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June 16, 2006

Dear Pinellas County Charter Review Commissioners:

The St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce's Board of Governors has unanimously voted to support 4 of the 7 amendments that are being considered by the Charter Review Commission. Prior to your vote on Monday, we ask that you review the St. Petersburg Chamber's positions which are outlined below.

The St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce is in support of the following Charter Review Proposed Amendments (with exceptions noted):

Proposed Amendment #1.) Mosquito Control and Water & Navigation Districts

Proposed Amendment #2.) Administrator's Employment Powers

Proposed Amendment #3.) Future Charter Review Commissions (CRC)

- The Chamber supports all provisions of the proposed amendment **EXCEPT** we would recommend the language be modified to eliminate the one provision that excludes elected officials and staff from serving on future CRC's.
 - The Chamber feels that the current structure which provides for certain categories of officials to be represented on the CRC is an important aspect of assuring that all important groups in our community are represented. We also noted that only 4 of the 13 seats on the commission are, by rule, filled by Elected Officials.

Proposed Special Act: Authority to Consider Repeal of Charter

You can be assured the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to playing an active role leading up to the November Elections and beyond.

We thank you for your commitment to our community through your service on the Charter Review Commission.

Sincerely,

John T. Long
President & CEO

Ford N. Kyes
Chairman, Public Policy Committee
Chair-Elect, Board of Governors