

# DAILY NEWS

## Gov. Rick Scott invites Yale to move to Florida

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After 314 years, Rick Scott thinks it's about time Yale retires to Florida.

The Florida governor said Tuesday that “it is clear” that one of the country's oldest Ivy League universities should abandon its tax-burdened Connecticut home and move down to the Sunshine State to join all the retirees and the people who make all the Florida memes possible.

Gov. Rick Scott released a statement this week inviting Yale University to move to Florida to avoid a proposed tax hike.

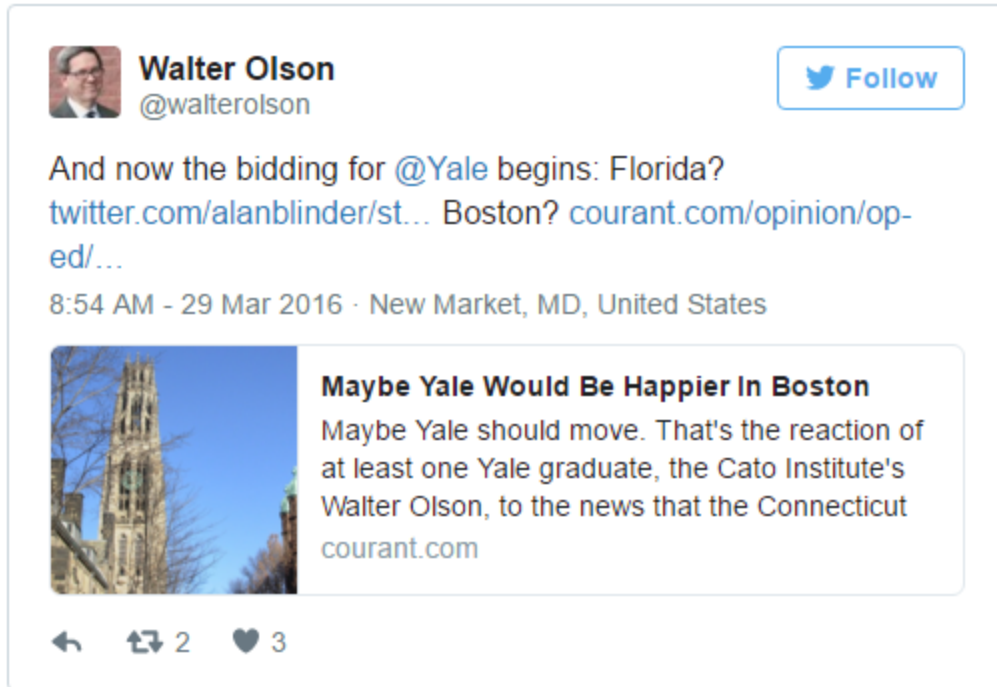
"With news that the Connecticut Legislature wants to unfairly tax one of the nation's most renowned universities to deal with the state's budget shortfall, it is clear that all businesses in Connecticut, including Yale, should look to move to Florida," Scott said, in his latest aggressive pursuit of out-of-state businesses and institutions.

Scott invited the elite university, firmly rooted in New Haven, Conn. since 1701, to pack up and move to Florida because of a proposed 7% tax on the net investment profits of Yale's \$25.6 billion endowment.

“If Connecticut lawmakers are seriously considering another tax on Yale, businesses and families should be concerned about the other tax increases their Legislature will consider,” a statement from his office read.

The prestigious college politely turned down the offer, saying there's no better haven than New Haven.

"It's wonderful to be recognized as an outstanding asset, but Yale, New Haven, and Connecticut have been on common ground to great mutual benefit for 300 years. We're looking forward to reaching even greater heights in education, research and civic engagement over the next three centuries and more," Yale spokesman Tom Conroy said in a statement provided to the News.



Scott, who last week called for President Obama to cut short his tour of Latin America trip and visit Florida instead, also invited other Connecticut businesses to move south, enticing them with the fact that “we have not raised any taxes or fees in Florida.”

The Florida governor is no stranger to gum-flapping on his state's open door policy. In April of last year, Scott attempted to steal jobs from some of California's fortune 500 businesses, bashing the state's taxes and hefty business regulations.

He sent letters to the CEOs of Facebook, Apple and Google urging them to relocate.

Enterprise Florida, the Sunshine State's largest public/private enterprise group, aired radio ads to business owners in the Los Angeles area that coincided with Scott's visit, advertising Florida's business-friendly tax incentives: "Are you a business owner sick of paying higher taxes?" the ads said.

Similar ads ran in Kentucky later last year, asking business owners in Frankfort: "Are Frankfort's pro-union and big government policies hurting your business? Good news is on the way."

Rick Scott has a habit of attempting to lure out-of-state business owners to come to the Sunshine State.

This isn't even the first time Scott has tried to poach a Connecticut enterprise. In the summer of 2015 he held a meeting with business owners in the state, inviting them to move to Florida, citing General Electric and Aetna's out-of-state relocations due to tax increases.

The Florida governor has succeeded in his pursuits at least once. In 2013 he reeled in the Hertz Corporation, the world's largest rental car business, which moved from Bergen County, N.J. to Estero, Fla. in 2013.