

**From:** Communications Director, Charlie Crist for US Senate [press@charliecrist.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 02, 2009 11:27 AM

**To:** Bender, Michael (CNI-Palm Beach)

**Subject:** Rhetoric vs. Reality: Marco Rubio on Spending

★ 2010 FLORIDA REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ★

## THE REAL MARCO RUBIO

All-

As Marco Rubio speaks to Florida TaxWatch today, I would like to remind everyone that while his words might sound credible, his record certainly is not. From supporting the largest tax increase in Florida history to the hundreds of thousands Rubio has squandered in taxpayer dollars, there are good reasons Rubio has tried to hide his record.

In their own words, "Florida TaxWatch is ever present to ensure ... that government agencies are more responsive and productive in the use of your hard-earned tax dollars."

While Marco Rubio's true record is beginning to unfold on **taxes**, "[Rubio Has Several Pro-Tax Votes](#)," let me also remind you of his lack of being "responsive" and "productive" of Floridians' "hard-earned tax dollars" when it comes to **spending**.

As the *St. Petersburg Times* pointed out in "[Rubio record diverges from campaign rhetoric](#)" last month,

*The candidate Rubio rails against big-government spending and assures voters that as a senator he won't slip earmarks into the federal budget. As speaker, however, he didn't mind a state budget with **\$800,000 tucked away for artificial turf on Miami-Dade fields where he played flag football.***

*The turf (listed as a juvenile crime prevention initiative) was among \$50 million in pork targeted to the speaker's home county and more than \$400 million in projects and **initiatives that Crist vetoed in 2007.** ...*

*... Rubio's fiscal conservatism was called into question as soon as he assumed the role of speaker. **He spent hundreds of thousands on***

**renovations, including a private dining room for lawmakers, hired the highest-paid spokesman in state government (one with no state government experience) and added more than 20 jobs, including a parliamentarian earning nearly \$134,000.**

While **Gov. Crist vetoed a record \$459 MILLION** in special interest pork spending his first year in office, including the aforementioned flag football field, Rubio took the complete opposite path supporting earmarks identified by Florida TaxWatch as "turkeys" and that were eventually also vetoed by Gov. Crist.

As the Sun Sentinel pointed out (May 23, 2007): "State **House Speaker Marco Rubio wants local governments to run leaner, but his home county is set to feast on a banquet of pork, courtesy of state taxpayers.** More than 100 of Miami-Dade's projects included in the \$72 billion state budget are being targeted by Florida TaxWatch, which wants Gov. Charlie Crist to veto or scrutinize them. Included are a **\$6 million appropriation for a science and technology building at St. Thomas University ...**"

Once again, as Marco Rubio speaks to TaxWatch today, I would like to remind everyone that while his words might sound credible, his record certainly is not. From supporting the largest tax increase in Florida history to the hundreds of thousands Rubio has squandered in taxpayer dollars, there are good reasons Rubio has tried to hide his record.

-Charlie Crist for U.S. Senate Communications Director, Andrea Saul

---

Phone: 850-907-1218 | Fax: 850-907-1219 | PO Box 1694 Tallahassee, FL 32302 | [www.charliecrist.com](http://www.charliecrist.com)



Paid for by Charlie Crist for U.S. Senate.

This message sent to [mike\\_bender@pbpost.com](mailto:mike_bender@pbpost.com) by [press@charliecrist.com](mailto:press@charliecrist.com).  
Charlie Crist for US Senate - PO Box 1694 - Tallahassee, FL 32302  
[Unsubscribe](#) | [Forward To A Friend](#)