May 22, 2015

Dear Fellow Floridians:

Today, we announced that Florida businesses created over 25,000 private-sector jobs in April. This is great for Florida families and highlights the great work of job creators throughout the state. Over 865,000 new jobs have been added in Florida since December 2010 and our unemployment rate has dropped to 5.6 percent. We are providing greater opportunities for companies to succeed by cutting taxes and creating an environment where businesses can grow.

This month I have continued to travel the state and joined great Florida businesses in highlighting their job gains. These visits are further proof that every new job is an opportunity for a family to achieve the American Dream in our state. Here are some other points you can share with your friends and family:

More Floridians Getting Back to Work

• Florida’s unemployment rate has declined or held steady for 55 consecutive months.
• Florida’s private-sector job growth month-to-month has been positive for 42 consecutive months.
• Florida has created 865,600 new private sector jobs since December 2010.
• Florida job postings compiled by the Help Wanted OnLine data series from The Conference Board showed 284,444 openings in April 2015.

Home Sales Robust

• Florida's housing market reported more closed sales, higher median prices, increased pending sales and more new listings in April, according to the latest housing data released by Florida Realtors®.
• Closed sales of existing single-family homes statewide totaled 25,206 last month, up 17.9 percent over April 2014.
• Florida median home prices were up 9.2 percent over the year in March 2015.
• Florida building permits were up 14.9 percent over the year in March 2015.
Fellow Floridians
May 22, 2015
Page Two

Workforce Boards Assisting in Employment

- In April, Florida’s 24 regional workforce boards reported more than 37,600 Floridians were placed in jobs. An individual who receives employment and training assistance through a CareerSource Center and finds a job within 180 days is deemed a placement and may be reported by a regional workforce board. Of these individuals, 6,916 previously received Reemployment Assistance.
- In 2014, 470,534 individuals were placed into jobs through the regional workforce board, including more than 23,986 veterans.

We will keep working to create an environment that helps job creators succeed so Florida can become the global destination for jobs.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott
Governor