

**COMMITTEE OF THE ISLANDS, INC.
P.O. BOX 88
SANIBEL, FL 33957**

March 11, 2017

The Honorable Ray Rodriguez
Suite 218
17595 South Tamiami Trail
Fort Myers, FL 33908-4570

Re: Co-Sponsorship of House Bill 761

Dear Leader Rodriguez:

I am writing on behalf of the Committee of the Islands (COTI), a Sanibel-based political committee that is comprised of over 800 citizens who generally live within your legislative district.

Newly-filed House Bill 761, the companion bill to Florida Senate Bill 10, would provide for the purchase of 60,000 acres of land in the Everglades Agricultural Area to allow for eventual construction of a dynamic water reservoir. This water reservoir, which would include nutrient treatment features, would alleviate harmful discharges to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers and provide desperately needed water supply to the Everglades and Florida Bay.

We have previously written to you asking for your support of this bill. Today, we are specifically asking you to co-sponsor that measure.

Even if you should choose at some later point to vote against the measure (we hope that not to be the case), it is in the interests of your constituents that the bill at least be discussed and evaluated as part of the legislative process.

Therefore, we ask that you agree to co-sponsor HB 761.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Miller
President, Committee of the Islands, Inc.