



## Small Business Wins Big in the **2010 Election**



U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio (center) at Tampa Bay Brewing

Jeff Mason Photography

Because of NFIB members' involvement and support, small business enjoyed a successful 2010 election season.

"In my over-20 years as a small business advocate, I have never seen such energy from small business owners eager to have their voice heard in an election," said NFIB/Florida's Executive Director Bill Herrle.

NFIB-endorsed candidates swept all statewide races, headlining with Rick Scott as governor, Pam Bondi as attorney general, Jeff Atwater as CFO and Adam Putnam as agricultural commissioner.

In the Florida Senate, NFIB endorsed 10 candidates and won all 10. In the Florida House of Representatives, NFIB endorsed 42 candidates and won 40 of those races.

Eight members of the new Florida Legislature are members of NFIB.

During this election, NFIB members became more involved in the political process than ever before, turning out in the thousands to support NFIB-endorsed

candidates. We saw a record number of members participating in everything from roundtable meetings and endorsement events to conference calls with NFIB-endorsed candidates Marco Rubio and Rick Scott.

The small business community put its full support behind these candidates at a time when Florida needed the small business perspective the most.

### Members Lend a Hand

In addition, some members went above and beyond the call to support small business-friendly candidates and hosted events at their companies.

NFIB-member company Tampa Bay Brewing held an endorsement event for U.S. Senate candidate Marco Rubio (see photo, above). Small businesses and Floridians alike saw a major victory when Rubio handily beat out the recently independent Gov. Charlie Crist and Kendrick Meek for the U.S. Senate seat.



U.S. Rep. Sandy Adams (right) at Thompson Pump and Manufacturing

### Small Business Wins Big, Continued

Also significant was Florida's contribution to the party switch in the U.S. House, with our state delivering a net four additional Republican seats. NFIB-endorsed congressional candidates from Florida included longtime NFIB member Dan Webster, who defeated incumbent Alan Grayson in Orlando, as well as Dennis Ross from Lakeland.

NFIB-member company Thompson Pump and Manufacturing in Port Orange hosted an endorsement event for congressional candidate Sandy Adams (see photo, above). Her 100-percent voting record on small business issues as a state legislator made her one of NFIB's top picks. Thanks in part to our endorsement, Adams won the seat.

## NFIB Thanks Its Valuable Members

The commitment and enthusiasm of the following NFIB members is exactly what NFIB membership is all about—spreading the spirit of free enterprise throughout the community and coming together to make a difference by supporting pro-small business candidates.

### Thank you for your involvement:

American Aero Services, New Smyrna Beach  
 Benedetto's Ristorante Italiano, Land O' Lakes  
 Dog House Deli, Pensacola  
 Dolly's Produce Patch, Bonita Springs  
 Orlando Drum and Container Corp., Orlando  
 Restaurant Equipment World, Orlando  
 Showalter Flying Service, Orlando  
 Tampa Bay Steel, Tampa  
 Tampa Bay Brewing Co., Ybor City  
 Thompson Pump and Manufacturing, Port Orange

### SMALL BUSINESS DAY

## Mark Your Calendar for NFIB/Florida's 2011 Small Business Day at the Capitol

Our annual Small Business Day at the Capitol is a great opportunity to discuss important small business issues with Florida's political leaders, and network with fellow small business owners.

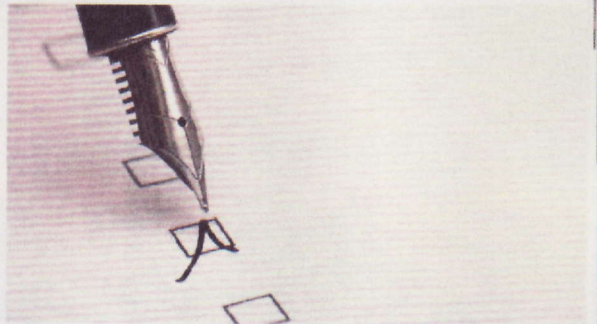
This year's event will be held on Feb. 21 and 22 in Tallahassee. Invited speakers include Gov. Rick Scott, Senate President Mike Haridopolos and House Speaker Dean Cannon.

Your participation will enhance our front-and-center position in the state political process, and further demonstrate your unwavering commitment to our mission "to promote and protect the right of our members to own, operate and grow their businesses."

For more information, or to register, visit [www.NFIB.com/FL](http://www.NFIB.com/FL) or email [kristen.ploska@NFIB.org](mailto:kristen.ploska@NFIB.org).



### STATE MEMBER BALLOT



Hemara Photos

### Vote Your Ballot

Each year, we poll our members on some of the most crucial issues that will have an impact on their businesses during the coming year in the NFIB/Florida State Member Ballot. We then center our lobbying strategy on the results. With the 2011 Legislative Session approaching in March, you don't want to miss this chance to have your voice heard on issues that are vital to your business.

The 2011 Florida State Member Ballot includes questions regarding:

- The unemployment compensation trust fund;
- Unemployment compensation benefit amounts;
- Undocumented workers; and
- Unfair competition.

It's easy to vote your ballot. If you received it in the mail, simply select Yes, No or Undecided on each of the seven questions and return it to NFIB by mail or by fax. Or, go to [www.NFIB.com/FL](http://www.NFIB.com/FL) and vote your ballot online.

Remember, we base our policy positions on what you tell us. So make your voice heard and vote your ballot today.