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House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging action by the U.S. Department of the Army and the Environmental Protection Agency, relating to wetland delineation.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has implemented a statewide wetland delineation methodology specific to Florida wetlands that fosters streamlined permitting, does not compromise wetland protection, and provides a unified definition and methodology binding all state, regional, and local governments and agencies, and

WHEREAS, the use of the federal delineation methodology results in a slightly different wetland line in certain areas than the unified statewide methodology for the delineation of wetlands, and these areas of difference may not in fact be wetlands in Florida, and

WHEREAS, the state wishes to ensure continued coordination with federal wetland planning and regulation without unnecessary duplication, needless paperwork, and delays, and

WHEREAS, acceptance of the Florida statewide unified wetland delineation methodology by the federal agencies would eliminate substantial transactional costs, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the State of Florida supports action by the U.S. Congress, the congressional delegation from Florida, the Administrator and Regional Administrator for Region IV of the

1 United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the
2 Secretary of the Army that would result in the federal
3 agencies accepting the use of Florida's statewide wetland
4 definition and delineation methodology when implementing
5 section 404 of the Clean Water Act and section 10 of the
6 Rivers and Harbors Act within Florida.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
9 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
10 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
11 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

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