

FLORIDA CHAPTER  
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY



PO Box 579  
Bristol, FL 32321  
19 August, 1999

Mr. Thomas M. Franklin  
Wildlife Policy Director  
The Wildlife Society  
5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 200  
Bethesda, MD 20814-2197

Dear Tom:

Enclosed please find copies of letters the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society sent to Florida's two United States Senators and twenty-three Representatives encouraging them to co-sponsor S 25 and HR 701. We received the parent society's request for contributions to help finance the outreach campaign but unfortunately the consensus of the Chapter's board was that we cannot afford to make a cash donation at this time. The Chapter recognizes the importance of this legislation and felt we should at least write letters to Florida's delegation. We are sending you these copies to keep you informed of our activities so far on this issue.

Sincerely,

Susan Fitzgerald  
President

PO Box 579  
Bristol, FL 32321  
9 August 1999

The Honorable Connie Mack  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mack:

On behalf of the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society, an organization of professional wildlife biologists, we respectfully urge you to co-sponsor S 25, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999 (CARA), which uses outer continental shelf (OCS) gas and oil leases and royalties to fund a variety of conservation programs. We understand there is concern regarding the possible "incentives" present in S 25. We believe the language in HR 701 adequately addresses this concern while allowing future revenues to be used for conservation purposes.

Titles I and II of this bill make funds available to the states for wetland and coastal restoration, coastal zone management, fisheries conservation, and land and water conservation. Under Titles I and II the State of Florida would receive an estimated \$97 million\* annually. Title III of CARA provides revenue to state fish and wildlife agencies on a matching fund basis for conservation, recreation, and education programs. We strongly encourage the Senate to raise the percentage of OSC revenue dedicated to Title III wildlife conservation funding from 7 to 10 percent. An estimated \$15 million\* would be available for Florida's wildlife in 2000.

The demands on Florida's natural resources are growing and the funds to properly manage these demands are limited. Without the revenue generated through CARA, many of the conservation projects supported by our citizens would remain unfunded. CARA would help Florida meet the increasing demands of our citizens and tourists who want to learn more about our native wildlife and natural habitats. CARA also would promote the conservation of fish and wildlife habitats in rural areas through the development of nature-based tourism programs. And, CARA could prevent additional species from being listed as endangered or threatened by funding voluntary landowner programs that address the habitat requirements of sensitive species on private lands.

For these reasons and many more, the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society urges you to co-sponsor S 25.

Sincerely,

Susan Fitzgerald  
President

\*Based on HR 701 percentages with an estimated \$4.59 billion in OCS revenue in 2000.

PO Box 579  
Bristol, FL 32321  
9 August 1999

The Honorable Bob Graham  
524 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Graham

On behalf of the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society, an organization of professional wildlife biologists, we respectfully urge you to co-sponsor S 25, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999 (CARA), which uses outer continental shelf (OCS) gas and oil leases and royalties to fund a variety of conservation programs. We understand there is concern regarding the possible "incentives" present in S 25. We believe the language in HR 701 adequately addresses this concern while allowing future revenues to be used for conservation purposes.

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For these reasons and many more, the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society urges you to co-sponsor S 25.

Sincerely,

Susan Fitzgerald  
President

\*Based on HR 701 percentages with an estimated \$4.59 billion in OCS revenue in 2000.

PO Box 579  
Bristol, FL 32321  
19 August, 1999

Dear Congressman

On behalf of the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society, we respectfully urge you to co-sponsor HR 701 the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999 (CARA) which uses outer continental shelf (OCS) gas and oil leases and royalties to fund a variety of conservation programs. Titles I and II of this bill make funds available to the states for wetland and coastal restoration, coastal zone management, fisheries conservation, and land and water conservation. Under Titles I and II the State of Florida would receive an estimated \$97 million\* annually. Title III of CARA provides revenue to state fish and wildlife agencies on a matching fund basis for conservation, recreation, and education programs. Under Title III an estimated \$15 million\* would be available for Florida's wildlife in 2000.

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For these reasons and many more, the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society urges you to co-sponsor HR 701.

Sincerely,

Susan Fitzgerald  
President  
Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society

\*Based on HR 701 percentages with an estimated \$4.59 billion in OCS revenue in 2000.