THE FLORIDA SEN BOWERD ALANCE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100



COMMITTEES: Appropriations, Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on the
Environment and Natural Resources Commerce and Tourism
Environmental Preservation and Conservation

JOINT COMMITTEE: Joint Legislative Budget Commission, Alternating Chair



August 23, 2017

Bertha Henry **Broward County** 115 S. Andrews Ave, Rm. 409 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Ms. Henry,

The unique role Florida's beaches play for both our environment and our economy make it imperative that we do what we can to preserve and restore them to their natural beauty. Florida's beaches provide a return on investment of \$5.4 to \$1 and are Florida's number one tourism driver stimulating over 1.4 million jobs.

I am proud to announce I have filed Senate Bill 174 to update Florida's beach management program. Senate Bill 174 updates the ranking criteria for beach projects to take into consideration the economic and environmental importance of the project. Senate Bill 174 also creates a three-year work plan to maximize matching federal and local dollars and sets a dedicated state funding source of at least \$50 million per year through Amendment One funding.

This is the same bill which unanimously passed the Florida Senate last year. Unfortunately, it did not come up for a vote by the Florida House of Representatives. I encourage you to contact Speaker Corcoran and urge him to support our efforts to protect and restore Florida's beaches.

I look forward to the favorable passage of this bill during the 2018 Legislative Session and up to have your continued support in passing good policy for Florida's beaches. If you have any questions or if I may ever be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me personally.

Sincerely.

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Senator, 16th District

REPLY TO:

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