



# Representative Scott Plakon

Florida House of Representatives, District 37

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## **BUSINESS REGULATION STREAMLINING BILL SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

**TALLAHASSEE** – Legislation reducing the regulatory burden on Florida’s businesses was signed into law by Governor Charlie Crist today. House Bill (HB) 425, sponsored by Representative Scott Plakon (R-Longwood), reforms Florida’s licensing procedures to foster economic growth and job creation.

“The first step for us to get our economy back on track is to make it easier for our small businesses and entrepreneurs to operate,” commented Plakon. “I am proud that the Florida Legislature has lead the way in helping hundreds of thousands of small businesses by streamlining the business creation and licensing process and I applaud the Governor for recognizing the importance of less red tape and government intrusion into business. HB 425 is true economic stimulus and I am honored to have been a part of getting it passed.”

“I thank Representative Scott Plakon for his leadership and support of the effort to streamline processes and reduce regulatory burden. His sponsorship of this legislation means that Florida’s professionals will now enjoy a faster path to their careers and more efficient maintenance of licensure,” commented Charles W. Drago, Secretary of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

HB 425 impacts the licensing procedures for dozens of specific industries regulated by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, including certified public accountants, barbers, hotels, restaurants and contractors. The changes contained in this legislation include increased regulatory flexibility for construction contractors, removes unnecessary references to local licenses and removes regulations for unnecessary signage in hotels. HB 425 also reduces barriers to access for licensees by eliminating the requirement for specific licensing exams and eliminating the requirement for notarized applications to facilitate online form submission.

The Senate companion to HB 425 was SB 2262 by Senator Don Gaetz.

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