

**From:** Silverman, Melissa [mailto:Melissa.Silverman@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 02, 2009 2:31 PM  
**To:** Bender, Michael (CNI-Palm Beach)  
**Subject:** RE: interview request

Hi Michael, please find a quote from Congressman Ron Klein below. Thanks and all best.

“The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has successfully infused much-needed federal funding into Florida programs. For example, last week we announced a total of \$126 million in funding for energy-efficiency programs in our state, in May we saw \$1.8 billion released to Florida schools and there has been a total of more than \$1 billion in transportation funding.

However, my colleagues and I will continue to work to ensure that Florida receives its fair share in comparison to the rest of the nation. The Recovery Act remains a work in process, and we must be vigilant in making sure that every dollar is spent as efficiently and effectively as possible in order to create jobs in our community.

Some have questioned whether Florida is getting our fair share in federal stimulus money. It is important to recall that because of certain decisions made by some in our state government, Florida turned away \$440 million in federal funding for the unemployed Floridians who need it most. This and other actions by state officials have a direct impact on amount of stimulus funding that flows into Florida.

From the very start, I have said that the stimulus must create jobs in the short term and provide tangible benefits to our community in the long-term, and those are still the most important measuring sticks to gauge the success of the Recovery Act.”