



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Noah Valenstein
Secretary

December 7, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McCarthy:

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure have worked diligently to develop the 2020 Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA 2020). With the completion of bipartisan and bicameral committee negotiations, Congress should now move quickly to consider and pass S. 1811, as amended.

Governor DeSantis has prioritized the link between Florida's environment and economy, and has boldly advanced solutions to begin alleviating contemporary water quality and harmful algal bloom concerns that were set in motion decades ago. With strong input from Florida's congressional delegation, WRDA 2020 would help bolster those efforts and further cement state and federal cooperation on Everglades restoration, including expedited construction of the Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir, and shore protection and coastal resilience.

WRDA 2020 represents critical federal legislation for Florida. I strongly urge Congress to quickly consider and pass S. 1811, as amended.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read "Noah Valenstein", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Noah Valenstein
Secretary

CC: Florida's congressional delegation