

RESOLUTION NO R-98 _425

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA URGING PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION REQUIRING OVERSIGHT AND APPROVAL OF THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA PROJECT RESTUDY FEASIBILITY REPORT DURING THE 1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the environmental and economic well-being of South Florida depends on an ample supply of water and the sound management of water resources, and

WHEREAS, the Central & Southern Florida Project has provided multiple benefits including water supply, flood protection, navigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife habitat for nearly 50 years, and

WHEREAS, the Central & Southern Florida Project will continue to be a central component in the management of the State's waters in South Florida, and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need to modify the Central & Southern Florida Project in order to protect the South Florida ecosystem and to provide for the water-related needs of the region including flood control, the enhancement of water supplies, and other objectives served by the project, the United States Congress has authorized the U S Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a comprehensive restudy of the project, and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District, acting as local sponsor of the Project, is participating with the Corps of Engineers as a 50/50 partner in the development of the Restudy, and

WHEREAS, a Feasibility Report with recommendations for long-term modifications to the Central & Southern Florida Project is scheduled to be completed and submitted for Congressional review and authorization by July 1999, and

WHEREAS, the recommendations of the Feasibility Report will have the potential to dramatically alter the way in which water is managed in South Florida thereby affecting our environment and economy, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the cost of implementing the recommendations of the Restudy Feasibility Report will range from \$3 to \$5 billion dollars, with the State being required to commit funding of 50% of the cost, and

WHEREAS, this commitment will likely necessitate the imposition of new fees or taxes that must be approved by the Legislature of the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure the support of the Florida Legislature in carrying out the recommendations of the Restudy Feasibility Report it is only fitting that the Legislature's role in reviewing the recommendations be established and scheduled in such a way so that the legislative review process will coincide with and not delay the existing schedule for submittal to the United States Congress

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THAT

We fully endorse the passage of legislation during the 1998 Session of the Florida Legislature requiring Legislative review and approval of the Restudy Feasibility Report during the 1999 Legislative Session, in advance of this report being forwarded for approval to the Congress of the United States of America, provided such review and approval does not unnecessarily impede the Restudy process

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner McCarty

who moved its adoption The motion was seconded by Commissioner

Lee and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows

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| Commissioner Burt Aaronson, Chairman | <u>Aye</u> |
| Commissioner Maude Ford Lee, Vice Chair | <u>Aye</u> |
| Commissioner Karen T Marcus | <u>Absent</u> |
| Commissioner Carol A Roberts | <u>Absent</u> |
| Commissioner Warren H Newell | <u>Aye</u> |
| Commissioner Mary McCarty | <u>Aye</u> |
| Commissioner Ken L Foster | <u>Absent</u> |

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted

this 36 day of March, 1998

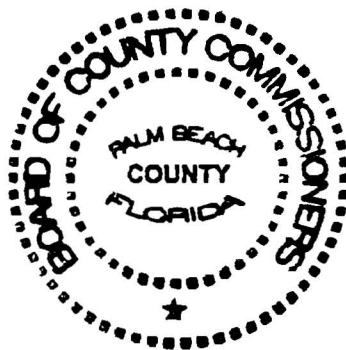
Palm Beach County, Florida, by its
Board of County Commissioners

Dorothy H Wilken, Clerk

By Joan Hawerly

Approved as to form
And legal sufficiency,

Maureen Cull
Assistant County Attorney



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