



FWEA Utility Council

Protecting Florida's Clean Water Environment

P.O. Box 10755 • Tallahassee, Florida 32302 • (850) 425-3428

www.fweauc.org

June 17, 2016

Dear Senator Rubio,

On April 28th the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee reported S.2848, the *Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016* on a near unanimous vote of 19-1 demonstrating that strong bipartisan support exists in the Senate for addressing our nation's water resource infrastructure. We believe it is critically important for the full Senate to consider this bill and urge you to support its consideration and passage.

In addition to authorizing critical U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) projects, this bipartisan package includes common sense reforms to the Clean Water Act (CWA) that save ratepayers millions of dollars, leverage the private marketplace for investments in water infrastructure, and strengthen tools to protect public health.

If enacted, S. 2848 will provide much needed relief to communities struggling to comply with unfunded federal mandates by ensuring clean water investments remain affordable to ratepayers and generate the greatest water quality gains at the lowest cost. The legislative package is especially valuable to communities like Miami-Dade County which is currently under federal consent decree to meet CWA requirements.

The bipartisan package also includes a range of provisions that address infrastructure investment, health, and safety issues of our drinking water and wastewater systems. Critically important are provisions to help communities struggling to ensure their drinking water supplies are not contaminated with lead. The bill also authorizes important ACOE activities in Florida including projects for navigation in Port Everglades, hurricane and storm damage risk reduction in Flagler County, restoration in the Everglades and Picayune Strand, and flood control in Daytona Beach.

Communities in regions across the country from the Southeast to the Midwest to the West will directly benefit by enacting S. 2848 – we urge your support and its swift consideration by the full Senate.

Sincerely,

Lisa Wilson-Davis

President, FWEA Utility Council



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Broward County Water & Wastewater Services	Clay County Utility Authority
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City of Atlantic Beach	Emerald Coast Utilities Authority
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