



Natural Resources Management Department

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building A, Room 219
Viera, Florida 32940

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

December 5, 2024

Dear Chairmen Carper and Graves, and Ranking Members Capito and Larsen:

On behalf of Brevard County, I am writing in support of including language in Sec. 1145 of the Water Resources Development Act to address easement issues for authorized hurricane and storm damage risk reduction projects along Florida's shores, including Brevard County's beaches south of Port Canaveral and Patrick Space Force Base.

Healthy beaches protect and provide critical coastal infrastructure - protecting evacuation routes, supporting our economy, and protecting habitat for endangered species including globally important sea turtle nesting in the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge in Brevard County. Our partnership with the federal government has been highly successful at providing cost-effective coastal and habitat protection. We appreciate your diligence in protecting this critical federal partnership in the State of Florida.

Additionally, we appreciate the staffs of the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Environment and Public Works for their dedication and for keeping the lines of communication open. Their willingness to hear and assist with our easement issues led to this productive and collaborative outcome.

Thank you, again, for your leadership in advancing the biennial Water Resources Development Act this year.

Sincerely,

Virginia Barker

Virginia Barker
Director