



For Immediate Release

May 2, 2014

Contact: Katie Betta, Florida Senate

(850) 487-5229

Ryan Duffy, Florida House

(850) 717-5618

**Work Plan 2014 Completed: President Gaetz and Speaker Weatherford
Celebrate Conclusion of 2014 Legislative Session**

***Session Marked by Passage of \$500 Million in Tax Relief, Florida GI Bill, Expanded
Education Opportunities, Protections for Florida's Vulnerable, Government Accountability***

Tallahassee—The Florida Legislature concluded the 2014 Session this evening by finalizing key pieces of legislation outlined in the joint Senate and House Work Plan Florida agenda announced earlier this year by Florida Senate President Don Gaetz (R-Niceville) and Florida House Speaker Will Weatherford (R-Wesley Chapel).

“History tells us confrontation is more likely than cooperation when two parties and two legislative chambers take on significant reform initiatives,” said President Gaetz. “Against those trends – and unlike our counterparts in Washington – we worked together as Democrats and Republicans, as Senators and Representatives to pass a far-reaching and positive Work Plan Florida agenda.”

“This session, the Florida Legislature set out to take on big issues and finish strong,” said Speaker Weatherford. “Working with the Senate, we provided families relief with the largest tax cut of its kind in a decade, honored our veterans with a Florida GI Bill, worked to improve the quality of education in Florida, increased government accountability and strengthened penalties for criminals. 2014 was an extremely productive session.”

Work Plan 2014, Joint House and Senate 5-Point Agenda

- ✓ Enhance Economic Opportunity Through Education
- ✓ Florida GI Bill
- ✓ Protect Vulnerable Floridians
- ✓ \$500 Million Tax Cut
- ✓ Improve Government Efficiency and Accountability

To close out the session, Senators and Representative passed proposals to expand economic opportunity through education, improve government accountability and efficiency and round out \$500 million in tax relief. Other Work Plan Florida 2014 proposals including a \$400 million reduction in vehicle registration fees, legislation to protect Florida's vulnerable from sexually violent predators, and to make Florida the most military and veteran-friendly state in the nation passed with strong bipartisan majorities in both chambers early in the session and were signed in to law by Governor Scott.

"I am grateful to our Senators and Representatives for their work crafting and sponsoring key pieces of Work Plan 2014," continued President Gaetz. "Lawmakers shared ideas, compared approaches and came closer together on final products which earned bi-partisan, bi-cameral approval and merit the Governor's signature."

"Speaker Weatherford and I committed ourselves in advance to destinations that are good for Florida and then together with our colleagues worked out the pathways to get there," said President Gaetz. "There is no one I would rather have at the other end of the fourth floor than Speaker Will Weatherford. The accomplishments of this Legislature, in large part, are products of his skill, values, and vision."

"I thank President Gaetz for once again for working to pass a joint legislative agenda of which both chambers can be proud," said Speaker Weatherford. "He has been an incredible partner these past two sessions and has set the new standard for leadership in the Florida Senate."

For more information on Work Plan 2014, please visit the [Florida Senate](#) and the [Florida House](#) online.

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