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February 21, 2017

The Honorable Jack Latvala (J)
Florida Senate
404 South Monroe Street
412 Senate Office Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

**RE: Support SB 372- Unemployment Compensation Fraud
When the 2017 Florida Chamber Business Agenda Wins, Florida Wins**

Dear Senator Latvala (J):

The Florida Chamber of Commerce urges you to **support SB 372**, related to unemployment compensation fraud. This bill, sponsored by Senator Stargel, will be heard Tuesday, February 21, 2017, in the Senate Commerce & Tourism Committee.

The Florida Chamber supports efforts to lower the burden of unemployment compensation taxes for Florida's job creators. SB 372 creates a mechanism for the Department of Economic Opportunity to identify and prosecute fraudulent unemployment compensation claims by allowing them access to certain files of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The Florida Chamber considers this legislation one of its top priorities and the issue has been included in the 2017 Florida Business Agenda.

This legislation is important to Florida's business community because this bill:

- Makes it easier for the Department of Economic Opportunity to pinpoint fraudulent unemployment compensation applications;
- Protects the unemployment compensation system by reducing fraud; and
- Protects the taxpayers that pay into the unemployment compensation system- the job creators.

The Florida Chamber urges you to **support HB 372**, and will consider votes on this legislation, and any substantive amendments to it in committee or on the floor, in our annual *How They Voted* report card. The grade that you earn will be based on your voting record on the issues, such as this one, that are outlined in *Where We Stand*, a guide to Florida's 2017 Business Agenda. We will make every effort to notify you prior to a vote that may be included in our annual legislative report card. If you have any questions about this or other issues on the 2017 Business Agenda, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank C. Walker III".

Frank C. Walker, III
Vice President of Government Affairs

CC: Syd Kitson, Chair, Florida Chamber of Commerce
Mark Wilson, President & CEO, Florida Chamber of Commerce
David Hart, Executive Vice President, Florida Chamber of Commerce