

January 31, 2014

Contact: Felicia Harvey fharvey@tampachamber.com (813) 276-9492 (813) 489-9284 cell

## Chamber commends Senate President Gaetz and House Speaker Will Weatherford for supporting Florida "GI Bill"

Tampa, Fla. –The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce commends Senate President Don Gaetz and House Speaker Will Weatherford for supporting the Florida "GI Bill." The proposed bills would expand free tuition for members of the National Guard, simplify professional licensing for veterans, allow honorably discharged veterans to pay in-state tuition and create a non-profit to market Florida to former military members. "One of the top priorities in the Chamber's State Legislative Agenda this year is supporting legislation to waive the residency requirement for veterans attending state colleges and universities. We are pleased that President Gaetz and Speaker Weatherford also see this as a priority. Ensuring that veterans have a smooth transition into civilian life is vital to our region as MacDill Air Force Base is a large economic driver in our community and a great source of workforce talent," stated Bob Rohrlack, president and CEO.

The Chamber's other top priorities include supporting a Florida-specific solution to health care reform and supporting state investment in Tampa International Airport's Master Plan. Please click <a href="here">here</a> to view the Chamber's 2014 State Legislative Agenda. For more information on the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, please visit <a href="https://www.tampachamber.com">www.tampachamber.com</a>.

## **About the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce**

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce is committed to serving our members and enhancing our community by building business success. The Chamber provides a greater return on investment and involvement by providing innovative leadership, inside access, influential advocacy and increased opportunities.

###