

Florida's Balanced Budget **PAYS OFF FOR EDUCATION**

This year **AGAIN** the Legislature met its constitutional responsibility by passing a responsibly balanced budget. Just like Florida's families and small businesses handle their finances in tough circumstances – we tightened our belts again and made tough decisions that are in what I believe to be the long-term best interests of our state's financial future.

We focused on some core missions of government – keeping our families safe, and providing critical health care for the most vulnerable among us. The Legislature also crafted and passed a budget this year that will provide our children the opportunities for a world-class education by including a **\$1.1 billion increase in education funding**. The increase in education funding will ensure that our students are receiving the instruction, materials, and support needed to thrive in the 21st Century world.

Since 2001, there has been an across-the-board positive trend in student performance in Florida. More of Florida's students, both traditional and those enrolled in online virtual schools, are mastering the skills and knowledge that will enable them to succeed in school and beyond. I believe that if given the tools, Florida's students will continue to meet the high academic bar set before them, to be globally competitive.



Your Comments Please...

I believe communication is the heart and soul of successful service. Any comments or questions you may have concerning the content of this mailer, or on any action the Florida Legislature took this year, will be most welcome.

Please feel free to write, phone or e-mail me at any time.

– State Rep. Scott Plakon



Representative Scott Plakon

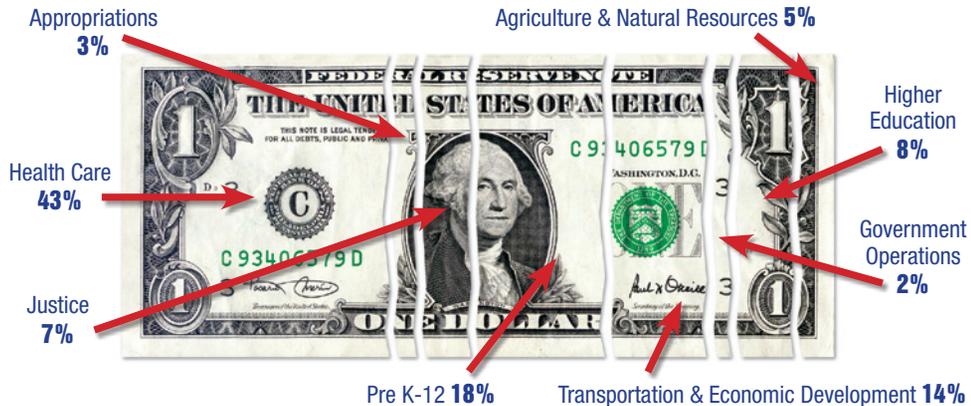
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|----------------------------------|----------------|--|----------------|
| Agriculture & Natural Resources: | \$3.2 billion | Health Care: | \$29.9 billion |
| Appropriations: | \$2.2 billion | Higher Education: | \$5.8 billion |
| Pre K-12: | \$12.8 billion | Justice: | \$4.6 billion |
| Government Operations: | \$1.8 billion | Transportation & Economic Development: | \$9.7 billion |

IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

1-800-342-8060

Attorney Complaints

1-800-424-9393

Auto Safety

1-800-848-3792

Banking and Finance

1-800-368-5647

Boat Safety/Recalling

U.S. Coast Guard

1-800-962-2873

Child/Adult Abuse

1-800-638-2772

Consumer Product

Safety, U.S.

1-800-435-7352

Consumer Services Hotline, FL

1-800-388-2227

Counseling/Credit, U.S.

1-800-342-9271

Education/Career Development

1-800-342-3557

Emergency Management

1-800-688-9889

Federal Information

1-800-342-1676

Game, Fish Violation

1-800-342-0828

Health Care Costs

1-800-942-4242

Office of Insurance Regulation

1-800-829-1040

Internal Revenue Service

1-800-342-1827

Legislative Information

1-800-342-5367

Marine Patrol

1-800-333-7586

Medicare - Doctors (Part "B")

1-800-282-3171

Poison Control

1-800-342-7940

Professional Regulations

1-800-772-1213

Social Security

1-800-342-1741

Workers Compensation

Not Paid for at Taxpayer Expense