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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NSSTA Congratulates Governor Rick Scott for Signing into Law Florida State Structured Settlement Protection Act Improvements**

*Recognizes Florida State Legislature for unanimous passage of strong modifications to the State Structured Settlement Protection Act*

Washington, D.C., March 10, 2016— The [National Structured Settlements Trade Association \(NSSTA\)](#) today thanked Florida Governor Rick Scott for signing into law improvements to the existing Florida Structured Settlement Protection Act (SSPA). NSSTA also praised state lawmakers on both sides of the aisle in the Florida Legislature for unanimous passage of improvements to the State’s SSPA. Florida CS/HB 458 passed both houses of the legislature unanimously.

“This is a truly bipartisan effort by Florida Governor Scott and Florida lawmakers to strengthen Florida’s Structured Settlement Protection Act,” said Eric Vaughn, Executive Director of NSSTA.

In the last few months, NSSTA has worked with a broad coalition encompassing the American Insurance Association, the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America, the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), the National Consumers League (NCL), insurers like Liberty Mutual and other industry experts to secure new SSPA legislation in Wisconsin, Illinois, Virginia and now Florida.

“For more than 40 years, structured settlements have been a proven and secure way for an injured person to receive compensation in a physical injury case,” said Vaughn. “NSSTA has worked diligently to champion enactment of Structured Settlement Protection Acts in 49 states. Now NSSTA is leading the charge to strengthen existing SSPAs that have proven to be vulnerable to forum-shopping and other abuses.”

Michael Goodman, NSSTA president, commented, “We applaud Governor Scott’s action and we thank the bill’s proponents in the Florida State Legislature for acting decisively to remedy the shortcomings of the current Florida statute. By strengthening the Florida SSPA, we will be further safeguarding and protecting claimants and their families. I am proud to be part of this industry and glad that these protections will enhance the value and importance of structured settlements.”

Vaughn also praised the Florida Association for Justice for working collaboratively to pass meaningful legislation that will protect Floridians and their families.

Structured settlements are a proven and trusted way for claimants to receive compensation. A structured settlement provides a stream of future payments tailored to the claimants' needs, funded by an annuity issued by a highly rated life insurance company, and free of federal income tax.

For more information on structured settlements, visit the NSSTA [website](#).

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**About National Structured Settlements Trade Association**

Since 1985, the [National Structured Settlements Trade Association](#) (NSSTA) has been the leading voice of the structured settlement industry, representing more than 1,200 professional structured settlement consultants, life insurance industry leaders, property and casualty company claims officials and lawyers from all across the United States and Canada. For more information, visit [www.nssta.com](http://www.nssta.com).