

House & Senate Budget Committees continued.....

Another issue....the Senate has proposed decreasing the Visit Florida budget from \$76 million to \$50 million. Funding for tourism promotion has been one of Governor Scott's top budget priorities. "I completely oppose the Florida Senate's proposal to cut VISIT Florida's budget by a third". Promoting "We are Open!" after Hurricane Irma's devastating impact is a reason for his steadfast support. Scott's proposed budget requests \$100 million for Visit Florida.

This week, the House support proposed funding plan for Visit Florida at \$76 million.

The Senate's reasoning is based on a recent report stating that Visit Florida's budget was growing at a faster pace than tourist growth.

After a vote by the full House and Senate, both versions will be negotiated by a House/Senate Conference Committee to iron out differences. A final budget is required before the legislature is able to adjourn March 9.