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Homebuilders: We're very sorry

By [S.V. Date](#) | Friday, July 6, 2007, 10:37 AM

Four days after explaining on its Web site that it would give political contributions only to those legislators, candidates and political groups who support a bill limiting impact fees, the Florida Home Builders Association Friday issued an apology.

A new statement from group president John Wiseman says the original statement, which drew strong rebukes from leaders including Senate President Ken Pruitt and Gov. Charlie Crist, was an "incorrect" suggestion.

Here is the apology letter in its entirety:

"I extend our sincere apology over recent comments that have conveyed the wrong message that decisions made by FHBA's Political Action Committee are tied in any way to a single action of a legislator.

"Like any political action committee, the FHB-PAC has and always will look at the entire record of a lawmaker before deciding to support or oppose.

"Although it is true that impact fee reform is very important to Florida's economy and specifically the construction industry, it was incorrect for me to indicate that support of any one bill is the only criteria to be used in PAC evaluation.

"FHB-PAC met on July 5, and reconsidered its prior action concerning contributions to incumbents. In addition, it referred development of criteria for making contributions to candidates to a Task Force that had been previously formed to address contributions to political parties and other entities.

"It is our hope that this apology and our actions will be accepted by our FHBA members and members of the Legislature, and that FHBA and the Legislature can continue with debate, dialogue and decisions that will serve the best interests of our state and its housing consumers.

"Sincerely,

John Wiseman President"

And here is the original statement:

http://216.239.51.104/search?q=cache:wJ2dcZ-V_uUJ:www.fhba.com/index.cfm%3Frefrer%3Dcontent.contentItem%26ID%3D1484+fhba+action+news+july+2&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=1&gl=us&client=firefox-a

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