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Congress of the United States
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February 19, 2016

Representative Steve Crisafulli
Speaker, Florida House of Representatives
420 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Speaker Crisafulli:

As you know, Senator Joe Negrón (SB 1168) and Representative Gayle Harrell (HB 989) have introduced legislation allocating Amendment 1 Land Acquisition Trust Fund dollars for Everglades restoration projects that reduce harmful discharges to the St. Lucie Estuary and the Caloosahatchee Estuary. I am proud to support this legislation and respectfully urge its swift consideration and passage. As historic, El Niño-fueled rainfall and discharges from Lake Okeechobee once again threaten the Indian River Lagoon and Caloosahatchee River, fully funding Everglades restoration is more important than ever. I am proud to partner with my colleagues on the Treasure Coast in our dedication to completing the necessary projects to clean, store, and move water south.

As the federal government enters budget and appropriations season, I will continue to champion for full federal funding for Everglades restoration, including Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan projects (CERP). Along with Reps. Clawson, Hastings, Diaz-Balart, I recently co-led a letter to the Office of Management and Budget requesting full funding for CERP and non-CERP Army Corps Everglades projects in the President's FY17 budget request. I was also proud to stand with Sens. Rubio and Nelson and Rep. Jolly in leading every member of the Florida congressional delegation in a letter to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee pushing for swift authorization of the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP).

Marjory Stoneman Douglas famously noted something we all know to be true: "There are no other Everglades in the world." Only by working together on a bipartisan basis and in partnership on the state, local, and federal levels will we see progress preserving, protecting, and restoring our River of Grass, while saving our local environment. I applaud Senator Negrón and Representative Harrell's efforts in garnering necessary funding for these worthwhile projects,

and I will continue to stand with those who seek to use Amendment 1 Land Acquisition Trust Fund dollars as intended.

Respectfully,



Patrick E. Murphy
Member of Congress

Cc: Senator Joe Negron
Representative Gayle Harrell
President Andy Gardiner
Chairman Alan Hays
Chairman Richard Corcoran
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