



Florida House of Representatives

Representative Jason Shoaf

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May 15, 2021

Florida Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.
P.O. Box 12007
Tallahassee, Florida 32317

SUBJECT: Proposal #237 Port St. Joe Port Authority – Dredging of Shipping Channel

Dear Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. Board Members:

Since Hurricane Michael came ashore in 2018 Gulf County has been working tirelessly to recover from the devastation left by its wrath. Undoubtedly, economic development will be the cornerstone of a successful recovery effort and creating an environment wherein businesses have the necessary infrastructure to prosper is essential. The Port of Port. St. Joe is an asset this community must utilize.

I have spoken at length with the Port St. Joe Port Authority, local government officials and other regional partners regarding the Port Channel Dredging Project and agree that the time is right to move forward with this project. As such, I am writing this letter in **support** of their application to Triumph Gulf Coast.

This project will create economic opportunities greatly needed by this struggling community, the likes of which have not been seen in many years. It is a quintessential, transformational economic development project, promoting economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of several of the disproportionately affected counties. As such, I strongly support the Port Authority's application to Triumph Gulf Coast.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Shoaf".

Jason Shoaf

State Representative, District 7

- Commerce Committee • Ways & Means Committee • Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee – Vice Chair •
- Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee • Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee •
- Government Operations Subcommittee •