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HASNER: FLORIDA CAN'T WAIT

~Democrats Call for Delay, Offer No Real Solutions, Hope for Bailout from Feds~

TALLAHASSEE, FL – House Majority Leader Adam Hasner (R-Delray Beach) today issued the following statement in response to the proposal by Florida House Democrats to halt the budget process in hopes that the federal government will provide assistance to Florida:

"I'm amused, but saddened, that the same House Democrats who for months stressed the importance of getting into Special Session now call on us to sit on our hands and wait while Floridians are counting on us to live up to our constitutional obligation to maintain a balanced budget. As recently as last December, Minority Leader Sands applauded the Republican leaders for agreeing to a Special Session. Yet now, they are calling for us to wait on the federal government to swoop in and solve Florida's budgetary challenges.

"The last thing we need is to let Florida plunge into the same mess as the U.S. Congress. Unlike Washington, we cannot spend money we don't have, nor will we put off for tomorrow what needs to be done today. We are constitutionally required to balance our budget, and we shouldn't wait on hopes that the federal government will send us a bailout.

"If the federal government chooses to send money to Florida, the legislation we will be considering today already designates that the federal assistance be used to help restore some of the reductions being made. Democrats already know this.

"Rather than focusing on partisan attacks, Democrats can best help Floridians by constructively helping find solutions to get Florida's economy back on track."

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