

## THE AMERICAN JOBS ACT: IMPACT FOR Florida

The American people understand that the economic crisis and the deep recession weren't created overnight and won't be solved overnight. The economic security of the middle class has been under attack for decades. To create jobs, the President unveiled the American Jobs Act – nearly all of which is made up of ideas that have been supported by both Democrats and Republicans, and that Congress should pass right away to get the economy moving now. The purpose of the American Jobs Act is simple: put more people back to work and put more money in the pockets of working Americans. And it would do so without adding a dime to the deficit. The American Jobs Act has five components:

### *Tax Cuts to Help America's Small Businesses Hire and Grow*

- The plan will cut the payroll tax in half to 3.1% for employers on the first \$5 million in wages, providing broad tax relief to all businesses but targeting it to the 98 percent of firms with wages below this level. In Florida, 410,000 firms will receive a payroll tax cut under the American Jobs Act.

### *Putting Workers Back on the Job While Rebuilding and Modernizing America*

- The plan includes \$50 billion in immediate investments for highways, transit, rail and aviation, helping to modernize an infrastructure that now receives a grade of "D" from the American Society of Civil Engineers and putting hundreds of thousands of construction workers back on the job. Of the investments for highway and transit modernization projects, The plan will make immediate investments of at least \$1,578,600,000 in Florida that could support a minimum of approximately 20,500 local jobs.
- The President is proposing to invest \$35 billion to prevent layoffs of up to 280,000 teachers, while supporting the hiring of tens of thousands more and keeping cops and firefighters on the job. These funds would help states and localities avoid and reverse layoffs now, and will provide \$1,669,500,000 in funds to Florida to support up to 25,900 educator and first responder jobs.
- The President is proposing a \$25 billion investment in school infrastructure that will modernize at least 35,000 public schools – investments that will create jobs, while improving classrooms and upgrading our schools to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century needs. Florida will receive \$1,280,300,000 in funding to support as many as 16,600 jobs.
- The President is proposing to invest \$15 billion in a national effort to put construction workers on the job rehabilitating and refurbishing hundreds of thousands of vacant and foreclosed homes and businesses. Florida could receive about \$2,701,800,000 to revitalize and refurbish local communities, in addition to funds that would be available through a competitive application.

- The plan proposes \$5 billion of investments for facilities modernization needs at community colleges. Investment in modernizing community colleges fills a key resource gap, and ensures these local, bedrock education institutions have the facilities and equipment to address current workforce demands in today's highly technical and growing fields. Florida could receive \$288,400,000 in funding in the next fiscal year for its community colleges.

### *Pathways Back to Work for Americans Looking for Jobs.*

- Drawing on the best ideas of both parties and the most innovative states, the President is proposing the most sweeping reforms to the unemployment insurance (UI) system in 40 years help those without jobs transition to the workplace. This could help put the 498,000 long-term unemployed workers in Florida back to work.
- Alongside these reforms, the President is reiterating his call to extend unemployment insurance, preventing 148,500 people looking for work in Florida from losing their benefits in just the first 6 weeks. And, across the country, the number saved from losing benefits would triple by the end of the year.
- The President is proposing a new Pathways Back to Work Fund to provide hundreds of thousands of low-income youth and adults with opportunities to work and to achieve needed training in growth industries. Pathways Back to Work could place 8,800 adults and 35,600 youths in jobs in Florida.

### *Tax Relief for Every American Worker and Family*

- The plan will expand the payroll tax cut passed last December by cutting workers payroll taxes in half next year. A typical household in Florida, with a median income of around \$46,000, will receive a tax cut of around \$1,430.