

The logo for the Clearwater Regional Chamber Government Affairs is centered on a dark blue background. It features the word "Clearwater" in a large, white, cursive script font. Above the letters "e" and "a" in "Clearwater" is a stylized wave graphic with a yellow-to-blue gradient. Below "Clearwater" are the words "REGIONAL CHAMBER" in a smaller, white, all-caps sans-serif font, and "Government Affairs" in a white, all-caps sans-serif font below that.

Clearwater

REGIONAL CHAMBER

Government Affairs

URGENT ACTION TO SAVE VISIT FLORIDA

The funding for Visit Florida is scheduled to “sunset” – expire – on October 1, 2019. Senate Bill 178, and the companion House Bill 6031, would reauthorize VISIT FLORIDA. The Senate Supports VISIT FLORIDA. The House of Representatives isn’t showing support and we are asking for your help.

Tourism is the number one economic driver for Clearwater and the state of Florida as a whole.

In 2016, out-of-state visitors were responsible for spending nearly \$112 Billion, traveled from 67 countries and saved every Florida household \$1549/year. Every 78 visitors create 1 Florida job and every dollar invested in Visit Florida yields a \$2.15 return on investment.

VISIT FLORIDA is essential to maintain Florida’s number 1 industry, create job and keep taxes low for residents.

Take Action from Anywhere:

Call and/or email key members of the Florida House of Representatives and urge them to support VISIT FLORIDA .

- 1.) Call a legislator at the phone numbers below
- 2.) Read script below once phone is answered. Leave a message if it goes to voicemail:

"Hello,

I am Calling to urge (Insert a representative's name) to take action to save VISIT FLORIDA. If no action is taken by Friday, VISIT FLORIDA will sunset October 1, 2019.

Please put HB 6031 on the agenda for Friday's Workforce Development & Tourism Subcommittee and support a reauthorization with \$76 million in funding.

VISIT FLORIDA is essential to maintain Florida's number one industry, create jobs, keep taxes low for residents and has an ROI of \$2.15 for every \$1 it spends.

Thank you for your consideration."

3.) Representatives to call:

Senate Commerce & Tourism

District

Capitol

Joe Gruters, Chair

941-378-6309

850-487-5023

gruters.joe.web@flsenate.gov

Victor M. Torres, Vice-Chair

407-846-5187

850-487-5015

torres.victor.web@flsenate.gov

Travis Hutson

386-446-7610

850-487-5007

hutson.travis.web@flsenate.gov

Linda Stewart

407-893-2422

850-487-5013

stewart.linda.web@flsenate.gov

Tom A. Wright

386-304-7630

850-487-5014

wright.tom.web@flsenate.gov

**Senate Appropriations Subcommittee / Transportation, Tourism, and
Economic Development**

District

Capitol

Travis Hutson, Chair

386-446-7610

850-487-5007

hutson.travis.web@flsenate.gov

Perry E. Thurston, Vice-Chair

954-321-2705

850-487-5033

thurston.perry.web@flsenate.gov

Jeff Brandes

727-563-2100

850-487-5024

brandes.jeff.web@flsenate.gov

Tom Lee

813-653-7061

850-487-5020

lee.tom.web@flsenate.gov

Keith Perry

352-264-4040

850-487-5008

perry.keith.web@flsenate.gov

Wilton Simpson

352-688-5077

850-487-5010

simpson.wilton.web@flsenate.gov

Annette Taddeo

305-596-3003

850-487-5040

taddeo.annettee.web@flsenate.gov

Victor M. Torres

407-846-5187

850-487-5015

torres.victor.web@flsenate.gov

House Commerce Committee

District

Capitol

Mike La Rosa, Chair

407-891-2555

850-717-5042

mike.larosa@myfloridahouse.gov

Jason Fischer, Vice-Chair

904-359-2653

850-717-5016

jason.fischer@myfloridahouse.gov

Evan Jenne, Democratic Ranking Member

954-893-5000

850-717-5099

evan.jenne@myfloridahouse.gov

Jennifer Webb, Pinellas County Legislative Delegation

727-341-7385

850-717-5069

jennifer.webb@myfloridahouse.gov

House Workforce Development & Tourism Committee

District

Capitol

Rene "Coach P" Plasencia, Chair

321-383-5151

850-717-5050

rene.plasencia@myfloridahouse.gov

Jayer Williamson, Vice-Chair

850-995-3698

850-717-5003

jayer.williamson@myflorida.house.gov

Kamia L. Brown, Democratic Ranking Member

850-297-2001

850-717-5045

kamia.brown@myfloridahouse.gov

House Transportation & Tourism Appropriation Subcommittee

District

Capitol

Jay Trumbull, Chair

850-914-6300

850-717-5006

jay.trumbull@myfloridahouse.gov

Brad Drake, Vice-Chair

850-951-0547

850-717-5005

brad.drake@myfloridahouse.gov

Barbara Watson, Democratic Ranking Member

305-654-7100

850-717-5107

barbara.watson@myfloridahouse.gov

Questions?

Email: [Darryl Henderson, VP Government Affairs](#)

Call: 727.461.0011 ext. 222