

*DRAFT*  
“STOP Highway Robbery!”  
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Florida’s transportation system – our highways, bridges, airports, seaports, railroads, bus and rail transit systems – is the backbone of our state’s economy and the foundation upon which our quality of life rests, and

WHEREAS, during the 2003 Florida Legislative Session \$200 million was “redirected, raided, diverted or swept” from the State Transportation Trust Fund, and

WHEREAS, these transportation funds did not come from general revenue, but were collected from transportation user fees: gasoline taxes and tag fees, and

WHEREAS, these transportation user fees are taxes paid by the traveling public for a very specific purpose -- transportation maintenance and improvement, and

WHEREAS, to use them for any other purpose is simply wrong, and

WHEREAS, in February, FDOT produced a study indicating that \$5.50 is generated for every \$1.00 invested in the Department’s Five-Year Work Program, and

WHEREAS, on March 4<sup>th</sup>, the Department made public a draft report showing that an additional \$2.7 billion was needed each of the next 17 years – just to maintain current transportation conditions, and

WHEREAS, in July, TRIP (The Road Information Program) released a report showing that Florida leads the nation in deaths for older drivers with 268 of drivers over the age of 70 were killed in traffic accidents in Florida in 2001, and

WHEREAS, we now know that taking \$200 million from the Transportation Trust Fund was the wrong thing to do from a “user fee principle” standpoint, and it also failed to make economic, transportation, and safety sense.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the \_\_\_\_\_  
urges Governor Bush and the Florida Legislature to

1. “STOP Highway Robbery” in 2004,
2. Keep the “TRU\$T” in the Transportation Trust Fund, and
3. Prevent another multi-million dollar “diversion” from the State Transportation Trust Fund during the 2004 Legislative Session,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Governor is strongly encouraged to fully fund transportation and not to include a another transportation diversion in his proposed 2004-05 budget.