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## A PAIR OF REPUBLICAN SENATORS ANNOUNCE THEIR SUPPORT FOR ED HOOPER

CLEARWATER, FL – A pair of key Florida State Senators announced their support for Ed Hooper in his bid to succeed Senator Jack Latvala as the next Senator from the 16<sup>th</sup> district today. Senators Dana D. Young and Jeff Brandes represent constituents in the Tampa Bay area.

"Ed Hooper is a true advocate for his community. He is thoughtful, collaborative, and trusted. These are some of the best qualities in a Senator and I'm happy to endorse him in his campaign for the State Senate. He will help make Florida a more prosperous state for generations to come," said Senator Brandes.

"As a former colleague of Ed's, I can tell you from firsthand experience that he is a true leader and highly respected. I know he will make an excellent Senator and represent the people of Pinellas and Pasco Counties with dignity and honor. I'm excited to be counted among his strongest supporters," added Senator Young.

"It's an honor to have the support of such influential and accomplished Senators. They've set an example of how to work together to see common sense and innovative solutions to Florida's challenges. Their continued leadership will make Florida a better place to live, work, visit, and retire. I will work each and every day to live up to the trust they've placed in my campaign and I hope to work with them as a member of the Florida Senate," Hooper said.

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 worked as a Clearwater firefighter for over 24 years. He was previously elected to the Clearwater City Council and spent eight years in the Florida House before being term-limited in 2014. A business owner, Hooper has a long history of involvement in the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Pinellas and the county's Republican Executive Committee. He and his wife Lee live in Clearwater. They have four children and ten grandchildren.