamber continues to fight to protect businesses from costly and unnecessary regulations that hurt Florida’s national and international competitiveness.

“Job creation is absolutely critical to Florida’s economic success and I’m glad to have the Florida Chamber helping lead the fight, championing Florida’s business-friendly climate, and advocating for free enterprise. Together, it’s working.”

FLORIDA GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT



Business Climate & Competitiveness

PROPERTY RIGHTS

Protecting Private Property Rights

The Florida Chamber believes in Florida's businesses and their rights to decide what happens on their private property. We oppose initiatives that can create a threat to a business owner's constitutional rights to private property.

LEGAL REFORM

Fixing Florida's Broken Lawsuit Climate

Florida continues to fail in terms of legal climate—coming in at 46 of 50 this past year. When lawsuit abuse occurs, Florida families and businesses feel the impact through higher costs of living creating a \$3,400 “tax” for families each year. The Florida Chamber will continue to fight against trial lawyers and lawsuit abuses, allowing Florida to crawl out from its “judicial hellhole.”

LEGAL CLIMATE RANKING

- 45 West Virginia
- 46 **Florida**
- 47 California
- 48 Illinois
- 49 Missouri
- 50 Louisiana

Source: U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Creating a Fair Liability Environment to Attract and Keep Medical Professionals

In order for Florida to keep attracting high-skill talent and world-class medical professionals, we must continue to discourage unjustified lawsuits and maintain a fair medical liability environment.

WORKPLACE & EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

Protecting Job Creators and Employees in Wage Disputes

Florida must continue to protect the rights of both employer and employee in wage disputes. The Florida Chamber will continue its efforts to ensure laws are designed to guarantee employees are not denied their rightful wages and employers aren't unjustly targeted.

Preventing Employment Regulations and Mandates

The Florida Chamber supports protecting the employment decisions of job creators and will oppose any new mandates that are detrimental to the employer-employee relationship.

Rising Workers' Comp Rates Will Stunt Economic Opportunities



Florida's Supreme Court rulings mean workers' comp rates are costing Florida job creators more than **\$1.5 BILLION**

Because of trial lawyer tactics, business owners must now make a choice:



THE GAP The Florida Chamber will work to unite Florida's business community to bring stability and predictability to Florida's workers' compensation system.

GET INVOLVED:

Get involved with the Florida Chamber's Workers' Comp Task Force and help make Florida more competitive. Contact Carolyn Johnson at CJohnson@FLChamber.com.

Sources: Office of Insurance Regulation; Florida Chamber of Commerce



Making Florida Government More Efficient



Constitution Revision Commissioner Brecht Heuchan, Mary Adkins, Director, Legal Writing & Appellate Advocacy, Master Skills Legal Professor, University of Florida College of Law and Dan Nordby, General Counsel for Governor Rick Scott, discuss the Constitutional Revision Commission at the Florida Chamber's annual Capitol Days event.

“The last time we had a CRC we had five million fewer residents so I think it’s a great opportunity for the citizens of Florida to have their voices heard.”

BELINDA KEISER
Keiser University

“In order to remain globally competitive, we will continue to partner with the Florida Chamber to remove the hurdle of unnecessary and costly government regulations for businesses.”

CAROL ROBERTS
Bay County Chamber of Commerce

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS:

- ▶ Central Florida Partnership
- ▶ Florida Association of Counties, Inc.
- ▶ Florida Bankers Association
- ▶ Florida Council of 100
- ▶ Florida League of Cities
- ▶ James Madison Institute
- ▶ National Federation of Independent Businesses
- ▶ Tampa Bay Partnership
- ▶ U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Why It Matters To Florida

The Florida Chamber knows that in order for Florida’s government system to do well, it must be transparent, efficient and sustainable. By blocking costly regulations and eliminating outdated taxations, Florida’s government can focus on creating jobs and opportunities for Florida’s current and future residents. The Florida Chamber advocates for an efficient government to help grow private-sector jobs without burdening taxpayers’ freedoms and opportunities.



For a more in-depth look at these issues and more, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/Issues.

The Florida Chamber’s Focus Includes:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES

Improving Government Efficiencies and State Competitiveness

By eliminating overreaching regulations on businesses and improving federal, state and local government efficiencies, Florida’s businesses will be able to grow without burdensome costs to employers.

Modernizing Florida’s Public-Sector Pension and Benefits System

Florida’s pension deficit continues to increase and is now at \$27.9 billion. The Florida Chamber will continue to champion common sense reforms that modernize public pension programs and stop the taxpayers bailout of pensions, helping our state become more fiscally responsible.

Reforming Collective Bargaining

The Florida Chamber will continue to protect employee choices by reducing the economic burden of unions’ collective bargaining process. We will continue to advocate for reforms that protect employee choices and employer rights.

FEDERAL ISSUES IMPACTING FLORIDA

Supporting Smarter Immigration Policy

The Florida Chamber supports a consistent federal policy for immigration that protects and compliments Florida’s workforce and growing economy. Immigration reform allows Florida’s international ties in trade to remain strong and provides a valuable population of skilled workers. With the recent announcement to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, the Florida Chamber of Commerce encourages Congress and the administration to work together to quickly find a legislative solution before the program expires. Without a legislative solution 800,000 DACA recipients will lose their ability to legally work and study, leaving many Florida employers, workers and students without certainty.



Civic & Governance Systems

Supporting Federal Tax Reform

The Florida Chamber will continue to encourage congress to advance pro-growth tax reforms that will lower tax rates for Florida's business and residents by supporting permanent, comprehensive and competitive tax reform over short-term fixes.

Advocating for Modern Trade Initiatives

Today, if Florida were a country, it would be the 16th largest in the world by gross domestic product. The Florida Chamber understands that free and fair trade are necessary to keep Florida globally competitive. We will continue to support efforts from Congress to create policies that will enhance Florida's competition in the global marketplace, and reduce or eliminate trade and investment barriers that will help further grow Florida jobs.

Improving Healthcare Options

The Florida Chamber will continue to support more affordable healthcare coverage options and greater access to higher-quality and prevention-oriented care by prioritizing improvements in an employer-sponsored health system that is affordable, flexible, and predictable.

FLORIDA'S CONSTITUTION

Protecting Florida's Constitution through the Constitution Revision Commission

The Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) gathers once every 20 years to put proposals on the General Election ballot, based on initiatives brought together by Florida's citizens seeking to protect or change the state's constitution. The Florida Chamber has been engaged from the onset of the process and continues to participate to ensure Florida's business community is represented.



DID YOU KNOW?

Florida is the only state in the nation that has a Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) to make changes to its state constitution. Learn more by visiting www.FloridaChamber.com/CRC.

"Thank you for pushing Florida to be a launchpad, a gateway to the American Dream."

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER ADAM PUTNAM

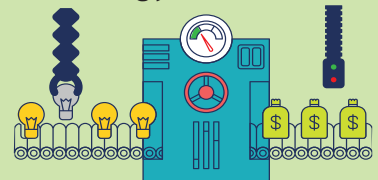
A Fair Regulatory Climate Means More Jobs and Economic Opportunity

According to Governor Scott, Florida has eliminated **4,500** unnecessary and outdated regulations since 2010.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Preventing a patchwork of regulations (which can occur when local regulations are duplicative of state regulations) ensures business in our state can:

- ✓ **Attract new industries and innovations**
- ✓ **Create more high-wage jobs**
- ✓ **Help businesses focus on what they do best – creating jobs**



A regulatory climate that is clear and easy to follow means businesses can hire talent instead of paying for duplicative regulations and associated compliance costs.

THE GAP

In order to be the number one state for job creation in the nation, we must continue to look at opportunities to fight back against duplicative local regulations and stop federal government overreach that often creates more red tape and hurdles to job creation

GET INVOLVED:

Email CEmanuel@FLChamber.com and learn how you can help the Florida Chamber's regulatory reform efforts.

Source: Florida Governor Scott



Championing Florida's Quality of Life



Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi discusses the importance of innovation as a key ingredient to Florida's quality of life.

"The Florida Chamber of Commerce is leading the way to a brighter future for Florida."

FLORIDA ATTORNEY GENERAL PAM BONDI

"Florida is world-renowned for its beaches and sunshine but it can't rely on its climate alone. Florida must continue to pursue policies and reforms that make it the best place to raise a family, build a business and lead a great life."

KATIE WORTHINGTON
Greater Winter Haven Chamber
of Commerce

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS:

- ▶ BioFlorida, Inc.
- ▶ Florida Health Care Association
- ▶ No Casinos
- ▶ Seminole Tribe of Florida
- ▶ VISIT FLORIDA

Why It Matters To Florida

Protecting Florida's unique quality of life is essential to maintaining our state's family-friendly brand. However, with an increasing population, we must focus on creating a healthy and sustainable place for Florida's residents and visitors to work, live, and play. This means focusing on stopping the expansion of Las Vegas style casino gambling, breaking the cycle of generational poverty, and embracing cost-saving, value-driven adaptations to Florida's healthcare system.



For a more in-depth look at these issues and more, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/Issues.

The Florida Chamber's Focus Includes:

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Championing Innovations in Healthcare

The Florida chamber will work to promote proactive and innovative policies that will deliver greater access and quality of care, control escalating healthcare costs, and encourage free-market innovation. A value-based healthcare system focused on outcomes is a vital component to the overall economic health of our state.

"We appreciate the Florida Chamber's support in advancing technologies that continue to give us a foundation to further develop an infrastructure that supports our current and future telehealth initiatives."

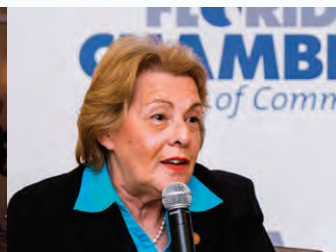
CAREY OFFICER | Nemours Children's Health Systems

Expanding Medical Education Opportunities

Providing targeted training and expanding access to key health education programs will help serve Florida's rapidly growing population. Meeting the increasing need for more physicians and other healthcare professionals is crucial as our state continues to grow.

"I am honored for the opportunity to work with the Florida Chamber. A sound economic environment enables families to enjoy the security and quality of life we all desire."

SENATOR KELLI STARGEL



Quality of Life & Quality Places

SENSE OF PLACE AND COMMUNITY

Opposing the Expansion of Las Vegas-Style Casino Gambling

The Florida Chamber promotes economic growth and diversity through job creation—not through casino gambling. For over two decades we have opposed the expansion of Las Vegas-style casino gambling and we won't stop fighting to protect Florida's family friendly brand. Florida needs more engineers, physicians, and teachers—not black jack dealers. By focusing on high-wage, high-skill job creation, we can ensure Florida remains the best place to work, live and play.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY & PROSPERITY

Breaking the Cycle of Generational Poverty

Florida Chamber Foundation research shows that almost 16 percent of Floridians live in poverty. The Florida chamber will continue to fight for an environment that fosters economic opportunity and self-sufficiency for all Floridians caught in the cycle of generational poverty.



DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly **1 in 6** Floridians live in poverty? Join us at the Florida Chamber Foundation's Less Poverty, Through More Prosperity Summit to continue the conversation.
www.FloridaChamber.com/ProsperitySummit.

“Too many Floridians, too many children live in poverty in our state. We must break this trend by providing the right jobs and education for our residents to be successful.”

JIM THOMAS | Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce

Ending the Cycle of Generational Poverty and Expanding Opportunity for All Floridians

Our research has shown:

- **45%** of working Floridians don't have access to \$400 in cash or credit
- **44%** of Americans live “on the edge of a crisis,” where one missed paycheck can force a choice between paying bills, gas for the car or food on the table
- Almost **1-of-every-4** Florida children under the age 18 – more than 944,000 kids – live below the poverty line
- Only **23%** of Floridians believe their region is well-positioned for prosperity and global competition

BY 2030:

- **5.4 million more** people will call Florida home
- Futurists predict **50%** of all jobs will be disrupted by globalization and technology

Can Florida meet the needs of current and future Floridians?



THE GAP

To meet the needs of 5.4 million more residents by 2030, Florida needs a comprehensive and long-term plan to expand economic opportunity and break the cycle of generational poverty. We can start this conversation by encouraging the creation of high-wage jobs and ensuring Floridians have sustainable, vibrant communities to call home.

GET INVOLVED:

Join the conversation. Contact BHunt@FLChamber.com to learn more.



Florida's Changing Political Landscape



Florida Governor Rick Scott address business leaders at the Florida Chamber Foundation's annual Military Summit.

“Now, more than ever, Florida needs leaders in the Florida Legislature that will ensure the long-term needs of Florida's families and small businesses are placed before short-term political fixes and special interest agendas.”

MARIAN JOHNSON
Senior Vice President of Political Strategy,
Florida Chamber

Florida's future is fragile. In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma—which created a job loss of 127,400, primarily in Florida's leisure and hospitality industry—the disappointing inactions of the legislature and a major election year right around the corner, it is important now, more than ever, that we pay close attention to who we are electing to serve in office—who we elect matters.

The biggest risk that we face is a divided business community and with an upcoming election, stakes are high. Florida's governor, cabinet and legislative members are up for election, and we will continue to look past partisan politics and fight for leaders that put jobs first. The next governor will have a major impact on Florida's future, which is why it's imperative that we get involved like our future depends on it... because it actually does.

Our engagement efforts begin by recruiting and electing pro-business, pro-job candidates, chosen by rigorous candidate interview sessions—Florida's most thorough and respected pro-business candidate review process. The Florida Chamber Political Institute (FCPI) travels statewide, interviewing hundreds of potential candidates for office. Legislators up for re-election are also reviewed and graded after session to see if the actual votes and actions of individual legislators live up to their pro-job promises. This past Legislative Session, grades were the lowest in the history of the Florida Chamber's Annual Legislative Report Card with only 14 of 160 lawmakers earning an “A.”

As the 2018 Legislative Session begins, our mission remains to secure Florida's future. We will continue to advocate for candidates who have Florida's future as a priority and fight to lead Florida in the right direction. You can help by hosting political fundraisers, investing in the Florida Chamber's political efforts or by simply signing up for www.FloridaWins.org. We urge you to join us in the arena and make Florida more competitive.

FLORIDA'S CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION

The Constitution Revision Commission, which meets every 20 years, is reviewing and will soon recommend proposed changes to Florida's Constitution. These proposals will appear on the 2018 General Election ballot. Learn more at www.FloridaChamber.com/CRC.

GET INVOLVED:

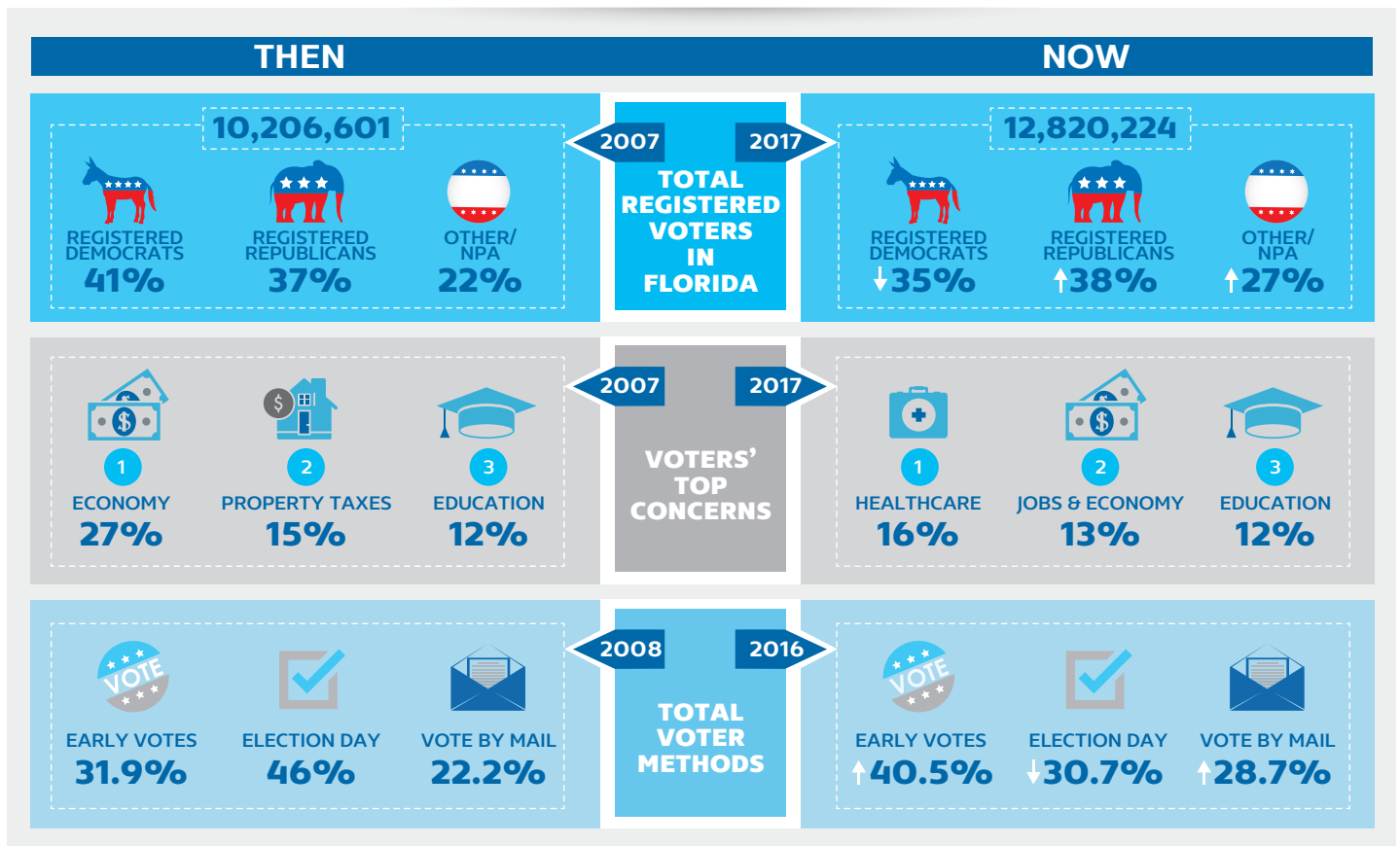
With your help, we can support the candidates who will make Florida's future a priority. Join the Florida Chamber's Political program, participate in one of our political advocacy organizations or join our many volunteers working to elect pro-jobs candidates.



A Changing Florida

In preparation for the upcoming campaign season we must continue to watch for personal injury trial lawyers, government unions, radical environmentalists and out-of state billionaires with special interest agendas attempting to bankroll their candidates into office.

Let's take a look at the elements impacting Florida's political landscape.



How can you get involved?



Political analysis is important to gauging where Florida voters stand on the issues that matter most to them. Learn more by contacting Andrew Wiggins, Senior Director of Campaigns and Elections at the Florida Chamber, at AWiggins@FLChamber.com.



Florida needs leaders who are willing to grow and move Florida in the right direction. Join our fight to secure Florida's future. Contact Marian Johnson, Senior Vice President of Political Strategy at the Florida Chamber, at MJohnson@FLChamber.com.



Follow us on Twitter
[@FLChamber](https://twitter.com/FLChamber)
www.FLChamber.com

The 2030 Initiative

FLORIDA CHAMBER FOUNDATION SIX PILLARS FRAMEWORK

- Talent Supply & Education
- Innovation & Economic Development
- Infrastructure & Growth Leadership
- Business Climate & Competitiveness
- Civic & Governance Systems
- Quality of Life & Quality Places



Creating Florida's Next Strategic Plan

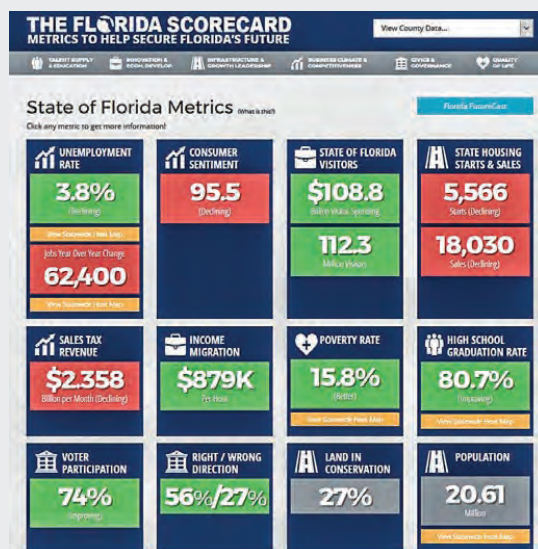
The Florida Chamber Foundation is focused on creating pro-business, pro-job solutions in Florida. The Florida Chamber Foundation's research identifies the long-term needs for Florida's future, allowing the Florida Chamber's advocacy arm to focus on passing legislation that makes Florida more competitive, while the Florida Chamber's political arm works to recruit and elect the leaders who will get us there.

The Florida Chamber Foundation created Florida's Six Pillars framework, a visioning platform that identifies the key factors that drive Florida's future economy and helps organizations speak with one voice. Communities, regional planning councils and state agencies from around Florida are currently using the Six Pillars framework to guide their planning, research and advocacy efforts.

To further drive meaningful conversations, the Florida Chamber Foundation built an interactive online tool—The Florida Scorecard—to track key metrics within each of the Six Pillars. Paired with the power of the framework, these tools serve the larger mission of developing a dynamic, long-term strategic plan for Florida.

THE FLORIDA SCORECARD™

The Florida Scorecard™ provides Florida leaders and local stakeholders with the metrics needed to measure progress at the state and local level. From unemployment rates to job creation and more, you can view the metrics that matter to Florida's future by visiting www.TheFloridaScorecard.org.



GET INVOLVED:

We need your voice. Help us plan and prepare for a secure and competitive future. Contact JMcNabb@FLFoundation.org to join.



10,000 Voices From All 67 Counties

“
Economic and workforce development, education and industry each have critical roles in providing all Floridians pathways to prosperity, and we are most successful when we work collaboratively toward this common goal. From our state's large metros to our rural communities, Florida will continue to win if we ensure access to leading-edge educational and training opportunities for our workforce, today and tomorrow.
”

MICHELLE DENNARD
CareerSource Florida

“
We believe that private philanthropy has an important role to play in shaping Florida's future. I take great pride in our philanthropic community and especially the opportunity for the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation to support the Florida 2030 project.
”

DAVID ODAHOWSKI
Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation

The Florida Chamber Foundation traveled to each of Florida's 67 counties and heard from more than 10,000 Floridians on the issues that matter most to them. From the need for skilled workforce to affordable housing and more, Florida 2030 is Florida's next strategic plan.

“
The challenges we face today will not be the same as those we confront in the years to come. We trust the Florida Chamber Foundation and its Florida 2030 initiative will lead the way, establishing a roadmap to build on our economic growth.
”

KIM BENTLEY
JM Family Enterprise

FLORIDA 2030
FLORIDA CHAMBER FOUNDATION



Follow us on Twitter
@FLChamberFDN
www.Florida2030.org

Planning for 2030 and Beyond

The Florida 2030 Project

In 1989, the Florida Chamber Foundation launched its first Cornerstone report, which looked at how Florida could compete in a global and changing economy. This first report not only analyzed many of the issues we are still focused on today, it also highlighted a crucial insight: **Florida's potential is great, but its future is fragile.**

Today, Florida is the third most populous state and by 2030, 26 million residents will call Florida home and two million net new jobs will be needed. Florida requires a plan that will address the challenges and opportunities future growth will bring. That's where the Florida 2030 Project comes in.

Florida 2030, a three-year, multi-million dollar research initiative, is Florida's next, long-term, strategic plan, developed in part by Florida's top thinkers, futurists, business leaders and more than 10,000 Floridians all across the state. Florida 2030 will stimulate strategic thinking about Florida's future and has engaged business and community leaders in each of Florida's 67 counties and identified key trends and the factors that can drive their regional economy.

Florida 2030 is the next part of the Chamber Foundation's well-known Cornerstone report series and will build on the recommendations of previous Cornerstone reports which have helped to shape policy and put a long-term lens to Florida's future.

Florida 2030 is our opportunity to work together to strengthen your community, business and future. And you can be part of this important research initiative. Visit **www.Florida2030.org** to see how your company can help drive Florida's future.



LET'S WORK TOGETHER.

Help secure Florida's future by sharing your thoughts, time or resources. Learn more about the Florida 2030 project by visiting **www.Florida2030.org**.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FLORIDA 2030 PARTNERS

PILLAR LEADERSHIP PARTNERS



SUSTAINING PILLAR PARTNERS



ANNUAL PILLAR PARTNERS



Florida Chamber Foundation

Securing Florida's Future Includes You

The Florida Chamber Foundation leads the state in future-focused research and continues to be a catalyst for positive change. But, we need your help to secure Florida's future. Getting involved is easy:

- ▶ **PARTNER ON FLORIDA 2030** and collaborate on the Chamber Foundation's three-year research initiative to engage business and community leaders in each of Florida's 67 counties by helping us release the Florida 2030 report in your community.
- ▶ **CONTRIBUTE YOUR ORGANIZATION'S EXPERTISE** and significant statewide reach by becoming a **Community Development Partner**. These forward-thinking individuals and companies have a deeply vested interest in Florida's success and realize the importance of a measurable statewide strategic plan.
- ▶ **BECOME A CHAMBER FOUNDATION TRUSTEE** and work with other businesses and thought leaders around the state on the issues that matter most.
- ▶ **ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY** by becoming a Six Pillars Community and leading the way toward vibrant, sustainable and economically competitive communities.
- ▶ **JOIN A FLORIDA CHAMBER FOUNDATION CAUCUS GROUP**, based on the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars, and work to identify future-focused solutions to the issues that matter to our state. From the Internship Program to the Business Alliance for Early Learning and more, share your voice by becoming a part of one of the Chamber Foundation's research initiatives.
- ▶ **SHARE www.TheFloridaScorecard.org AT YOUR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS**, there is no better way for your company or organization to stay up to date on Florida's changing demographics, economics, and politics than to regularly use Florida's Scorecard.



You can help drive Florida's future. Get involved by contacting us today at JMcNabb@FLFoundation.org.



Florida Chamber Foundation Chair Doug Davidson, Market Executive at Bank of America, shares the importance of planning for Florida's future at the Florida Chamber Foundation's annual Future of Florida Forum.

“As we move toward 2030, it is now more important than ever for Florida's leaders in industry, business, nonprofits and government to collaborate, and to work together toward a brighter future.”

DOUG DAVIDSON
Florida Chamber Foundation Chair
Bank of America

UPCOMING SIX PILLARS SUMMITS:

NOVEMBER 28, 2017

Prosperity Summit

DECEMBER 12, 2017

Transportation Summit

JANUARY 9, 2018

Economic Outlook Summit

MAY 2018

Prosperity Summit

JUNE 12-13, 2018

Learners to Earners Education Summit

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2018
Orlando

FUTURE OF FLORIDA FORUM

For more information on how to attend or sponsor an event, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/events.



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www.FLFoundation.org



HELP MAKE FLORIDA MORE COMPETITIVE

Join the Florida Chamber



Florida Chamber of Commerce Chair
Bob Grammig, Holland & Knight,
addresses members at a
Florida Chamber Board Meeting.

“I’m proud to be part of an organization that tirelessly fights to support job creators, to defeat special interests that advocate job-killing policies which would impair innovation and economic opportunities for our citizens and to secure a better future for Florida’s families and businesses.”

BOB GRAMMIG
Florida Chamber Chair

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www.FloridaChamber.com

GET INVOLVED:

Tell us your story –
Contact our Investor Service Coordinator,
Tanya Bechtold at 850-521-1218 or by
email at TBechtold@FLChamber.com.

Why It Matters To Florida

Simply put, free enterprise isn’t free. To champion a pro-jobs, pro-Florida agenda, we work alongside our seasoned political advocates, experienced political strategists, small business council, international outreach program and top-tier research foundation.

The Florida Chamber believes securing Florida’s future can only happen with those who believe in free enterprise, those who have the courage to stand up for what’s right in our state, those who say ‘no’ to harmful out-of-state and special interest agendas and those who band together to champion the jobs agenda.

If you believe in free enterprise and want to help us make Florida more competitive, then simply call or email us today. When we win, you win. When you win, Florida wins.

How You Can Make Florida More Competitive

Here are four ways you can engage and make a difference:

- ▶ **JOIN** the Florida Chamber if you believe in our fight for free enterprise and think job creators should lead the way.
- ▶ **EMPOWER** your employees by educating them on issues that affect your business and their jobs by signing your business up for **FloridaWins.org**, a non-partisan program that educates your employees about Florida’s successes and actively engages them in Florida’s legislative process.
- ▶ **ENCOURAGE** voters to choose pro-jobs candidates by supporting those who support free enterprise. Host fundraisers and make political donations to lead the way.
- ▶ **CONNECT** with your elected officials and urge them to vote in favor of jobs and against special interest agendas.



Interested in getting involved
with the Florida Chamber? Contact
Tanya Bechtold, Investor Services
Coordinator at the Florida Chamber,
at TBechtold@FLChamber.com.



YOU'RE INVITED

www.FloridaChamber.com/Events

**To the Florida Chamber and
Florida Chamber Foundation's
Annual Events**



2017 PROSPERITY SUMMIT

November 28, 2017 • Tampa

2017 TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

December 12, 2017 • Port Canaveral

2018 CAPITOL DAYS

January 9-11, 2018 • Tallahassee

2018 PROSPERITY SUMMIT

May 2018

2018 LEARNERS TO EARNERS EDUCATION SUMMIT

June 12-13, 2018 • Tampa

2018 ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING SUMMER SCHOOL

July 17-20, 2018 • Marco Island


2018 MILITARY, DEFENSE AND VETERANS OPPORTUNITIES SUMMIT

August 2018

2018 FUTURE OF FLORIDA FORUM

September 26-28, 2018 • Orlando

www.FloridaChamber.com/Events



**“The best state chamber in
America – The Florida Chamber of
Commerce shows up day after day to
make sure the right things happen.”**

FLORIDA GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT

**To join our efforts to make Florida more competitive and
create economic opportunities for everyone, visit
www.FloridaChamber.com or call 850-521-1244.**

WHERE WE STAND

A Guide to the Florida Chamber's 2018 Jobs and Competitiveness Agenda



SECURING FLORIDA'S FUTURE

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www.FloridaChamber.com

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