

## FLORIDA SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

A League of Cities and Counties on Beach and Coastal Issues

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December 6, 2024

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

On behalf of the nearly 300 members of the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association, I am writing to sincerely thank you for your leadership in guiding the Water Resources Development Act process this year and for including language in Sec. 1145 to address easement issues for authorized hurricane and storm damage risk reduction projects along Florida's fragile and imperiled shores.

As you know, healthy beach systems serve as critical coastal components to protect lives, infrastructure, economies, and habitat for endangered species. Florida's partnership with the federal government has been one of the most successful and cost-effective programs to protect our critical coasts and the trillions of dollars of public and private investments along them. We applaud you and your staffs for your understanding and diligence in providing some relief for the State of Florida as part of the broader efforts contained in the Act.

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 understand our easement issues in greater detail led to productive discussions and this positive outcome.

Thank you, again, for your leadership in advancing the biennial Water Resources Development Act this year and for addressing some of Florida's easement issues. We stand ready to assist as we continue to strive for collaborative solutions.

Sincerely,

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