



Office of the Captiva Erosion Prevention District
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John Wade, Chairman
John Riegert, Deputy Director

12/6/2024

To: Chairmen Graves, Carper, and Members Capito and Larsen:

I am reaching out representing not only the hundreds of Captiva Island residents but also the many thousands of visitors that enjoy our beautifully preserved barrier islands every year here in Lee County of southwest Florida.

Your efforts in promoting change to the Water Resources Defense Act are truly appreciated, particularly in the wake of the numerous hurricanes that have inflicted such a devastating impact across Florida's west coast in recent months. Our fragile coastline is a critical component to Florida's economy as well as a vital ecosystem for our natural wildlife. The Committees' willingness to address the "easement matters" as they pertain to storm damage risk projects (sec.1145) will serve as a tremendous step forward in helping us, as local custodians, preserve and protect such natural and economic needs.

To that end, I want to personally invite you and your staff to visit our island so that you may experience, firsthand, the natural wonder that is Captiva and see why it is so important that we maintain a productive, effective partnership with the federal agencies by amending this year's Act.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

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John R Wade III
Chairman, Captiva Erosion Prevention District

CC: Pepper Uchino
President, Florida Beach and Shore Preservation Association

John Riegert,
Deputy Director, Captiva Erosion Prevention District

Captiva Erosion Prevention District Board of Commissioners