

Port of Fort Pierce

Port of Key West

PortMiami

Port Manatee

Port of Panama City

Port St. Pete

JAXPORT May 7, 2019

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Port Canaveral Governor State of Florida

Governor, State of Florida 400 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399

Port Everglades

Re: Multiuse Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program

Port of Fernandina Dear Governor DeSantis:

The Florida Ports Council would like to express support for SB 7068, legislation that creates the Multiuse Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES) Program, passed by the Florida Legislature during Regular Session 2019. We urge you to sign this important legislation that will create new transportation and

economic opportunities in our state.

The concept, planning, and funding in SB 7068 is not a new idea for transportation and economic development stakeholders; your Transition Advisory Team on the Economy has discussed the importance of similar policies during its hearings. This type of long-term planning and investment in our infrastructure will enhance the flow of trade and tourism in our state. The funds provided in this legislation can be leveraged with additional local and federal funds to help ease congestion and provide

additional evacuation and hurricane resiliency routes.

The planning and research requirements contained in the legislation will resolve any

reasonable concerns over economic and environmental impacts, hurricane evacuation needs, and land use impacts. The leadership you have installed in the

Department of Transportation has the expertise to ensure that all possible environmental and construction mitigation is in place to protect Florida's

environment and citizens.

Port of Pensacola We thank you for your leadership on the state's ongoing infrastructure needs, and

urge your support of SB 7068.

Port of Port St. Joe Sincerely,

Doug Wheeler President & CEO

Port Tampa Bay Florida Ports Council



