

# Press Release

## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Crist Recognizes Contributions of Architects with “Florida Architects’ Day”**

*AIA Florida kicks off its annual Legislative Day with a proclamation from the governor.*

**Tallahassee, FL** – Governor Charlie Crist has declared today, March 18, as **Florida Architects’ Day** in recognition of the contributions architects have made to Florida's built environment and the health, safety and welfare of the state's citizens.

The Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Florida) received a proclamation from Gov. Crist stating, among other things, that architects are the best resource for implementing the state's sustainable design initiatives. The proclamation is displayed at the AIA Florida headquarters.

As part of Florida Architects’ Day, AIA Florida members head to the Capitol for the Association’s annual Legislative Day on the Hill. Members will meet with legislators to discuss the most pressing issues facing the profession. Topics include the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act; possible attempts to enact a service tax on professional services; the SunRail issue and to discuss the Rebuild & Renew Florida Stimulus Plan Proposal, which outlines “green” ways to spur the state’s economy. Additionally, the Association will host a Legislative Reception at the AIA Florida headquarters so members and legislators can interact in a relaxed environment.

Advocacy, at the state and local levels, is considered the Association’s most important, ongoing goal. “We seek to ensure that our members have the resources and opportunities to meet the needs of the community, do their jobs well and to excel in the profession,” said AIA Florida President Steve Jernigan, AIA, LEED AP. “We are involved in the process of proactive legislative education efforts to ensure that Florida architects are the legislators’ resource regarding the built environment and sustainable design.”

**Editor’s Note:** A copy of the proclamation is attached.

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*The Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects, headquartered in Tallahassee, represents the interests of more than 3,700 members in Florida and the Caribbean. Members adhere to a code of ethics and professional conduct that assures the client, the public, and colleagues of an AIA-member architect's dedication to the highest standards in professional practice.*