

VALDOSTA - LOWNDES COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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March 10, 2011

Dear Editor,

As the Chairman of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, I would like to encourage all citizens to vote 'YES' for the E-SPLOST referendum on March 15. The Chamber understands that a quality education produces a world class workforce for our businesses. We need a community that is dedicated to educational excellence. The continuation of the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax will maintain funding for text books, technology, safety and security equipment, construction and renovations, and many more tools that are vital for our public schools to continue to provide the highest quality of education possible. Students are the future workforce of this community. Let's give them a quality education that promotes a prosperous future and economic growth for Valdosta-Lowndes County.

Additionally, the E-SPLOST facilitates the stability of ad valorem taxes. In the event the E-SPLOST referendum fails, the likely increase in property taxes will create an additional burden to property owners.

We encourage all citizens to aid in this initiative to make Valdosta-Lowndes County a community that works together to ensure educational excellence, economic stability and growth, and improved quality of life for all.

For "YES" to E-SPLOST and our children!

Sincerely,

Tom Gooding
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