



March 31, 2010

The Honorable Larry Cretul  
The Florida House of Representatives  
420 The Capitol  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Speaker Cretul:

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce strongly opposes House Bill 5503 and any future bill, which would sweep the State Transportation Trust Fund.

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce's legislative agenda was created this year with the primary focus of job creation, retention, and expansion. Toward that end, the passage of HB 5503 will result in both direct and indirect job losses as the sweep will cause cuts from the Florida Department of Transportation priority project construction list. Transportation funding, unlike many other forms for government funding, shows a direct, tangible result that benefits all Floridians.

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce recognizes the state's current financial situation but also understands that investments in infrastructure, particularly transportation, are the key to turning our economy around. Florida's investment in transportation projects will guarantee continued federal investment in Florida for years to come.

We sincerely hope that you can make the commitment to defeat any legislation which takes aim at the State Transportation Trust Fund during this legislative session. If the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for all that you do for the communities across the state of Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Sykes".

Chuck Sykes, Chair  
(*Sykes Enterprises, Inc.*)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Rohrlack, Jr.".

Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., CEcD  
President and CEO

CC: Senate President Atwater, Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation