

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
3 urging Congress to direct the United States
4 Environmental Protection Agency to finalize a
5 memorandum of agreement by July 1, 2019, so Florida
6 can complete the assumption of a section 404 dredge
7 and fill permitting program under the federal Clean
8 Water Act.

9
10 WHEREAS, a state must seek a memorandum of agreement from
11 the United States Environmental Protection Agency as part of an
12 application to assume a section 404 dredge and fill permitting
13 program under the federal Clean Water Act, and

14 WHEREAS, chapter 2018-88, Laws of Florida, authorized the
15 Department of Environmental Protection to seek the assumption of
16 a section 404 dredge and fill permitting program, and

17 WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Protection must
18 complete rulemaking so Florida can complete the assumption of a
19 section 404 dredge and fill permitting program, and

20 WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Protection cannot
21 complete rulemaking until a memorandum of agreement has been
22 finalized, and

23 WHEREAS, since March 2018, the United States Environmental
24 Protection Agency has not finalized a memorandum of agreement so

25 Florida can complete the assumption of a section 404 dredge and
26 fill permitting program, and

27 WHEREAS, without a memorandum of agreement, critical
28 environmental restoration activities, including projects under
29 the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, continue to be
30 delayed, NOW, THEREFORE,

31

32 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

33

34 That the Congress of the United States is urged to direct
35 the United States Environmental Protection Agency to finalize a
36 memorandum of agreement by July 1, 2019, so Florida can complete
37 the assumption of a section 404 dredge and fill permitting
38 program under the federal Clean Water Act.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
40 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
41 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
42 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
43 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.