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Statement from Majority Leader Ray Rodrigues on the First Week of Session

Tallahassee, FL—Majority Leader Ray Rodrigues released the following statement in response to the commencement of the 2017 legislative session.

“Our caucus, and the House as a whole, hit the ground running when session convened this Tuesday. First, we passed a Joint Rule with the Senate that transforms the budgetary process by making member projects fully transparent, publicly known before Conference and paid for with non-recurring dollars.

On the House floor and in committee, our caucus moved bills that raised the bar of transparency and accountability that our taxpayer’s deserve. We passed reforms of public employee unions to better serve their members and increased fiscal transparency for local elected officials. In Appropriations, we challenged state universities to defend their transfers of taxpayer dollars for fundraising, international travel and lobbying purposes.

In session, with broad bi-partisan support, we passed legislation that fundamentally changes the state’s approach to economic development and stops government from picking winners and losers. We also improved accountability standards for Visit Florida to ensure that advertising for our great state is done in the most effective and efficient manner. The Republican caucus is looking out for working families and taxpayers and will continue to challenge the status quo.”

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