



November 4, 2021

State Representative Michael J. Grant, District #75
Chairman, Charlotte County Legislative Delegation
4355 Pinnacle Street, Suite C
Charlotte Harbor, FL 33980

Dear Honorable Michael J. Grant:

The purpose of my letter is to request your support for a \$3 million appropriations request made by the Charlotte County Airport Authority (CCAA) to construct a new aviation maintenance technician school and hangar for Charlotte Technical College (CTC).

We appreciate your past efforts, as well as those from the Florida Legislature and the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for providing funding to help CTC launch a very successful aviation maintenance technician school program in August 2021. We are glad to report CTC is on track with DEO's requirements of 750 graduates in 10 years (2018-19 Grant). That said, we are hearing from the aviation sector that there is still a significant workforce skill-gap affecting existing and relocating businesses.

The good news is we have found there are a great number of students waiting to sign-up for CTC's aviation maintenance technician school classes, largely due to the quality and affordability of the program offered. In response, CTC is adding a night class to their syllabus beginning in January 2022, but more needs to be done.

To accommodate the growing business need and workforce demand, it will be necessary for CTC to expand its training facility to allow for growing enrollment. State funding will be critical to maintain CTC's quality program, in a larger facility and at a "low-cost" tuition to continue attracting students into the program for our businesses.

As always, I we appreciate what you do for Charlotte County and your solid advocacy for job growth and aviation training.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Gammon".

Dave Gammon, Director
Charlotte County Economic Development Office

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