Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 8, 2016

Chairman Jim Inhofe
410 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Barbara Boxer
456 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Bill Shuster
2251 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Peter DeFazio
2164 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Inhofe, Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member Boxer and Ranking Member DeFazio:

As Members of the Florida delegation, we write to express our strong support for Everglades restoration. These important wetlands are critical for the environment of Florida and enjoy bipartisan support.

America's Everglades spans nearly two million acres of wetland ecosystems and waterways, stretching from Central Florida to the Peninsula. Our state's waterways are essential to both our economic health and to the environment. The Everglades is known to improve water quality, support agricultural activities, provide drinking water supplies for approximately 8 million Floridians, exhibits animal and plant diversity, and reduces flooding.

The Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) is a vital project, and once authorized by Congress, will be a major step towards the restoration of the Everglades. Due to delays by the Army Corps of Engineers in issuing the final Project Implementation Report (PIR), the 2014 Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) did not include this important authorization. Now that this Chief's Report has been submitted, the Congress can move forward to final enactment.

The State of Florida has long been a partner in measures to counteract the damage and restore the Everglades. However, full restoration requires federal involvement. We respectfully request that you include the authorization of the Central Everglades Planning Project in the forthcoming Water Resources Development Act.

Respectfully,

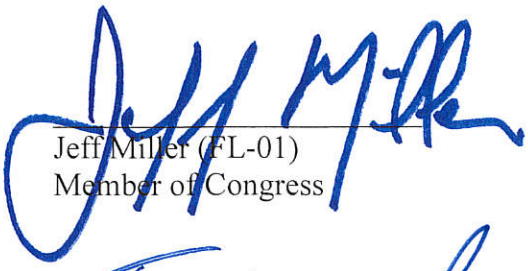
Marco Rubio
United States Senator

Bill Nelson
United States Senator

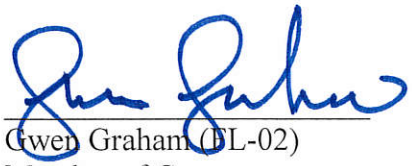
David W. Jolly (FL-13)
Member of Congress

Patrick E. Murphy (FL-18)
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



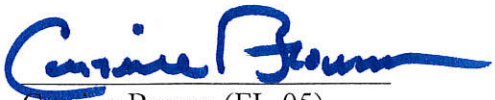
Jeff Miller (FL-01)
Member of Congress



Gwen Graham (FL-02)
Member of Congress

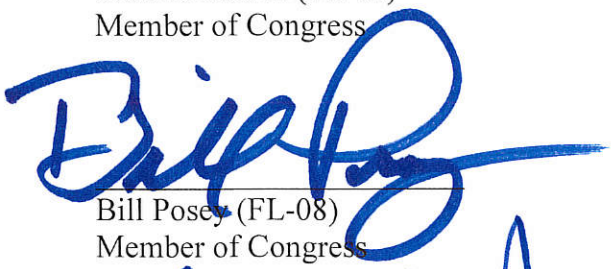
Ted S. Yoho, DVM (FL-03)
Member of Congress

Ander Crenshaw (FL-04)
Member of Congress



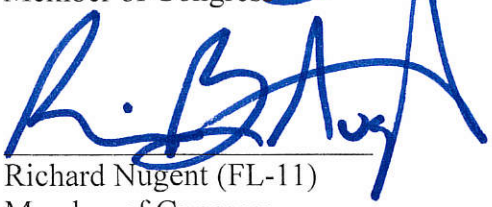
Corrine Brown (FL-05)
Member of Congress

Ron DeSantis (FL-06)
Member of Congress



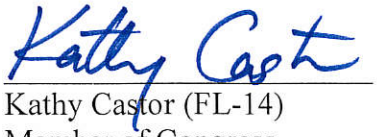
Bill Posey (FL-08)
Member of Congress

Alan Grayson (FL-09)
Member of Congress



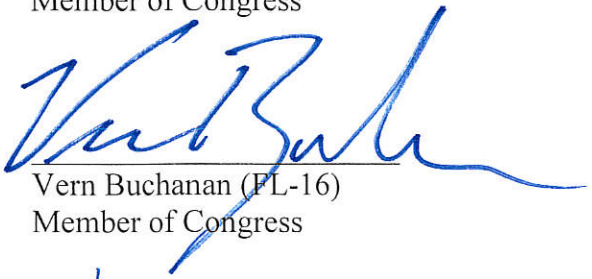
Richard Nugent (FL-11)
Member of Congress

Gus Bilirakis (FL-12)
Member of Congress

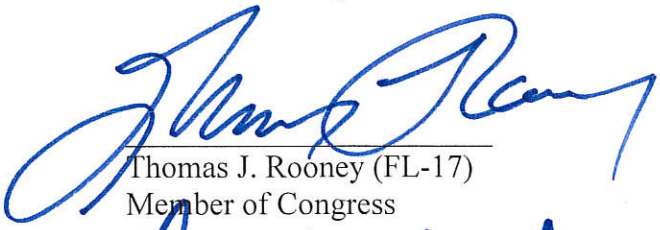


Kathy Castor (FL-14)
Member of Congress

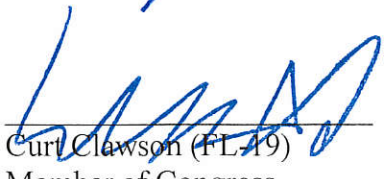
Dennis Ross (FL-15)
Member of Congress



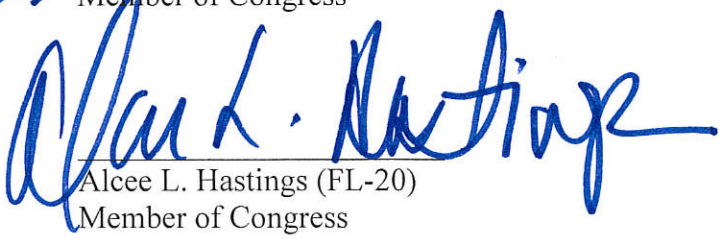
Vern Buchanan (FL-16)
Member of Congress



Thomas J. Rooney (FL-17)
Member of Congress



Curt Clawson (FL-19)
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings (FL-20)
Member of Congress

Theodore E. Deutch (FL-21)
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel (FL-22)
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL-23)
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson (FL-24)
Member of Congress

Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25)
Member of Congress

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-27)
Member of Congress