A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to fully authorize the conditionally approved projects in section 601 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 and the Indian River Lagoon and Picayune Strand projects in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and to provide funding for the federal share of the full and equal partnership.

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WHEREAS, the Everglades is one of the most unique and fragile ecosystems in the world, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature and the Congress of the United States have long recognized that the Everglades is imperiled and must be restored, and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan was approved by Congress as a framework for restoration of the Everglades in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan will restore more than 2.4 million acres of the south Florida ecosystem while meeting the other water-related needs of the region, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature and the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District have appropriated more than \$2 billion to implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan since the passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature and the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District have provided more 31 than 90 percent of the funding to implement the plan, and the

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South Florida Water Management District has begun construction on the initial conditionally authorized projects, and 3 WHEREAS, the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 4 approved the restoration plan as a full and equal partnership between the state government and the Federal Government, and 5 6 WHEREAS, the Indian River Lagoon and Picayune Strand projects and 10 conditionally authorized projects require 8 authorization from Congress, NOW, THEREFORE, 9 10 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 11 That the Congress of the United States is requested to 12 13 fully authorize the conditionally approved projects in section 14 601 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 and the Indian River Lagoon and Picayune Strand projects in the 15 Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and to provide 16 funding for the federal share of the full and equal 17 18 partnership. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be 19 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the 20 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the 21 22 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of 23 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress. 24 25 26 27 28