



---

# **Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee**

**Tuesday, January 25, 2011  
12:30 PM  
12 HOB**

**Dean Cannon  
Speaker**

**Doug Holder  
Chair**

# Committee Meeting Notice

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee

**Start Date and Time:** Tuesday, January 25, 2011 12:30 pm

**End Date and Time:** Tuesday, January 25, 2011 03:30 pm

**Location:** 12 HOB


**Duration:** 3.00 hrs

Presentations on Economic Development Structure  
Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development  
Workforce Florida, Inc.  
Florida Sports Foundation  
Black Business Investment Board

Workshop on Unemployment Compensation

**NOTICE FINALIZED on 01/18/2011 16:00 by Adeyemo.Martha**






A Look at the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic  
Development and How Workforce Florida Inc.  
Supports Florida's Economic Development Priorities

**Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee**

Chris Hart IV

Interim Director, Governor's Office of Tourism,  
Trade and Economic Development and  
President & CEO, Workforce Florida Inc.

January 25, 2011



What I will cover today:

- Executive Office of the Governor: Office of Tourism Trade and Economic Development Overview
- Workforce Florida Inc.: Who We Are and What We Are Doing to Support Economic Development in Florida

**Executive Office of the Governor:  
Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic  
Development**







# What is OTTED?

- The Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development (OTTED) formulates policies and strategies designed to promote economic growth and diversify the state's economic base.
- OTTED provides executive direction, develops policies and advocates for economic diversification and improvements in Florida's business climate infrastructure by:
  - Encouraging innovation and productivity as the foundation for global competitiveness & economic prosperity.
  - Breaking down the silos of government so all agencies find their role in economic development
  - Balancing recruitment efforts with nurturing of home-grown businesses in high growth sectors.



# OTTED At a Glance

- OTTED implements economic development programs through public/private partnerships that OTTED directly oversees by:
  - Maintaining extensive interaction with business, economic development, and community leaders to advocate on their behalf to the Governor and Legislature;
  - Serving as the state point on rural development issues in part through oversight of Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI), rural infrastructure loans and grants;
  - Administering military and defense retention, expansion and grant programs, and oversees bi-annual Base Commanders Forums, as well as Governor's BRAC Advisory Council activities and the Florida Council on Military Base & Mission Support quarterly meetings;
  - Administering international trade programs through the oversight of international trade and investment, diplomacy and consular affairs;
  - Approving and certifies business expansion and retention incentive programs (QTI, QDC, HIPI, bond financing, and defense grant programs); and
  - Managing community development programs such as enterprise zones, community contribution tax credits and the urban and rural job tax credit programs.
- OTTED focuses on policies and strategies to further build critical or transitioning industries (e.g. IT, Space, Defense, Biotech) as well as focuses on transportation, infrastructure, workforce development and other significant business climate issues.





# OTTED Key Florida Incentives

- **Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program (QTI)** – Encourages targeted industries to create high-skilled jobs and locate new facilities in Florida or expand existing facilities within Florida.
- **Quick Action Closing Fund (QAC)** – Used to recruit businesses for the State of Florida, at the discretion of the Governor and Legislative leaders.
- **Innovation Incentive** – Ensures sufficient resources are available to allow the state to compete effectively for high-value research and development projects and major innovation business projects.
- **Qualified Defense Contractors Tax Refund Program (QDC)** – A tool to preserve and grow Florida’s high technology employment base, giving Florida companies a competitive edge as defense contractors consolidate defense contracts, acquire new contracts, or convert to commercial production.
- **Economic Development Transportation Fund (“Road Fund”)** – Provides up to \$2 million to local governments for the constructions or improvement of transportation infrastructure needed to accommodate new or existing industry.
- **Capital Investment Tax Credit (CITC)** – Used to attract and grow capital-intensive industries in Florida. It is an annual credit against the corporate income tax which is available for up to 20 years in an amount equal to 5% of the eligible capital costs generated by a qualifying project.
- **Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Program** – Promotes the economic viability of rural communities and creates jobs for residents of Florida’s rural areas by leveraging the use of existing federal, state, and local financial resources.



# OTTED Key Florida Incentives

- **Florida First Business Bond Pool** – Reserves 20% of Florida’s total annual private activity bond allocation for large industrial projects making significant contributions to Florida’s economy.
- **High Impact Performance Incentive Grants (HIPI)** – Used to attract and grow major high-impact facilities in Florida.
- **New Markets Development Program** – Encourages capital investment in low-income communities by allowing taxpayers to earn credits by investing in qualified Community Development Entities that in turn make investments in businesses located in low-income communities.
- **Rural Infrastructure Fund** – Facilitates the planning, preparing, and financing of infrastructure projects in rural communities which will encourage job creation, capital investment, and the strengthening of rural economies.
- **Rural and Urban Job Tax Credits** – An incentive for eligible businesses located within one of 36 rural areas or 13 urban areas to create new jobs. These tax credits encourage meaningful employment opportunities that improve quality of life of those employed and encourage economic expansion.
- **Semiconductor, Space and Defense Sales and Use Tax Exemption** – Used to attract and grow businesses in these sectors by providing an exemption for all sales and use taxes on investments in machinery and equipment used in manufacturing and research.





# OTTED Key Florida Incentives

- **Enterprise Zone Program** – Encourages the revitalization of economically distressed areas in Florida by providing credits against Florida’s sales tax or corporate income tax to businesses located in an enterprise zone for hiring zone residents.
- **Brownfield Redevelopment Bonus** – Encourages development of abandoned, idled or underused industrial and commercial sites where expansion or development is complicated by actual or perceived environmental contamination.
- **The Community Contribution Tax Credit Program** – Encourages private sector donations to community redevelopment projects in enterprise zones and to low-income housing projects. A tax credit of 50% of the donation is allowed.
- **Jobs for the Unemployed Tax Credit Program (JUTC)** – Provides incentives to businesses throughout Florida to hire qualified employees who were previously unemployed. The business may receive a tax credit of \$1,000 for every employee hired as of July 1, 2010.
- **Local Government Distressed Area Matching Grant Program (LDMG)** – Stimulates investment in Florida’s economy by assisting Local Governments in attracting and retaining targeted businesses. The amount awarded by the State of Florida will equal \$50,000 or 50% of the local government’s assistance amount, whichever is less.
- **Manufacturing and Spaceport Investment Incentive Program (MSII)** – Encourages capital investment and job creation in manufacturing and spaceport activities in Florida. A tax refund up to \$50,000 will be given on the State Sales and Use Tax paid for eligible equipment purchases.



# OTTED Key Partnerships

- **Enterprise Florida** is a partnership between Florida's business and government leaders and is the principal economic development organization for the State of Florida. Its mission is to increase economic opportunities for all Floridians by supporting the creation of quality jobs, a well-trained workforce, and globally competitive businesses. The organization pursues this mission in cooperation with its statewide network of economic development partners.
- **The Florida Commission on Tourism** is the public/private partnership responsible for the vitality and growth of Florida's tourism industry. Promoting Florida as the premier travel destination, both domestically and internationally, is the major focus of the Commission's direct support organization, VISIT FLORIDA. VISIT FLORIDA creates and implements advertising, sales, promotional, and public relations activities to increase vacation, business, conference, and incentive travel to Florida. It also assists in the development of nature-based, historical, and cultural tourism.
- **The Florida Sports Foundation** is the official sports promotion and development organization for the State of Florida. It is charged with the promotion and development of professional, amateur, recreational sports, and physical fitness opportunities that produce a thriving Florida sports industry and environment. With a seemingly endless list of sporting ventures and venues, the Florida Sports Foundation strives to promote Florida's unique sports industry.





# OTTED Key Partnerships

- **Space Florida (SF)** was created in 2006 as an independent special district to foster the growth and development of a sustainable and world-leading aerospace industry in this state. SF promotes aerospace business development by facilitating business financing, spaceport operations, research and development, workforce development, and innovative education programs. SF is the single point of contact for state aerospace-related activities with federal agencies, the military, state agencies, businesses, and the private sector. SF also works to develop the nation's space tourism industry.
- The **Florida Black Business Investment Board, Inc. (FBBIB)** provides assistance to encourage the growth of black-owned businesses in Florida. Through a network of regional Black Business Investment Corporations (BBICs), the BBICs provide technical assistance, loan guarantees, and direct lending products to Florida's black-owned businesses in all 67 counties.
- The **Office of Film & Entertainment** within the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development is charged to provide wholesale service and support to promote and build the Film and Entertainment Industry in Florida. From facilitating a request from a production company to film on state-owned lands, to recruiting film and entertainment companies to produce in Florida, the Office of Film & Entertainment strives to be the one-stop shop to serve all of the industry's needs in the State of Florida.



**Positions = 22.00**

**Salary Rate = \$1,349,877**

	<b>General Revenue</b>	<b>Trust</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Executive Direction and Support Services (Totals)</b>	<b>1,781,472</b>	<b>1,454,494</b>	<b>3,235,966</b>
OTTED Operations – 17 Positions	942,917	1,454,494	2,397,411
FILM Office Operations – 5 Positions	838,555	-	838,555





**Workforce**  
*florida, inc.*



**TALENT**  
**is key**



**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT *is* ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**



**Workforce Florida asked Florida leaders in business, workforce, education and economic development:**

**Q:** What should be Florida's key competitive advantage?

**A:** **Talent**



## **Site Selection** magazine asked Corporate Real Estate Executives:

**Q:** Which factors are most important  
when making site location decisions?

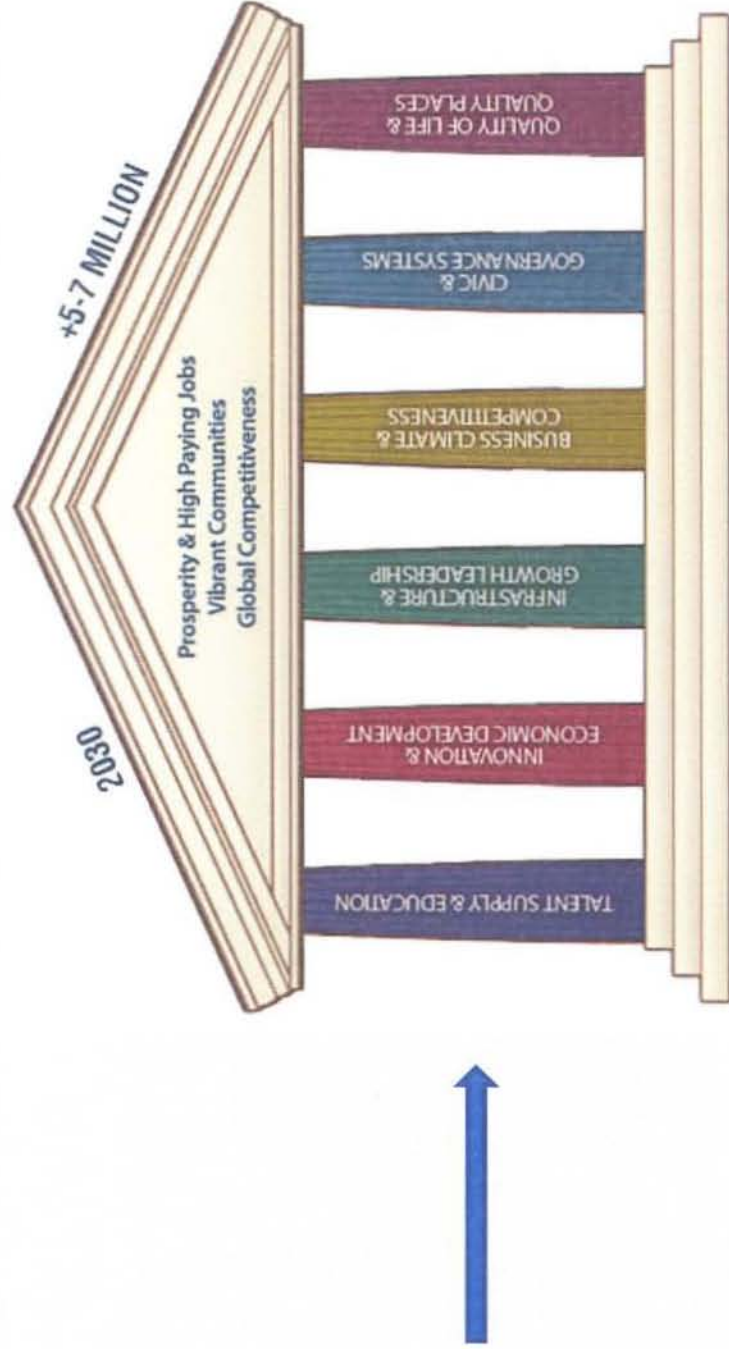
**A:**

- 1. Workforce Skills**
2. State and Local Tax Scheme
3. Transportation Infrastructure
4. Flexibility of Incentives
5. Availability of Incentives and Utility Infrastructure (tied)





# SIX PILLARS OF FLORIDA'S FUTURE ECONOMY





## WORKFORCE FLORIDA: WHO WE ARE

A catalyst for creating world-class talent at every skill level, Workforce Florida Inc. is the statewide workforce investment board charged with policy setting and oversight of the workforce system.







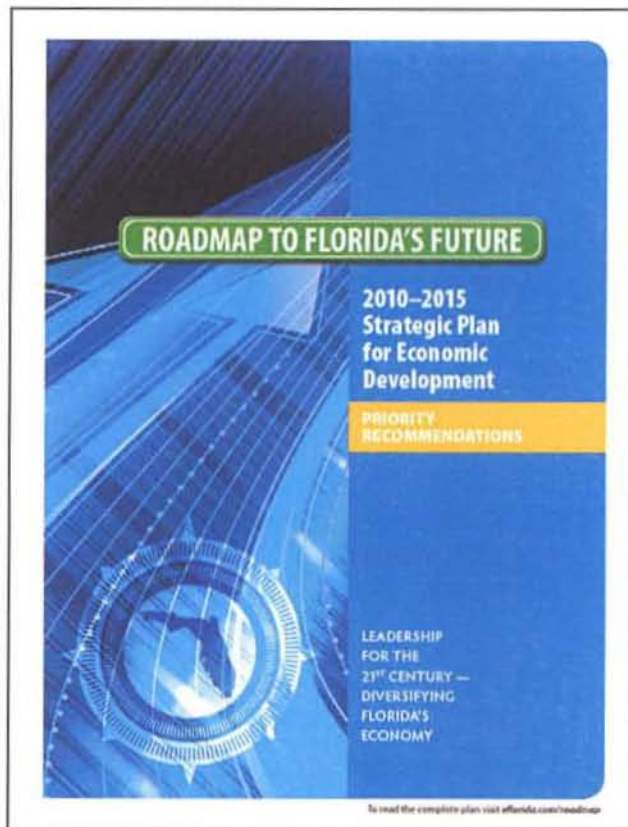
## WORKFORCE FLORIDA: WHO WE ARE

**Our Board:** A public-private partnership, led by a 47-member board that includes the Governor, four members of the Florida Legislature as well as leaders in business and government representing small business, industry, labor, economic development, education, labor, youth and seven state agencies

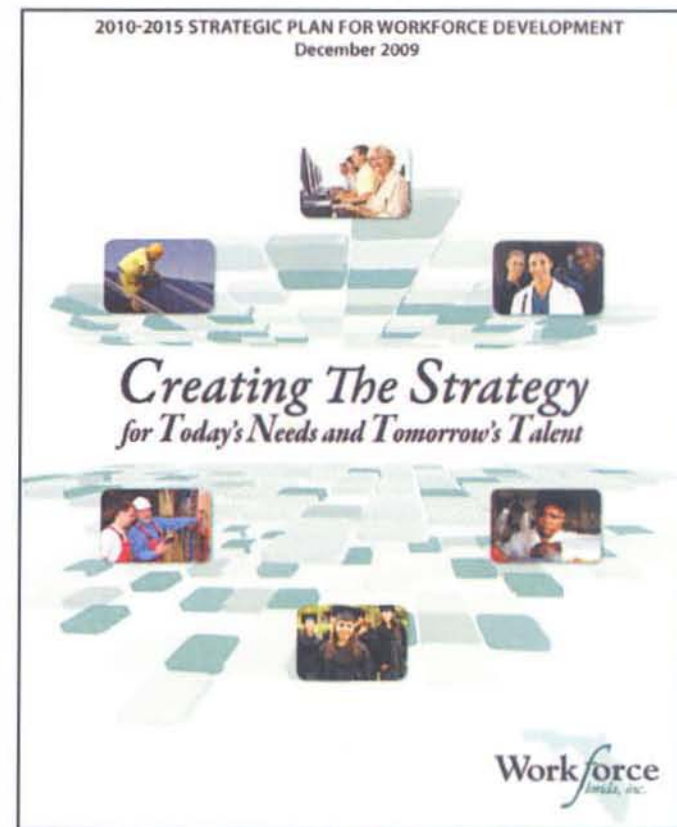
**Our Mission:** Develop the state's business climate by designing and implementing strategies that help Floridians enter, remain and advance in the workforce, becoming more highly skilled and successful, benefiting Florida business and the entire state



## Florida's Strategic Plan for Economic Development



## Florida's Strategic Plan for Workforce Development





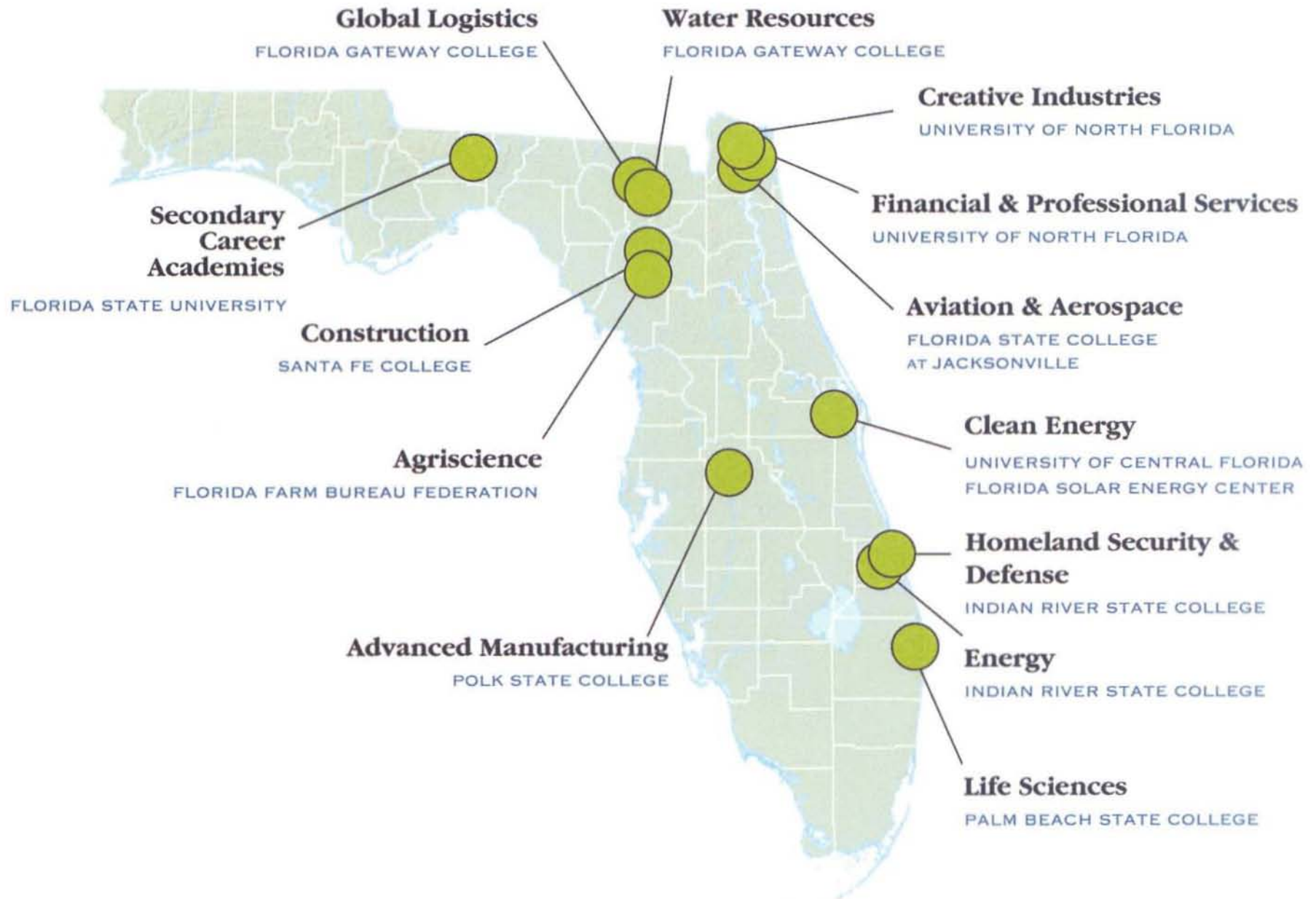


## **SUPPORTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TALENT DEVELOPMENT TOOLS:**

### **The Tried and True**

- **Employ Florida Banner Centers**
- **Quick Response Training Grants**
- **Incumbent Worker Training Grants**

Employ Florida >>>  
**BannerCenters**





## **TRIED AND TRUE QUICK RESPONSE TRAINING GRANTS**

**Designed to help new or expanding businesses train employees**

- Supports job creation
- Helped businesses provide training for nearly 85,000 Floridians since 2000
- Trainees' wages increased 116 percent on average within one year of completing training
- For every public dollar invested, \$13 in private funds were leveraged





## TRIED AND TRUE INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING GRANTS

Designed to help **existing** businesses train employees

- Supports job retention
- Helped businesses provide training to more than 100,000 Floridians since 2000
- Trainees' wages increased 23 percent on average within one year of completing training
- For every public dollar invested, \$8 in private funds are leveraged



## Supporting Economic Development Through Talent Development Tools – What's New

- Talent Supply Chain Team
- STEM Leadership
- Workforce Supply/Demand Analyses and Industry Cluster Task Forces
  - Year One: Aviation and Aerospace & Clean Energy
  - Year Two: Homeland Security & Defense & Life Sciences
  - Year Three: Financial and Professional Services & Information Technology
- Regional Capacity Building Initiative
- Trade and Logistics Training Initiative
- Reemployment Initiative
- New Labor Market Tools
  - Help Wanted On-Line
  - Transferable Occupational Relationship Quotient



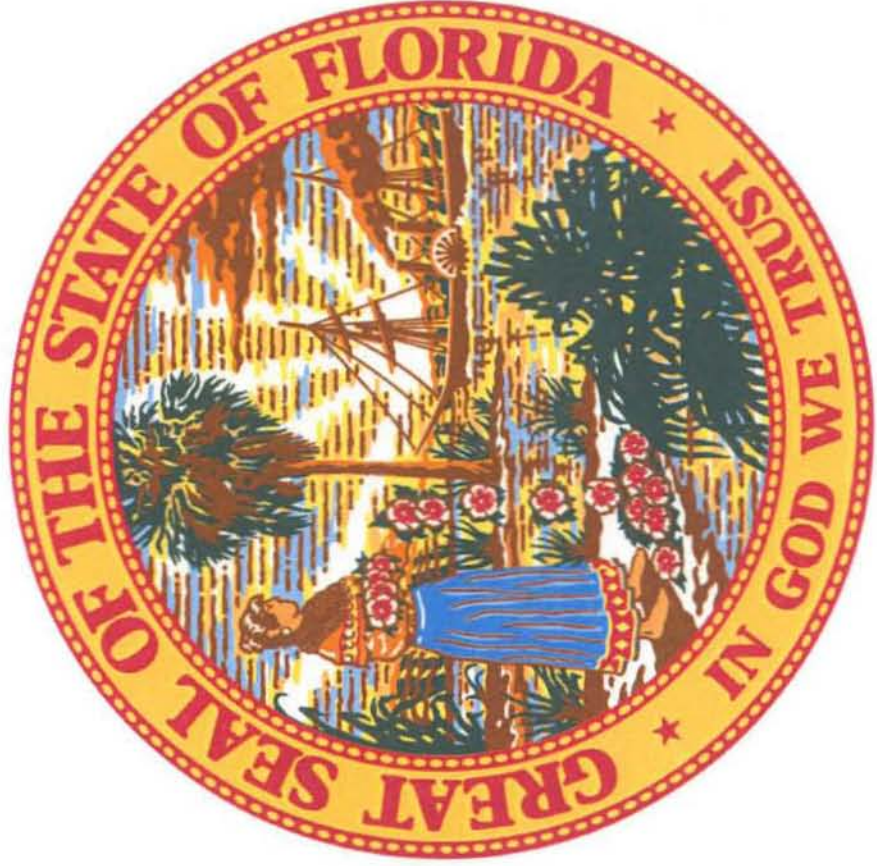
# FLORIDA

RECOGNIZED FOR WORKFORCE LEADERSHIP

---



**Thank You!**







# FLORIDA SPORTS FOUNDATION

The Florida Sports Foundation is the official sports promotion and organization for the State of Florida and operates as a direct support organization to the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development.

- The mission of the FSF is to develop and promote professional, amateur and recreational sports and physical fitness opportunities that produce a thriving Florida sports industry and environment.
- Responsibilities include promoting the State's thriving professional, amateur and recreational sports industry, as well as developing and implementing sports and fitness programs for all of Florida's citizens.



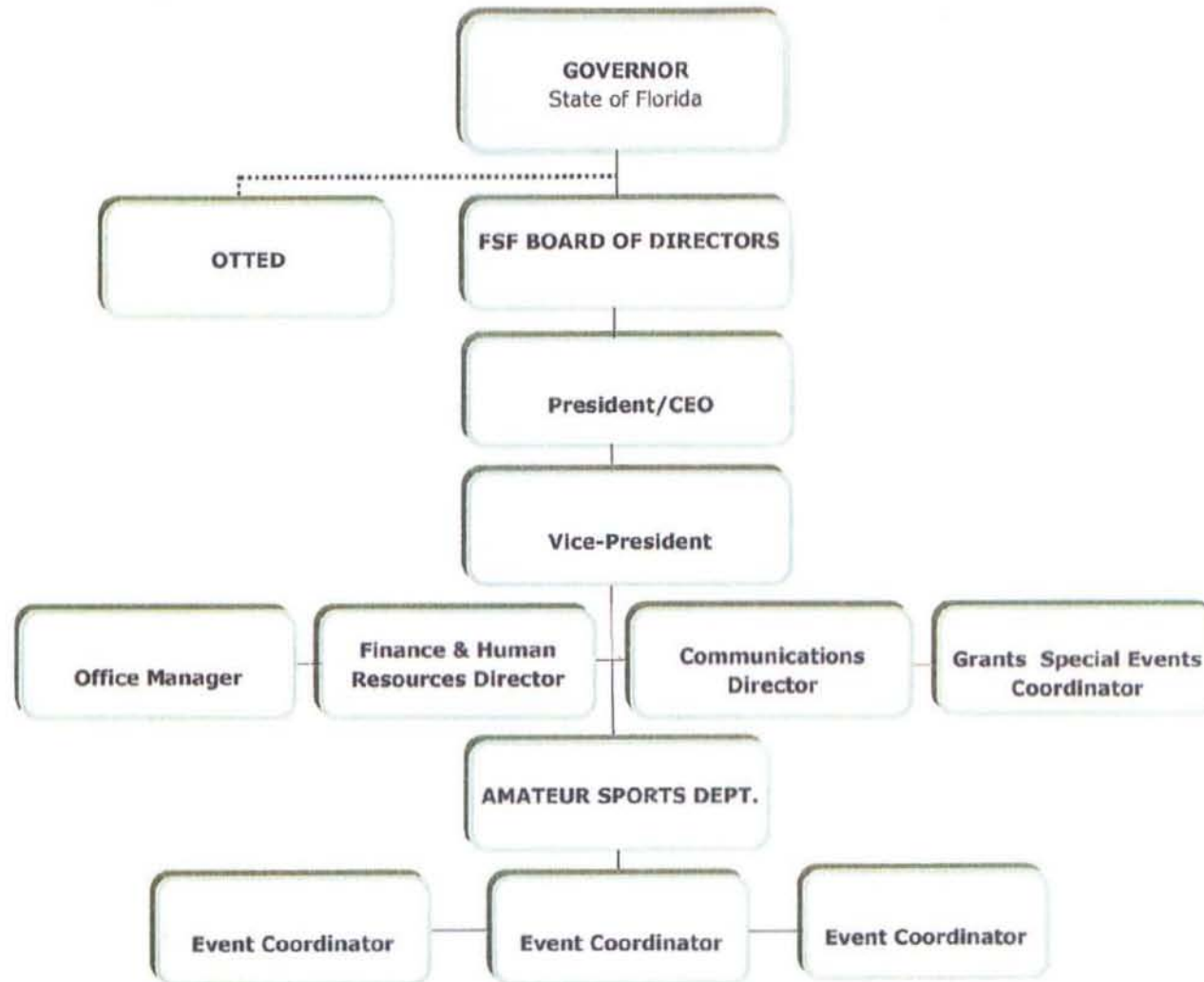
- Sports provide a **\$36 billion** annual economic impact to Florida's economy.
- Sports and recreation provide support for 434,000 employment positions and generate \$12.9 billion in annual labor compensation. The sports and recreation cluster contributes nearly \$20 billion Gross State Product to Florida's economy and produces \$2.1 billion in revenues to state and local governments.

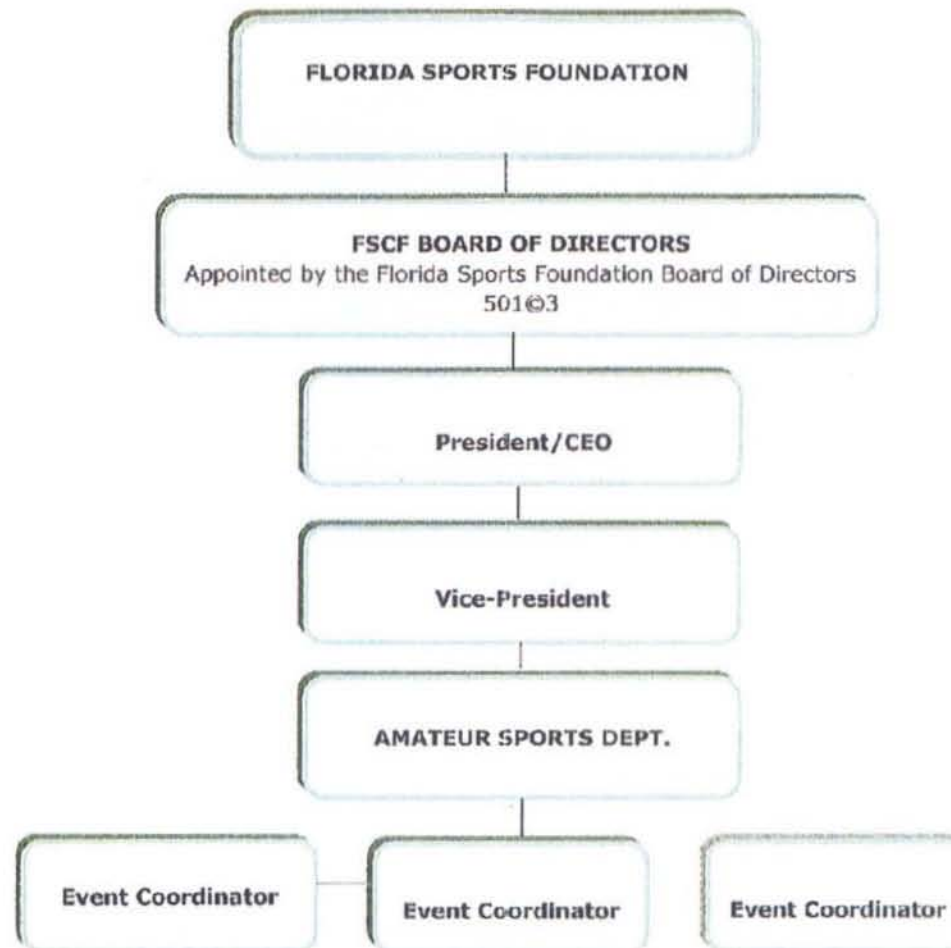
### Golf

Florida remains the #1 destination for more than 5 million golf travelers each year. The state boasts more than 1,200 golf courses and more than 58 million rounds of golf are played annually. This leads to an \$8.6 billion economic impact annually.

### Boating & Fishing

Florida is a water enthusiast's wonderland offering 2,276 miles of tidal shoreline, 8,426 miles of detailed shoreline, 7,710 natural lakes of 10 acres or more and 12,000 miles of fishable rivers, streams and canals. With over one million registered vessels in the water and 2.8 million anglers over the age of 16 fishing in the State, it means an annual economic impact of \$7.5 billion and approximately 75,000 jobs.







- Professional Sports Team Plates
- Olympic Spirit Plate
- NASCAR Plate
- Tennis Plate



Charitable contributions funded by the sale of professional sports teams license plates are made to youth charities designated by the nine participating teams. Since 1995, the license plate program has generated over \$3.2M for youth charities.

- The Glazer Family Foundation
- Florida Panthers Foundation
- Miami Dolphins Foundation
- The Lightning Foundation
- Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation
- Florida Marlins Community Foundation
- Miami Heat Charitable Fund
- Rays Baseball Foundation
- Orlando Magic Youth Foundation



# Professional Sports Teams License Plates

## Florida Professional License Tag Breakdown

Costs	\$25.00
8% goes to State (General Revenue)	-2.00
Team Charities	-2.50
League Royalties	<u>-.27</u>
Total to FSF	\$20.23



Since 1996, the Florida Sports Foundation (FSF) has been assisting communities around the state in their efforts to attract sport events and opportunities, generating significant out-of-state economic impact to the State of Florida.

**The Regional Grant Program** provides assistance to only Sports Commissions in the state. This program is a valuable resource for these communities to reach the untapped economic impact outlet of sports.

**The Major Grant Program** has been essential in attracting five Super Bowls, the NCAA Final Four, two NHL All-Star Games, BCS National Championships, and the Breeders Cup to Florida. The 2007 and 2009 Super Bowls in Miami and Tampa both generated over \$250 million each in out-of- state impact alone in one weekend.





Events must meet the following criteria in order to be considered for funding through the grant program:

- Regional Grant applications must be for an event that generates at least \$1,000,000 of economic impact and at least 1,200 out-of state room nights.
- Major Grant applications must be for an event that generates at least \$5,000,000 of economic impact and at least 4,000 out-of state room nights.
- Funding will be determined within a range that ensures \$200 - \$350 per event return on investment for the State of Florida.

The grantee must generate the minimum \$1,000,000 of economic impact to receive the final award. The grantee must generate 80% of the estimated economic impact to receive the full award. The grantee will receive a pro-rated amount of the award for all results that are less than 80% of the original estimate.

# Florida Sports Commissions

1. Broward County Sports Development
2. Central Florida Sports Commission
3. Charlotte Harbor & Gulf Islands CVB
4. Sports Council of Collier County
5. Florida Gulf Coast Sports
6. Gainesville Sports Commission
7. JEDC Sports & Entertainment
8. Lee County Sports Authority
9. Miami-Dade Sports Commission
10. Ocala-Marion Sports Commission
11. Palm Beach County Sports Commission
12. Panama City Beach CVB
13. Pasco County Sports Commission
14. Pensacola Sports Association
15. Central Florida Tourism & Sports Marketing
16. Sarasota Convention & Visitors Bureau
17. Space Coast Sports Promotions
18. St. Petersburg/Clearwater Sports Commission
19. Tallahassee Sports Council
20. Tampa Bay Sports Commission
21. Treasure Coast Sports Commission





## Return on Investment by Grant Type

- 102 Major Grants Awarded: \$12,613,604
  - **\$149** for every paid dollar
  - \$1,876,841,667 Actual Impact
  - 2,133,371 Out-of-state visitors
- 650 Regional Grants Awarded: \$4,242,300
  - **\$206** for every paid dollar
  - \$873,879,663 Actual Impact
  - 1,601,307 Out-of-state visitors
- Total Economic Impact: \$2,750,721,330

# Grant Impact by 8 Regions

- Central: 211 \$278,701,579
- Central Eastern: 48 \$74,715,137
- Central Western: 81 \$620,546,648
- North Central: 27 \$19,099,252
- North Eastern: 25 \$423,578,993
- North Western: 44 \$75,418,500
- South Eastern: 253 \$1,178,936,028
- South Western: 47 \$77,047,581





# Florida Sports Charitable Foundation

- Established in 2004 – serving as the 501©(3) arm of the Foundation
- Responsible for all amateur sports and senior activities including:
  - Florida’s Sunshine State Games
  - Florida Senior Games State Championships
  - Ambassadors for Aging Day
- Services over 21,000 Floridians annually





## **Mission:**

Develop Olympians and provide Floridians with a stage on which to showcase their talents



- Olympic-style sport festival established in 1980
- 32 Years of serving Floridians – longest standing State Games in the nation
- Held April - June Annually
- FY 2009-2010: Over 9,400 athletes and 28 sports / 2010 Calendar Year: 9,569

**Sports Offered:** Archery, Badminton, Baseball, Basketball, Canoe/Kayak, Fencing, Figure Skating, Inline Hockey, Judo, Karate, Lacrosse, Powerlifting, Racquetball, Rowing, Rugby, Soccer, Softball-Fast Pitch, Sport Shooting, Swimming, Synchronized Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Tennis, Track & Field, Ultimate, Water Polo, Weightlifting-Olympic and Wrestling







# Sunshine State Games

Former Sunshine State Games Athletes

## **Olympians:**

Rafeeq Curry, Track & Field (2002 and 2003 Games)  
Walter Dix, Track & Field (2003 Games)  
Bershawn Jackson, Track & Field (2001 Games)  
Hunter Kemper, Triathlon (1992 Games)  
Ryan Lochte, Swimming (2001 Games)  
Brian Olson, Judo (early 1990s Games)  
Vic Wunderle, Archery (2006 Games).

## **Notable Athletes:**

Anquan Boldin (College & Professional Football)  
Jearl Miles-Clark (Olympian, Track & Field)  
Garrett Johnson (All-America, Rhodes Scholar, Track & Field)  
Roy Jones, Jr. (Olympian, Boxing)  
Walter McCoy (Olympian, Track & Field)  
Tammy McGregor (Olympian, Synchronized Swimming)  
Jennifer Rodriguez (Olympian, Speed Skating)  
David Ross (College & Professional Baseball)  
Antonio Tarver (Olympian, Boxing)

The Florida Senior Games is an Olympic-style sport festival for athletes 50 and over

- 1972 - Golden Age Games in Sanford, Florida first in the nation
- 1992 - State Championships were created
- 18 Local Senior Games serve as qualifiers January - November annually
- State Championships held in December annually
- FY 2009-2010 9,339 athletes competed at Local Games
- 2010 State Championships 2,239 athletes competed





Ambassadors For Aging Day is a celebration of Florida's Elder Population

- Partnership with the Department of Elder Affairs
- Approximately 1,000 Seniors travel to the Capitol
- 2010 was 10<sup>th</sup> Annual celebration
- Advocacy for and recognition of contributions of Florida's Elder Population
- Legislative interaction/forums



- Play FLORIDA
- Fish FLORIDA
- Governor's Baseball Dinner
- Florida Spring Training Baseball



In 1997, the Florida Sports Foundation approved the launch of *Play FLORIDA*, an integrated media and marketing program designed specifically to increase Florida's market share of out-of-state golfers. At that time, there were approximately 40 other destinations competing for market share. After evaluating several of these programs, it was determined that the most effective way to reach large numbers of golfers was through a comprehensive plan that included print and electronic media, internet and consumer direct golf shows.

*Play FLORIDA* has grown into the most successful and highly recognized statewide golf program in the nation. Now in its 16<sup>th</sup> year, the program's efforts have increased Florida's share of golf-specific visitors by more than 27% to 39%. *Play FLORIDA* is funded 100% through cooperative partnerships with the State's major Convention & Visitor Bureaus, leading golf resorts, golf travel and management companies and regional marketing groups.

### *Program Highlights*

- Represented the State of Florida at 284 Golf Shows in 35 target markets
- Reached over 5.3 million out-of-state golfers face-to-face with the benefits of visiting Florida to play golf
- Generated over 1 million qualified leads for our Partners
- Participation and support by 28 Convention & Visitor Bureaus

# FLORIDA

The World's Leading  
Golf Vacation Destination

# FLORIDA

Florida's First Coast  
of Golf



Central Florida's  
Polk County  
Lakeland-Winter Haven



Saddlebrook Resort  
Tampa Bay



PGA National  
Resort and Spa  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL



PGA



Northeast Region



Greater  
Fort Lauderdale  
A Sunny State of Mind



Emerald Coast  
Pensacola, Fort Walton Beach,  
Gulf Breeze



Golf Daytona Beach  
Daytona Beach



AirTran  
CLEARWELL  
TEE JUST IN CASE .COM



The Inland  
Golf Resort



Panama City Beach  
CVB



PGA Golf Club  
Port St. Lucie



Naples Man  
Everglades  
Collier C



Tampa Bay  
Sarasota  
and Her Islands



Panama City Beach  
Highlands County  
Jacking, Aventura, Lake Park



Port St. Lucie  
Kissimmee  
CVB  
Kissimmee



PLAY  
FLA  
.COM



FLORIDA  
SPORTS  
THE ASSOCIATION  
VISITFLORIDA

PLAY  
GOLF





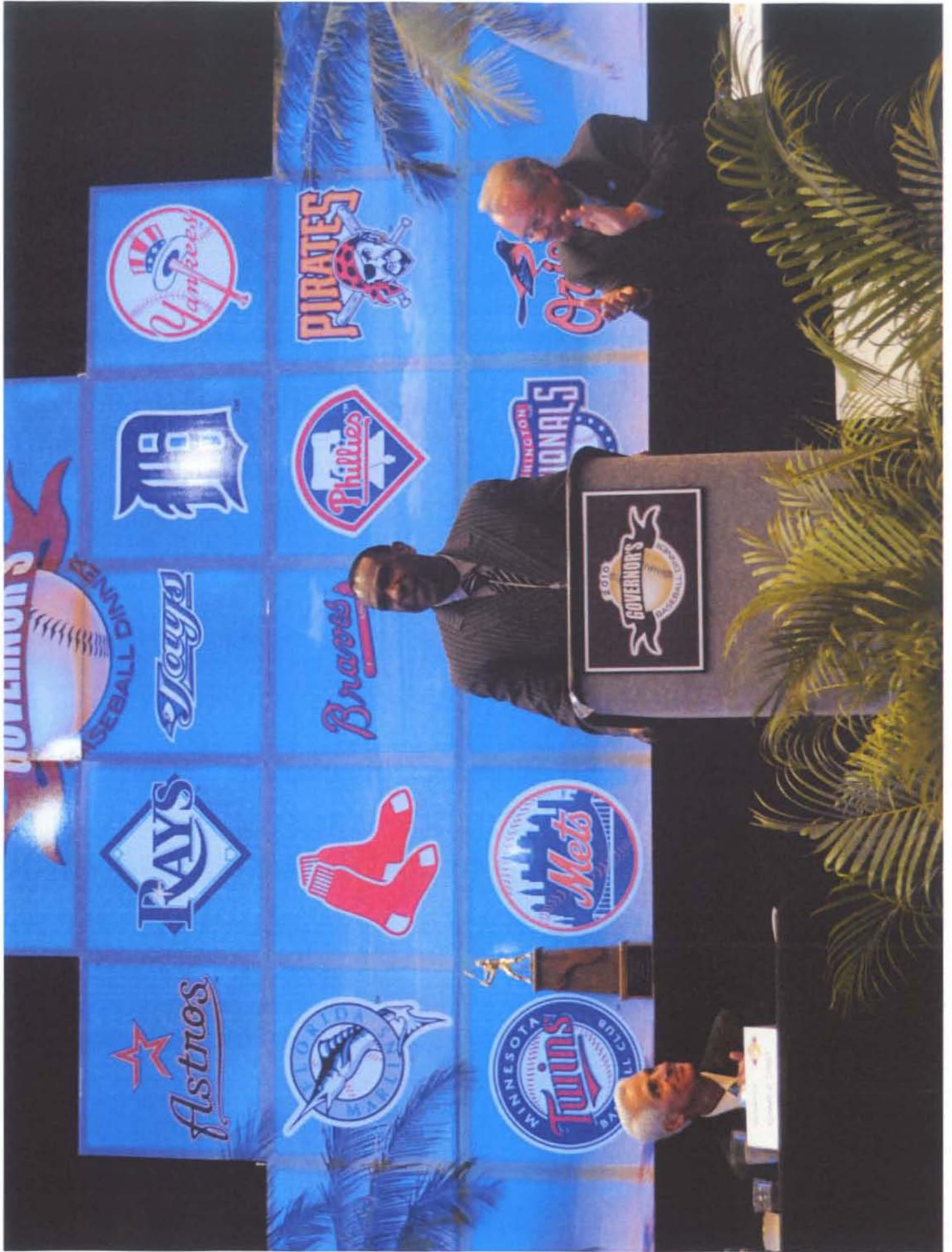
## *FISH FLORIDA*

Based on the success of Play FLORIDA, the Sports Foundation's golf marketing effort, we are developing an integrated media and marketing program designed to reach fishing-specific visitors. Fish FLORIDA 365 will include a redesigned print and electronic Guide that will be the most comprehensive resource for both fresh water and salt water fishing in the state.

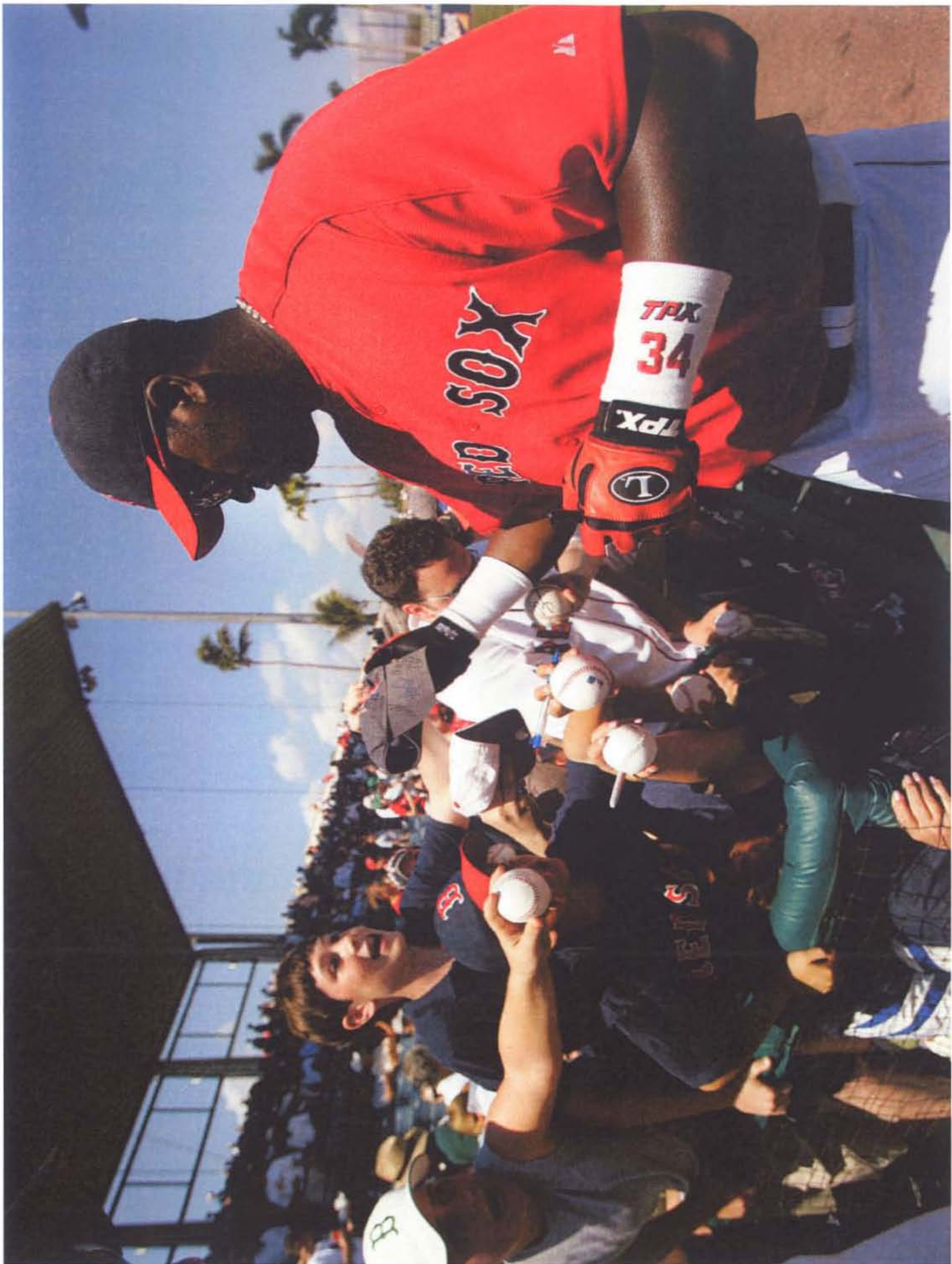
In addition to the Guides, we will reach over 300,000 out-of-state anglers in 2011 in target markets of Florida-bound visitors that purchase Florida fishing licenses. This will give us a great opportunity to influence their travel decisions. Markets include Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Ohio as well as Florida. Later in 2011, we will develop a website that will also be a valuable resource for those anglers specifically visiting Florida to fish.

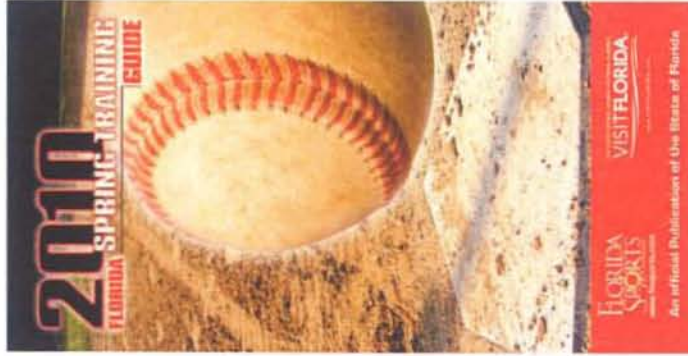
One of our goals and objectives is to assist the Charter Fishing Industry that was affected by the Gulf oil spill. Our new Guide will include complete contact information for every registered Charter Captain in the state. Another key target is Fishing Tournaments. Florida leads the nation in the number of annual tournaments and we want to make certain we assist the promoters in marketing to out-of-state anglers.











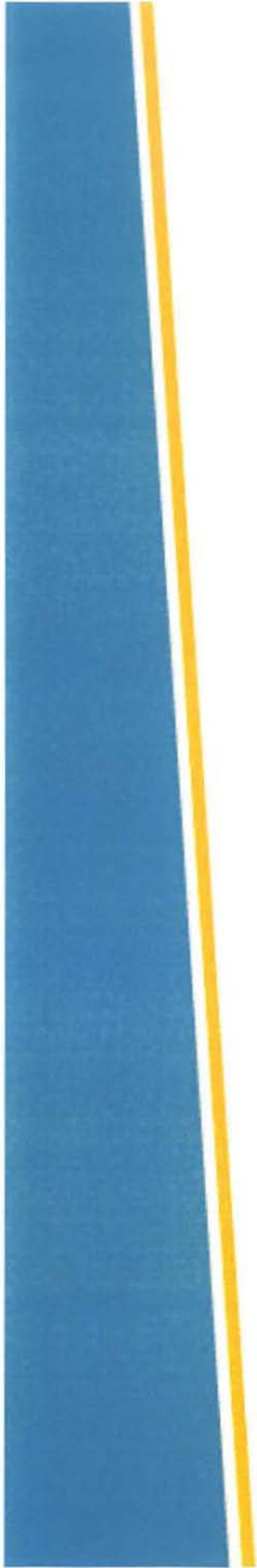


# FLORIDA



*Where  
The World  
Comes To  
Play*





# FLORIDA SPORTS FOUNDATION







# **Florida Black Business Investment Board, Inc.**

**Economic Development & Tourism  
Subcommittee  
January 25, 2011**

# FBBIB Mission

Our Mission is to advocate for policies and garner resources that create the environment for equal access for black and small business success.

# Historical Overview

- In 1984 a report of the Governor's Advisory Council on Minority Enterprise Development documented the deep disparity between the growth of African American businesses and other businesses.

The report identified three major impediments to black businesses:

Lack of access to capital,  
Lack of access to markets, and  
Lack of access to quality technical assistance.



# Overview continued

- In response, the 1985 Florida Legislature enacted 288.707 F.S. which was to: “strengthen the economy of the state by increasing the number of qualified black business enterprises.”

Therefore the Florida Black Business Investment Board, a body politic, within the Department of Commerce was created.

we are a 501(c)3 corporation.

# Current Mandates

- Increase financial institution investment in black businesses;
- Leveraging federal, state, local, and private funds;

Serve as the clearinghouse for information and sources of technical assistance;

Collaborate with Enterprise Florida, Inc. to develop and support black businesses;

# Mandates continued

- Market the Black Business Loan Program and other related services;
- Provide a 5-year projection of the need for capital by black business enterprises;

Advise the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development on the Black Business Loan Program and long-range strategic policies of the program.



# Projects & Partnerships

- Kauffman Foundation-Urban Entrepreneur Partnership
- Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
  - *Small Business, Entrepreneurship and Economic Recovery Conference*
- Allied African Nations Chamber of Commerce

Enterprise Florida Inc.

- Africa Trade Expansion Program
- Florida International Trade Partnership




# Unemployment Compensation

Current State Benefit Policy Choices  
Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee



# State's Role

- ▶ Each state designs its own UC program within the framework of the federal requirements;
  - ▶ Determines operation methods and directly administers the program;
  - ▶ Takes claims from individuals, determines eligibility, and insures timely payment of benefits to workers; and
  - ▶ Determines employer liability, and assesses and collects state UC taxes.
- 

# Current State UC Program Policy Choices

- ▶ Qualification for Benefits:
- ▶ The Agency for Workforce Innovation must find that she or he:
  - Has made a claim for benefits for that week.
  - Has registered for work and reports to the one-stop career center.
  - Is able to work and is available for work.
  - Has been unemployed for a waiting period of 1 week.
  - Submitted a valid social security number.

# Current State UC Program Policy Choices

## ▶ Monetary Eligibility:

- The claimant's base period is the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters.
- There must be wages in two or more quarters in the base period.
- The weekly benefit amount is  $1/26$ th of the high quarter wages (the minimum is \$32 and the maximum is \$275).
- The maximum payable is 25% of the total wages in the base period, not to exceed \$7,150.
- There must be a minimum of \$3,400 in the base period and the claimant must have 1.5 times the high quarter wages in the base period.



# Current State UC Program Policy Choices

- ▶ Benefit eligibility liberally construed in favor of a claimant (s. 443.031)
- ▶ Disqualification from receiving benefits:
  - voluntarily leaving the job w/out good cause attributable to the employer; or
  - when the employee has been discharged for misconduct connected with the job (s. 443.101)
- ▶ Claimant available for work means actively seeking and being ready and willing to accept suitable employment (s. 443.036)

# Current State UC Program Policy Choices

- ▶ Misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following, which may not be construed in pari materia with each other:
  - (a) Conduct demonstrating willful or wanton disregard of an employer's interests and found to be a deliberate violation or disregard of the standards of behavior which the employer has a right to expect of his or her employee; or
  - (b) Carelessness or negligence to a degree or recurrence that manifests culpability, wrongful intent, or evil design or shows an intentional and substantial disregard of the employer's interests or of the employer's duties and obligations to his or her employer. (s. 443.036(29), F.S.)

# Current State UC Program Policy Choices

- ▶ “Earned income” means gross remuneration derived from work, professional service, or self-employment.
- ▶ The term includes commissions, bonuses, back pay awards, and the cash value of all remuneration paid in a medium other than cash. The term does not include income derived from invested capital or ownership of property. (s. 443.036(16), F.S.)



# Proposed Changes to Florida's Unemployment Compensation System

# Change the Way the Law is Construed

- Current construction: “*liberally construed in favor of the claimant*”
- Change to: “*neutrally construed between an employer and a claimant*”
- Defining “*through no fault of one’s own*”

# Facilitate a Culture Change

- Focus on re-employment
- Use existing, FREE resources
- Emphasize active search for employment
- Eliminate paying those that have already been paid

# The Misconduct Piece

- Employers should not be charged for benefits when an employee...
  - ...has been fired for cause.
  - ...has committed theft.
  - ...fails to maintain professional qualifications.
  - ...goes to jail.



# Drug Testing

- USDOL position on use of system funds
- Incentives for drug testing, reporting