



**For Immediate Release**

March 5, 2014

**Contact**

Sarah Bascom, [sarah@bascomllc.com](mailto:sarah@bascomllc.com), 850.294.6636

Celina Parker, [celina@bascomllc.com](mailto:celina@bascomllc.com), 850.443.9965

**Florida Credit Union Association Announces 2014 Legislative Priorities**

*Florida Credit Unions Seek to Increase Data Security, Provide Public Depository Choice & Improve Overall Services to Members & Florida Communities*

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – The Florida Credit Union Association, an affiliate of the League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates, today detailed their priorities for the 2014 Legislative Session, which officially began on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, and will span for the following 60 days.

“As Florida lawmakers kick off the 2014 Legislative Session, the Florida Credit Union Association is prepared to advocate for measures to ensure credit unions can continue to provide the best and most secure services possible to their members,” said Patrick La Pine, president and CEO of the Florida Credit Union Association. “Among our priorities is to seek for proposed legislation that would bring Florida in line with 33 other states that currently allow credit unions to accept public deposits and spur competition among eligible public depositories.”

Legislation was filed during the 2013 session that would have granted credit unions the ability to accept public deposits, and in turn, allowed municipalities and public offices to have depository choice and the opportunity to take their funds elsewhere if their financial needs are currently not being met by their bank. The proposal unfortunately failed to make it out of the committee process last year.

“In addition to public depository choice, the Association is committed to supporting any legislation that would help protect card issuers and financial institutions from data breaches and help foster a more financially-literate and responsible youth,” continued La Pine. “And, overall, the Association and its members are always looking for ways to improve Chapter 657, the Florida Credit Union Act, to help reduce overregulation and maintain the safety and soundness of all credit unions.”

Credit unions are 100 percent locally owned and return all profits back to their Florida membership in the form of lower fees, better interest rates and better returns on deposits.

(MORE)

“The Florida Credit Union Association looks forward to a continued, productive discussion with Florida lawmakers this session on how we can work to improve the operating environment of all credit unions and continue to serve our 4.7 million members, Florida’s communities and the state’s overall economy,” concluded La Pine.

For more information on the Florida Credit Union Association or the League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates, please visit [www.lscu.coop](http://www.lscu.coop).

# # #