

House of Representatives
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House Committees, Councils, and Appointments

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Vice Chair, Government Accountability Act Council
Criminal & Civil Justice Policy Council
Government Operations Appropriations Committee
Governmental Affairs Policy Committee
Joint Legislative Sunset Committee
Policy Council

Member, Title Insurance Study Advisory Council
Delegate, Bay Area Legislative Delegation
Delegate, Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Representative Kevin Ambler Endorses High Speed Rail Initiative in Florida

Joins "ConnectUs" Organization

Tampa, FL- State Representative Kevin Ambler (R-Tampa) announced his support for high speed rail in the state of Florida before his affirmative vote in the Florida House of Representatives yesterday on House Bill 1B in the second Special Session of the year, with the recognition that building public infrastructure is a core function of government, and that rail is an innovative, energy efficient and clean form of transportation.

Representative Ambler commented that, "Regardless of whether or not we receive future federal support, this legislation stands on its own. Moving forward today with this proposal is important for Florida's transportation future and is a good investment. The restoration of our state's economy is a top priority, and the plan that we have now will allow us to leverage the State of Florida's financial investment into a 3 to 1 match, since the proposed SunRail project is a partnership between the federal government, Florida Department of Transportation and local governments. If this state investment leads to an additional expected \$2.6 billion for rail in Florida, the state's match increases to 6 to 1. There are very few investments the state can make that can be leveraged to that degree. "

It is estimated by a Florida DOT economic development analysis that around 25,000 direct jobs will be generated by this initiative over the next 25 years, and that the overall economic impact of rail over two decades in Florida will include the creation of more than 100,000 construction jobs in transit-oriented development.

Representative Ambler also recently joined the "ConnectUs" organization which is a grassroots collaboration of individual leaders, organizations, and businesses who are interested in promoting high speed rail throughout the United States as well as in Florida.

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