



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Susan Pareigis
(813) 229-1775
spareigis@fc100.org

Officers

Steven T. Halverson Chair
The Haskell Company

Rhea F. Law Vice Chair
Fowler White Boggs, P.A.

Marshall M. Criser, III
Immediate Past Chair

Barney Barnett Treasurer
Publix Super Markets, Inc.

Susan Pareigis President and CEO

Board of Directors

Carlos J. Alfonso
Alfonso Architects

Lee Arnold
Colliers International

Allan G. Bense
Bense Enterprises, Inc.

R. Mark Bostick
Comcar Industries, Inc.

Edward E. Burr
GreenPointe Holdings, LLC

Dean Colson
Colson Hicks Eidson

Christopher Corr
Rayonier

Marshall M. Criser, Jr.
President Emeritus
University of Florida

Remedios Diaz-Oliver
All American Containers, Inc.

David F. Dyer
Chico's FAS, Inc.

Manny A. Fernandez
Sysco Corporation

F. Philip Handy
Strategic Industries, LLC

Benjamin H. Hill, III
Hill Ward Henderson, P.A.

Mike Jackson
AutoNation

Leerie T. Jenkins, Jr.
Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Inc.

Sydney W. Kitson
Kitson & Partners

Stephen Knopik
Beall's Inc.

Paul Leone
Flagler System, Inc.

Fred Leonhardt
GrayRobinson Law Firm

Scott Lutgert
The Lutgert Companies

Lou Plasencia
The Plasencia Group

Peter Rummell
Rummell Company, LLC

Kathleen Shanahan
Uretek Holdings

William G. Smith
Capital City Bank Group, Inc.

Stella Thayer
Tampa Bay Downs, Inc.

Rasesh Thakkar
Tavistock Group

Florida Council of 100 Opposes Medical Marijuana Constitutional Amendment

TAMPA, Fla. (September 26, 2014) – In keeping with its long-standing disapproval of the legalization of Schedule I drugs, the Florida Council of 100 announced today its opposition to Constitutional Amendment 2, which would enable the lawful use of marijuana in Florida.

“The dangers of the use of Schedule I drugs such as marijuana are well-documented,” said Steve Halverson, chairman of the Florida Council of 100. “The provisions of Amendment 2 threaten Floridians’ quality of life because they are too nebulous, too loose and too lacking in common-sense protection from inappropriate and dangerous use.”

In contrast, last spring, Governor Rick Scott and the Florida Legislature enacted the “Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act of 2014,” which legalized low-THC cannabis, such as the strain Charlotte’s Web, for medical patients suffering from cancer or seizure-related conditions. The law requires physician approval and maintenance of a treatment plan that includes dose, route of administration, planned duration, and monitoring of their patient’s symptoms and other indicators of tolerance or reaction to the low-THC cannabis.

“The comprehensiveness of the recent Charlotte’s Web legislation demonstrates the extreme care and precision with which the issue of drug legalization must always be contemplated,” stated Susan Pareigis, president and CEO of the Florida Council of 100. “State policy makers are fully equipped to address such topics without cluttering the Constitution with dangerously ambiguous new programs.”

###

Formed in 1961, the Florida Council of 100 is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of business, civic, and academic leaders, which exists to promote the economic growth of Florida and a high quality of life for its citizens. Visit www.fc100.org for more information.