



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK

WHEREAS, Florida is built on economic freedom and as a result is outpacing the nation in job growth, business formation and labor force growth; and

WHEREAS, Florida is the national leader in business formations, which have increased by 61 percent since 2019, and boasts a labor force that has increased six times faster than the nation's; and

WHEREAS, Economic Development Week is an event created by the Florida Economic Development Council to celebrate the achievements of economic, workforce, and community development practitioners throughout Florida communities; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Economic Development Council is the professional economic development organization dedicated to elevating Florida's competitiveness by providing cutting-edge education and training for Florida's economic, workforce, and community development practitioners; and

WHEREAS, economic, workforce, and community developers are engaged in a wide variety of settings including rural and urban, local, state, and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, higher education, and a variety of other institutions; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund is an economic development program designed to promote public infrastructure and workforce training across the state, awarding nearly \$78 million to 21 communities throughout Florida, since 2019; and

WHEREAS, since January 2019, the CareerSource Florida network has assisted more than 32,600 students through enrollment in workforce training programs learning skills that fill much-needed jobs, boost our economy and keep our communities thriving; and

WHEREAS, the CareerSource Florida network has assisted 294,400 skilled individuals in finding employment since Governor DeSantis took office – helping Florida lead the nation in economic growth as all of the state's major industries continue to gain jobs; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida has invested more than \$1.2 billion in Florida communities throughout the state for various economic development and technical assistance programs since January 2019; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida is home to the second largest Foreign Trade Zone network in the country, the third largest cluster of logistics companies and vast multimodal infrastructure – affording businesses unparalleled access to national and international markets; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the state of Florida experienced its highest trade year since 2012, generating more than \$150 billion; and

WHEREAS, Florida-origin exports grew more than 20 percent in 2021, and Florida boasts the 15th largest economy in the world if it were an independent country; and

WHEREAS, Florida Economic Development Week is an opportunity to recognize Florida's economic, workforce, and community development and ensure the State of Florida remains the Ideal location to live, work, and play.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing February 7-11, 2022, as *Florida Economic Development Week*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 7th day of February, in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Governor