October 27th, 2014

Dear Friends,

On November 4th, Floridians will be making a critical choice for Governor. Governor Scott and Former Governor Crist’s records are quite different.

These are the facts:

✓ During Charlie Crist’s time in office, Florida lost 828,800 private-sector jobs. Since Governor Scott took office, Florida businesses have added more than 643,100 new private-sector jobs as of August 2014.

✓ During Charlie Crist’s time in office, unemployment tripled – going from 3.5% to 11.1%. Today, with Governor Scott in office, unemployment is down to 6.3%. Florida’s unemployment has dropped 50% faster than the national rate and we are leading the nation with the 2nd largest decrease.

✓ Governor Scott eliminated over 3,000 state regulations on job creators and streamlined state government bureaucracy to help, not hinder, job creation.

✓ Governor Scott has cut taxes 40 times in four legislative sessions including vehicles registration fees, property taxes, business income taxes and the sales tax on equipment and machinery to grow Florida’s manufacturing base and create good-paying jobs. Tax cuts for 2014 alone have totaled $500 million.

✓ Under Charlie Christ, debt increased by $5.2 billion, while Governor Scott has paid down state debt by $4 billion. In addition, Governor Scott inherited a $3.6 billion dollar shortfall from Charlie Crist, and now Florida has a $1.2 billion surplus.

✓ Under Governor Scott, Florida’s roads and bridges are among the best in the nation. Florida ranks near the top in almost every measure of road transportation.

✓ Under Governor Scott, K-12 education will be funded at the highest levels ever, with a record $18.9 billion in total funding. Conversely, total state funding was lower when Charlie Crist left office than when he signed his first budget. Florida now ranks 4th in the nation in the percentage of high school graduates who pass their AP exams and 1st in the country on the graduation index for Hispanic students.
Governor Scott eliminated the authority for universities to increase tuition by 15% as well as automatic cost of living adjustments forced on students and parents by Charlie Crist. Because Governor Scott signed a law stopping the runaway increases in university tuition, parents who sign their children up for a Florida 4-Year University Pre-Paid Tuition plan will save nearly $20,000 for new children being enrolled in the program.

Through Governor Scott’s continued efforts, the Department of Children and Families increased the funding for foster children, who are now graduating with high school diplomas at an all-time high and receiving better medical care. Governor Scott also provided record funding for Child Protective Investigators, allowing DCF to hire an additional 270 Investigators. This means more investigators to protect Florida’s most vulnerable children.

Governor Scott worked with the federal government and the environmental and agricultural communities to create and fund an $880 million plan to provide clean water to the Everglades. Under Governor Scott, the State Budget included more money for Everglades restoration than under Charlie Crist and included the highest state appropriation ever for Everglades restoration.

Please don’t be fooled by the ads. Charlie Crist was first a Republican, then an Independent, and now a Democrat. The only thing he has been consistent with is flip-flopping on party affiliation and important political issues. If you look at Governor Scott’s record, the platform he ran on four years ago is the same one as today, and he has a proven track record of delivering on his promises ... I personally know and have spent time with both candidates. If you want to have a friendly beer at a weekend BBQ, Charlie Crist is your guy. But if you want someone to run one of the largest economies in the world, Rick Scott is your guy. That’s right – At $800 billion, Florida’s GDP rivals those of the world’s largest countries. In fact, if Florida were a country, it would have the 18th largest economy in the world. The choice for Governor is a clear one. Vote for Governor Scott on November 4th and “Let’s Keep Florida Working!”

Best,

Troy

Troy Maschmeyer, Jr.