



FLORIDA DEMOCRATS

Putting Floridians First Because Security Begins At Home

FLORIDA DEMOCRATS ON THE ECONOMY

Democrats Support Small Business Owners. We believe that our state's economic policies should address the needs of small businesses and not just the special interests of Wal-Mart, Halliburton and other large, out-of-state corporations. For the past decade, Republicans have made government a roadblock for small business growth, saddling small business owners with higher taxes, higher insurance premiums and more red tape. Our state's economy is built on the backs of small business owners. Democrats support investments that help small businesses grow and provide assistance to start-up companies. Our plans increase access to health insurance, which will give small business owners the freedom to invest in economic growth.

Democrats Support A Higher Minimum Wage. Because no one should have to work three jobs just to make ends meet, we support living wages that help Floridians care for their families. Working hard and full-time should enable people to move up out of poverty. For the last decade, Republicans have opposed efforts to raise the minimum wage, and now they are trying to repeal 2004's voter-mandated higher wages.

Democrats Support Sunshine Laws, Government Integrity & Efficiency. Simply put, Democrats believe in government that is open and honest with the people. Which company gets a state contract shouldn't be a secret, and all government business should be conducted efficiently and with integrity. Republicans' corrupt and incompetent management has cost the taxpayers money and hurt our economic security.

Democrats Support Affordable Housing Initiatives. We believe that every American should have the opportunity to live the American Dream of homeownership. For the past decade, as housing prices have skyrocketed, Republicans have drained Florida's affordable housing assistance fund to pay for their individual pet projects in the budget. Democrats understand that the affordable housing assistance fund exists to help Florida's teachers, police officers, seniors and first-time homebuyers who wish to purchase their own home. Democrats fight to preserve the affordable housing assistance program and work to enhance opportunities for Floridians to buy their own home.

Democrats Support Affordable Hurricane Insurance. Democrats believe that Florida's homeowners deserve affordable insurance. Despite the skyrocketing premium and assessment insurance increases for millions of Floridians, Republicans have ignored the current crisis and passed inadequate legislation – making it easier for insurance companies to raise rates, removing important consumer protections and potentially leaving more than a million Floridians trapped in the doomed Republican-run Citizens Insurance.

Florida Democrats have designed the “Storming Mad” initiative to address the urgent need to reform the insurance system. Democrats are keenly focused on both the availability and affordability of insurance for homeowners, while Republicans passed a plan that does nothing to make insurance more affordable. In short, the Democratic plan to reform the hurricane insurance market will: 1) Stabilize the Insurance Market; 2) Lower Rates and Increase Competition; and 3) Increase Efficiency & Reward Floridians for Mitigation Efforts.

For further details on the plan, visit www.StormingMad.org.