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The Tea Party Network Requests Vetoes for 2012 Legislative Session *TTPN Continues to Affect Change with Legislators*

Florida, March 26th, 2012-The Tea Party Network (TTPN) sent the below letter to Governor Rick Scott requesting his vetoes on several specific bills, and approval of two items.

TTPN has evolved from “rally” based Tea Party events to legislative action. This reflects the Network’s efforts to continue to influence the Legislators the Network helped elect, but in a more substantive way on specific Legislation.

TTPN started the Legislative Session with a very specific focus on four bills.

- **SB 552/HB 359**-Florida Ethical Practices Act 2012
- **HB79/SB 178/SB114**/ Repeal Septic Tank Law
- **HB 109 & S 220**: The Driver’s Licenses Citizen Protection Act, Repeal of Real ID Act
- **HB 343 & S 568**: Florida Motorist Rights Restoration Act (MRRA)

The Network was successful, achieving several objectives and influenced many bills during Session. TTPN will meet July 13th and 14th in Gainesville, FL to prepare the 2013 Legislative Agenda.

Our letter to Governor Scott:

“Dear Governor Scott;

We, the Tea Party Network, an affiliation of 86 Tea Party groups in the State of Florida, request your veto on a few specific bills that violate our principles of limited government and fiscal responsibility.

Energy Bill 7117 – We do not believe the government should be determining the marketplace for renewable energy projects. This bill extends \$16 million in renewable energy tax credits, creates separate rules for electric vehicle

recharging stations, and mandates studies of the resources available to produce biomass energy.

HB 599 - The bill requires a mandated \$100,000 study to merge Hillsborough and Pinellas transit agencies. The State of Florida should not be dictating Counties what they should and should not do for solving local transit issues.

Medicaid Bill 5301 – This is clearly an unfunded mandate to the Counties. The State should either find the funding sources or reduce the service burden to the Counties.

Polytechnic University Bill SB 1994 – Our higher education schools are already under funding pressures, and splitting the pot further is counterproductive to the quality of the institutions. Further, private Universities are filling the marketplace to service student needs, and we should encourage private sector growth.

We also request your signing of the following bill:

House Bill 1263 - This bill repeals 2010's SB 550, the costly and burdensome statewide septic system inspection mandate forced on 2.5 million residents in the State of Florida. It also contains a fair and affordable new septic inspection program that does not impose any cost on the state.

Finally, we are asking that you approve the budget line item that funds the completion of the DOH Nitrogen Reduction Strategy Study. This study is nearly completed, and results will ensure that septic system owners throughout the state can keep their conventional systems, but have the science and the products necessary to further protect our water resources. Please approve the funding for the completion of the study.

We thank you for your service to our State, and hope you will thoughtfully consider and act upon our requests.”

TTPN has a strong presence throughout the State of Florida and in Tallahassee and successfully works with lawmakers on issues of importance to citizens throughout the state of Florida. The Tea Party Network's basic principles are:

- Limited government
- Fiscal responsibility and
- Support the US and Florida Constitutions

The Network invites all that support these principles *to join us!*

Who is the Tea Party Network?

The Tea Party Network was formed in 2010 with the following mission:

The mission of The Tea Party Network in Florida, a statewide network, is to facilitate communication between Tea Party groups throughout the state of Florida, to be a resource for education and action, and to work with local member group leaders to grow the movement and reclaim America. The Network currently has a membership of 86 Tea Party/912 groups and 9 regions throughout the state of Florida.

For further information, please visit our website at

<http://theteapartynetwork.org/>