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FDOT Secretary Prasad Applauds House Transportation Bill

Comments on American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act

TALLAHASSEE - Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Ananth Prasad applauded House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman John Mica today for the Committee's approval of H.R. 7, "The American Energy & Infrastructure Jobs Act." The bill reforms and streamlines federal programs, cuts red tape in the project approval process, increases states' flexibility in determining their most critical transportation needs, and encourages private sector participation in financing and rebuilding our infrastructure.

Secretary Prasad said:

"The House bill is good for Florida and good for our nation. Investing in transportation improvements unleashes the energy of the private sector to create jobs, improves our state and national economies and provides a great return on these investments. Chairman Mica and the committee deserve credit for taking the time to listen to the transportation needs of the states in developing this important bill.

The bill will streamline project delivery, improve Florida's return on the funds sent to Washington and restore long-term stability to our transportation programs. By dramatically simplifying the federal program structure, Florida and other states can better meet state and community needs while addressing national goals. Florida has been a leader in innovative financing techniques and this bill opens the financing toolkit to tolling, public-private partnerships and other options.

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