

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** July 18, 2017

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## FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ENDORSE ED HOOPER

**Tallahassee** – Republican Ed Hooper received the endorsement of Florida's Professional Firefighters recently at their annual conference in Sarasota.

"The Delegates of the Florida Professional Firefighters' 73rd Annual Convention overwhelmingly voted to endorse and support your candidacy for election to the Florida Senate, District 16. The FPF is honored to have worked with you during your eight years of service in the Florida House, and look forward to the same relationship in the Florida Senate," wrote Jim Tolley President/CEO.

The organization represents over 24,000 Professional Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Personnel in 175 cities, counties, and special districts, as well as the State of Florida.

"We are excited to have a firefighter in the Florida Senate. Your 24-year career in the fire service as well as your service on the Clearwater City Council, gives you unique insight into the needs of today's fire service," Tolley continued, "We believe that you will continue to faithfully serve the citizens of Florida as a Florida Senator. Likewise, your leadership will serve the interests of the Fire and Emergency Medical Services and men and women who have made the protection of life and property their life's work."

Ed Hooper was born in North Carolina and moved to Clearwater in 1972. He attended St. Petersburg Junior College where he studied fire science and emergency medicine studies. Hooper retired from the Clearwater Fire Department after 24 years of service. He was previously elected to the Clearwater City Council and spent eight years in the Florida House before retiring in 2014 due to term limits. Hooper, who currently spends his time as a consultant, has a long history of involvement in the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Pinellas, and the Pinellas County Republican Executive Committee. He and his wife Lee live in Clearwater. They have four children and ten grandchildren. Florida Senate District 16 includes northern Pinellas County and southwestern Pasco County. Other recent endorsements include State Senators Jack Latvala, Jeff Brandes and Dana D Young, Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, and Pasco County Sheriff Chris Nocco.