



## On The Move...Heading Into the 2007 Legislative Session

House Republicans Unveil Plan for Comprehensive Property Tax Reform

Hasner Continues to Lead Push for Alternative Energy

Adam Hasner...In the News

Important News From Around The State

## Providing Meaningful Tax Relief for Florida's Taxpayers

Innovation isn't always easy, but Florida House Republicans are transforming the way that business gets done in Tallahassee.

Rather than lobbyists and special interests dictating the legislative agenda, our agenda comes from the people that we listened to during the IdeaRaisers we hosted around the state. The results of those meetings are now written into our book - [100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future](#) - and have become our daily legislative action plan in Tallahassee to address the issues that you told us were important to the future of our state.

In fact, nine of the 100 ideas were part of the reforms that we implemented during the recent special session on property insurance relief. Using your ideas as our guide, House Republicans are addressing real issues and finding common sense solutions for all Floridians!

In January, we tackled our property insurance crisis, and helped bring immediate relief to millions of Floridians. Now, we are focused on the twin threat to Florida's families, Florida's businesses and Florida's economy: the rising cost of property taxes.

Government revenue and spending can no longer

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outpace the income of Florida's families. That is why during the past several weeks, legislators have traveled the state for nine public hearings on property tax relief from Panama City to Palm Beach to listen to Floridians on this critical issue.

One thing was clear - the people of Florida want tax relief - and they want it sooner rather than later.

As originally outlined in our book, House Republicans have unveiled a bold and comprehensive plan to provide meaningful property tax relief for all Floridians.

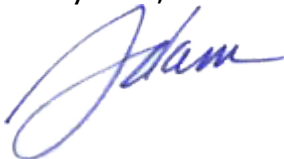
The first phase of the plan proposes to immediately reduce property taxes for everyone while limiting the future pressures on all taxpayers.

The second phase calls for a special election later this year and would require voter approval to eliminate all property taxes on homesteaded property, while instituting a 2.5 cent increase in the state sales tax.

This week marks the beginning of what will be a vigorous and much needed debate on property tax reform. I have provided more detailed information on our proposal below and I welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

With less than two weeks before the start of the 2007 Legislative Session, I am excited about our ability to find real solutions to the challenges ahead - and with your help, I am committed to getting the job done.

All my best,



**House Republicans Unveil Plan for Comprehensive Property Tax Reform**  
**PHASE ONE - IMMEDIATE RELIEF FOR ALL TAXPAYERS**

## **Statutory Tax Relief**

- **Requires an immediate reduction in millage rates** for all local taxing authorities except school district millage and voter-approved millage rates.
- Rolls property tax rates back to the 2000-2001 Fiscal Year and then rolls them forward to a new 2007- 2008 rate that factors in population increases and inflation (aka the "Rolled Back Rate" + CPI).
- **Links future growth of local revenues to increases in population and inflation.**
- Requires a supermajority vote of the governing authority to exceed the revenue limitation.
- **Provides immediate tax relief averaging 19% savings (\$433 for homestead property and \$3,353 for commercial property) on all property owners' next tax bill.**
- School districts and taxes levied to pay bonds would be exempt from this roll-back.
- Initial estimates show that this would reduce local revenues by:  
Counties: 29%  
Cities: 38%  
Special Districts: 40%

## **PHASE TWO - PROPOSING TO FIX A BROKEN SYSTEM WITH COMPREHENSIVE REFORM**

### **Constitutional Tax Reform**

- Calls for a special election in Fall 2007 to amend Florida Constitution
- **Eliminates all property taxes on homestead property (average savings of \$2,283).**
- Replaces "lost" homestead property tax revenues with a dedicated 2.5% of new sales tax revenue.
- Embeds the new statutory provisions for rate roll-back in the State Constitution.
- Requires **all local entities** (including school districts) to **limit future growth** to population + inflation.
- Tax reductions would total \$5.77 billion statewide.
- Protects taxpayers by requiring a unanimous vote of the governing authority to exceed the limit.
- Rolls back state revenues to the 2000-2001 Fiscal Year and then rolls them forward to a new 2007-2008 rate that factors in population increases and inflation.
- **Limits future growth in all state revenues** to growth in population plus inflation.

- Allows a one-year lift of the state revenue cap with a 2/3 vote of each house.

## Hasner Continues to Lead Push for Alternative Energy



### **Florida provides \$15 Million in matching grants for Florida's Renewable Energy Technologies Grants Program under Hasner's 2006 Energy Legislation**

In 2006, Representative Hasner sponsored the Florida Renewable Energy Technologies and Energy Efficiency Act which created an annual \$15 million grant program to promote the development of alternative energy technologies such as solar, ethanol, and hydrogen.

On Thursday, Representative Hasner Joined Commissioner Charlie Bronson and Lt. Gov. Jeff Kottkamp to award the funding to the eight recipients. These funds will help to further Florida's renewable energy industry and help to promote a stronger economy and cleaner environment for the future.

### Adam Hasner...In the News

[2/15/07 - Hazing law's author not interested in changing it \(The Tallahassee Democrat\)](#)

Last month, the college world watched along with the law's author, Rep. Adam Hasner, as suspended Florida A&M University students and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity brothers Michael Morton and Jason Harris received two years in prison for beating a fraternity pledge.

[2/13/07 - Property owners vent over tax rates \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

"People are outraged," said state Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach. "They need meaningful tax relief and they need it sooner rather than later."

[2/9/07 - EDITORIAL: States' frats on notice \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

It is "further demonstration that hazing is an epidemic on our college campuses," said Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach, who sponsored the law named for a University of Miami freshman who drowned in a campus lake while trying to join Kappa Sigma in 2001. "Students will eventually get the message. Otherwise, they will go to jail instead of to the head of the class."

[2/5/07 - OP-ED: Session delivered on goal: relief \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

The good news is that the special session on property insurance has demonstrated that Democrats and Republicans are working together to solve real problems facing Floridians. The better news is that we are just getting started.

[2/5/07 - OP-ED: Insurance rate relief just a start for Legislature \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

We did lower rates. Most Floridians will save on average between 22 percent to 26 percent on their bills. Those insured by Citizens Property Insurance Corp. will be spared from the recent increases and the 56 percent rate hike scheduled for March 1. Citizens' customers also will be eligible for additional savings.

[2/3/07 - Program gives kids healthy dose of reading \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

Hasner partners with Reach Out and Read Florida, a branch of the national program that encourages pediatricians and nurses to educate parents about the importance of reading to young children.

[2/2/07 - Crist calls meeting on gun loopholes \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

House Deputy Majority Leader Adam Hasner, R- Delray Beach, who also met with the newspaper, said he is working to increase penalties for people who shoot guns into the air to celebrate events or holidays, such as the Fourth of July.

[1/20/07 - EDITORIAL: Insurance relief tour has a chance to go national \(The](#)

## [Palm Beach Post](#)

If political leaders in Florida make national disaster insurance a priority, the theory goes, so will presidential candidates. Rep. Adam Hasner, R-Delray Beach, recently told The Miami Herald that all state politicians should withhold any endorsement until a candidate supports such a program.

### **Important News From Around The State**

[2/23/07 - House speaker promotes tax plan \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[2/23/07 - Homeowners likely to save big \(Sarasota Herald-Tribune\)](#)

[2/22/07 - House to ask voters to trade property tax for more sales tax \(Sarasota Herald-Tribune\)](#)

[2/22/07 - Savings a boon to all homeowners \(The Miami Herald\)](#)

[2/21/07 - Floridians soon may save on auto policies \(Sarasota Herald-Tribune\)](#)

[2/20/07 - Lower tax collections in Florida dim budget prospects \(Sarasota Herald-Tribune\)](#)

[2/20/07 - Bill would establish \\$1,000-a-year fee at UF \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[2/19/07 - Creative options are on the table in property tax crisis \(The Miami Herald\)](#)

[2/19/07 - Insurers back off court challenge on cancellation \(Sarasota Herald-Tribune\)](#)

[2/19/07 - FEC tracks hold key to commuter train linking S. Florida's downtowns \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

[2/18/07 - Insurance Rate Cut Gets Nod From State \(The Tampa Tribune\)](#)

[2/18/07 - Alternative energy proposals swamp state \(Florida Today\)](#)

[2/18/07 - Enrollment fall may snag plans for new schools \(The Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[2/18/07 - Insurance plan flooded by red ink \(The Gainesville sun\)](#)

[2/17/07 - Property owners air tax frustrations \(The News-Press\)](#)

[2/16/07 - GOP Warned Not To Move Up Primary \(The Tampa Tribune\)](#)

[2/15/07 - Air Taxi Firms To Vie for Florida Fares \(The Ledger\)](#)

[2/15/07 - Property taxes create hardship, hurt homes sales in Broward \(South Florida Sun- Sentinel\)](#)

[2/14/07 - Crist backs off ban on same-sex marriage \(St. Petersburg Times\)](#)

[2/13/07 - Forget a four-year degree: In S. Florida, many students take 6 years or more to finish college \(South Florida Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Adam Hasner, Republican for State Representative - District 87.

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