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January 14, 2016

The Honorable Darren Soto
The Florida Senate
220 Senate Office Building
404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Re: SB 1482, Public Meetings - Agendas

Dear Senator Soto:

We are writing to express our wholehearted support for your bill, SB 1482, requiring boards and commissions to publish meeting agendas on their respective websites at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Too frequently, agencies withhold meeting agendas until just before a meeting or unexpectedly add items onto an agenda at the last minute. If the public has no knowledge of the item being addressed, they cannot appear before the body and express concerns. SB 1482 bill is truly a good government bill and will enhance the public's constitutional right to oversee its government and hold it accountable.

Thank you for filing this meritorious legislation, Senator. If we can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Petersen, President

Cc: The Honorable Andy Gardiner, President, The Florida Senate
Jon Kaney, General Counsel, First Amendment Foundation
Sam Morley, General Counsel, Florida Press Association