

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JIMMY PATRONIS'

WEEKLY RUNDOWN

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Floridians,

My top priority will always be to foster the strength of Florida's economy. The [CATO Institute](#) recently published the 2018 edition of their [Freedom in the 50 States](#) study and [ranked Florida first](#) in policies that shape personal and economic freedom for the fourth year in a row. This study ranks states based on how policies promote freedom in the fiscal, regulatory, and personal realms and is yet another great sign that Florida's economy is headed in the right direction.

Fiscal responsibility is one of the reasons why our economy is so strong. For instance, last fiscal year Florida's pension fund had a preliminary rate of return of nearly 9 percent. We've had positive gains for nine years now, and since last July the fund grew \$6.8 billion to \$160.4 billion because of this return. A strong pension fund signals a strong economy and sound fiscal responsibility. By keeping taxes low, focusing on job creation, and remaining fiscally responsible, Florida will continue to be one of the strongest economies in the country.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida

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