



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

May 19, 2017

Dear Fellow Floridian:

I am proud to announce that Florida has achieved the lowest unemployment rate in almost a decade at 4.5 percent. Florida businesses also created 15,000 new jobs during the month of April, which is further proof of our state's continued economic growth. While Florida's economy is on a roll, now is not the time to slow down our unrelenting efforts to bring more jobs and opportunities to our state.

Businesses and site selectors have taken notice of the Florida Legislature's decision to turn their backs on the incredible return on investment economic development programs like Enterprise Florida and VISIT FLORIDA have brought to our state. This is not only disappointing, but could put our future job creation efforts at risk. Even though our private sector job growth rate is exceeding the nation's, it is currently lower than it has been over the past year. This is something we cannot ignore. We cannot allow Florida to fall behind after our years of successful growth. We will continue to work each day to fight for jobs so our state can become the number one place for families and businesses to succeed.

Here are some other points you can share about Florida's economy with your friends and family:

- Private-sector industries gaining the most jobs over-the-year were:
 - Professional and business services with 39,500 new jobs;
 - Trade, transportation, and utilities with 36,600 new jobs; and
 - Construction with 34,400 new jobs.
- Florida job postings showed 244,758 openings in April 2017.
- In April, Florida's 24 regional workforce boards reported 19,033 Floridians, including 1,069 veterans, were placed in jobs.

We will keep working to make our state the first choice for businesses to grow and create new opportunities for our families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor