



## Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce 2006 Legislative Session

The 2006 Legislative Session was a successful one from the standpoint of our local priorities and those of the Florida Chamber of Commerce.

Successes include:

<u>Education Funding</u> Increased 14%	\$12.8 Million for USF Sarasota/Manatee \$15.9 Million for New College \$25 Million for Manatee Community College
<u>Transportation &amp; Economic Development</u>	\$10.5 Million for Sarasota County's Intelligent Transportation System \$7 Million for 301 & I-75 \$3 Million for SR 64 Additional \$5 Million for Economic Development Assistance For International Trade and Business Development
<u>Baseball</u>	\$15 Million for Each of 5 Cities for Spring Training Enhancements (Sarasota, Bradenton, St. Petersburg, Ft. Lauderdale & Winter Haven)
<u>Insurance</u>	\$715 Million Towards Citizens \$1.7 Billion Deficit
<u>Red Tide</u>	\$5 Million for Research and Mitigation (increase from \$1 million) and Additional Funding for Beach Renourishment
<u>Workforce Housing</u>	Omnibus Affordable Housing Makes Over \$500 Million Available This Year but Caps Spending at Approximately \$250 Million Next Year
<u>Property Tax</u>	Authorized the Department of revenue to Study the State's Property Tax Structure.
<u>Manufacturing</u>	Eliminates Tax on Machinery and Equipment Used in Manufacturing

Repealed:

- Joint and Several Liability
- Tax on Research & Development
- Intangibles Tax