



August 27, 2007

The Honorable Charlie Crist
The Governor of Florida
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: Do Not Divert Transportation Trust Fund Dollars

Dear Governor Crist,

On behalf of the Florida Chamber of Commerce and our 139,000 grassroots members, I want to express my concern about diverting funds from the state Transportation Trust Fund to fund non-transportation related programs.

As our state faces this critical time of downturn in the economy, I urge you to invest in proven programs that expand our economy and encourage economic development. The state's investment in transportation infrastructure is a crucial component to economic development, returning as much as \$7 per \$1 invested and generating more than 47,500 jobs per \$1 billion invested in Florida. Your budget is a statement of priorities for the state and it makes good sense to continue investing these dollars in projects that provide economical growth as well as supply the citizens of our state with improved infrastructure.

Thank you for your leadership. During the upcoming Special Session, there will be difficult choices to make. Diverting money from the Transportation Trust Fund to non-transportation related needs would have a negative impact on our economy. I ask that you reject all attempts to do so. Thank you.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank M. Ryll, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Frank M. Ryll, Jr.
President