

From: Ivey, Sterling [mailto: Sterling.Ivey@eog.myflorida.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2009 4:25 PM
To: Bender, Michael (CNI-Palm Beach)
Subject: RE: Stimulus story

The federal stimulus money is based in large part on various federal funding formulas. Florida has, and will continue to work with our Congressional Delegation and other States to have the fairest possible distribution of funds.

There is not one overall formula for dispersing funds to the states. Many of the funds identified so far use pre-existing formulas based, at least in part, on census data. This tends to disadvantage growth states because past census counts do not reflect the current population distribution. This factor underscores the extreme importance of making sure that all Floridians are properly counted in the upcoming 2010 census so that future formulas can recognize our growth. It is also important to remember that the formula-based programs are part of the stimulus package. Approximately \$85 billion in federal funds will be distributed through competitive grants and Florida will be aggressively pursuing those funding opportunities.

Overall, the stimulus funds have made an extraordinarily positive impact on our state. We will use these funds prudently and responsibly in meeting the needs of our businesses and our families while continuing to pursue improvements in federal formulas to fully recognize the needs of our people.

If you need anything additional, please let me know.

Sterling