

By Senator Truenow

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Senate Resolution

A resolution expressing support for a One Water approach to water resource management and the use of collaborative, integrated, and resilience systems approaches to planning for and funding water resource projects.

WHEREAS, water is a vital resource essential for human health, well-being, and economic prosperity, and

WHEREAS, Florida's strong economy and unprecedented growth have resulted in increasing demand for water supply and significant stress to water resources, which necessitate additional efforts to address future projected water shortages and prevent harm to the environment, and

WHEREAS, Florida's residents value clean water, springs, lakes, coastal estuaries, and other environmental resources, and

WHEREAS, Florida's spring, lake, estuary, and wetland systems include some of the most productive and diverse ecosystems in the world, and

WHEREAS, Florida's waterways provide the nation's best recreational destinations and support significant commercial, recreational, and sustenance fisheries which contribute to residents' quality of life, and

WHEREAS, Florida's rank as top national producer of agricultural products depends on adequate water supply, and

WHEREAS, despite Florida's strong water resource protection framework, approximately 67 percent of Florida is categorized as a water resource caution area, and more than 2,000 waterbodies in this state are designated as impaired for water quality, and

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30 WHEREAS, historically, water management practices have  
31 addressed water supply, wastewater, and stormwater separately,  
32 leading to inefficiencies and missed opportunities for resource  
33 optimization, and

34 WHEREAS, projected water shortages, water quality problems,  
35 and environmental impacts can be addressed through integrated  
36 planning, infrastructure investments, conservation, and  
37 integrated water resource management, and

38 WHEREAS, Florida's water utilities and other water users  
39 are beginning to regionally manage all water resources in ways  
40 that balance demand, supply, and environmental protection, and

41 WHEREAS, water utilities and other users are increasingly  
42 turning to the Florida One Water Commission's One Water  
43 strategy, which means valuing all water through a collaborative  
44 and integrated systems approach to managing fresh and brackish  
45 surface and groundwater, stormwater, wastewater, and recycled  
46 water in a holistic and sustainable manner that maintains  
47 ecosystems while providing reliable and resilient water  
48 resources that support the economy, the environment, and the  
49 public, NOW, THEREFORE,

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51 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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53 That the Senate encourages a One Water approach to water  
54 resource management and the use of collaborative, integrated,  
55 and resilience systems approaches to planning for and funding  
56 water resource projects.