

# The Florida Mosquito Control Association

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2024-2025

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Jorge Rey, PhD
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Karen Crawford Executive Director The Honorable Sam Graves

Chair

Transportation & Infrastructure

Committee

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Collins

Chair

Water Resources & Environment Subcommittee Transportation &

Infrastructure Committee U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen

Ranking Member

Transportation & Infrastructure

Committee

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frederica S. Wilson

Ranking Member

Water Resources & Environment Subcommittee Transportation &

Infrastructure Committee

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 3824 Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act

Dear Chairmen Graves and Collins, and Ranking Members Larsen and Wilson:

The Florida Mosquito Control Association (FMCA) strongly supports H.R. 3824, the *Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act*, which eliminates the requirement for a duplicative National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit under the Clean Water Act for pesticide applications that are already approved and regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

The FMCA supports its members, including mosquito control programs and industry partners, by promoting environmentally sound, effective mosquito management to protect public health statewide. FMCA enhances disease prevention efforts through public awareness campaigns, fostering community support for mosquito control, and advancing scientific expertise with training and education.

Florida's mosquito control programs play a vital role in protecting public health and comfort by controlling mosquito populations that can transmit serious diseases such as West Nile, Zika, dengue, and eastern equine encephalitis viruses. Our members are not only essential for public health but also for strengthening the state's economy by making Florida a more attractive place to live, work, and visit. By effectively managing mosquito populations, these programs support tourism, one of Florida's largest economic drivers, by ensuring a safe, enjoyable experience for millions of visitors who contribute billions to local businesses, hospitality, and recreation industries. Additionally, reliable mosquito control helps protect agricultural

operations and fosters a stable environment for economic development, outdoor commerce, and community well-being across the state. This legislation provides several significant improvements to mosquito control efforts across the state:

## • Streamlined Compliance:

By removing redundant permitting requirements, H.R. 3824 simplifies regulatory processes for local mosquito control programs, allowing them to operate more efficiently while remaining fully compliant with federal pesticide laws.

#### • Improved Use of Resources:

Eliminating the need for an additional NPDES permit reduces administrative costs and paperwork at the state and local levels, freeing up valuable resources that can be redirected to field operations and disease prevention efforts.

### • Protection from Unnessesary Legal Liability:

The current NPDES permit requirement exposes local mosquito control programs to legal liability under Clean Water Act-based citizen lawsuits. These lawsuits have the potential to cost thousands of Floridian's taxpayer dollars, even when the pesticide applications are lawful and properly conducted, without offering any meaningful environmental benefit. H.R. 3824 would eliminate this unnecessary risk.

#### • Environmental Protections Remain in Place:

NPDES permits do not add any additional environmental benefits over those already included on the pesticide label. The bill preserves key environmental safeguards under FIFRA, ensuring continued oversight of pesticide use and accountability for misuse or spill events.

In conclusion, the FMCA supports H.R. 3824 as a common-sense measure that improves the effectiveness and responsiveness of mosquito control programs while maintaining strong environmental and public health protections.

Please consider the Florida Mosquito Control Association as a resource on this important issue, and we are happy answer any questions or concerns you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact the association at ExecutiveDirector@yourfmca.org.

Sincerely,

Jorge R. Rey, PhD

President@yourfmca.org

President

Florida Mosquito Control Association

Florida Mosquito Control Association

Providing expertise and guidance for the control of pestiferous and disease

transmitting mosquitoes

(850) 765-1915 | ExecutiveDirector@yourfmca.org | https://www.yourfmca.org/