

Florida Wildlife Federation

Dear Friends of the Florida Wildlife Federation,

ACTION ALERT!!

Growth management in Florida is about to be gutted. Oversight of planning, that has worked to stop ill-conceived sprawling development for the past 26 years, will be completely eliminated by House Bill 7129 and Senate Bill 1122.

Please contact your State Representative and Senator and let them know to OPPOSE House Bill 7129 and Senate Bill 1122 and any bill that guts growth management. And please do it quickly - the bills are going forward at a rapid pace.

Why is Growth Management necessary?

1) Development of unneeded housing has left us with upwards of 300,000 unoccupied residences that now glut the market and drive down existing home values. This bill will only increase this problem.

2) Sprawl away from urban centers increases the costs to all taxpayers who will be shouldered with ongoing costs of fire and police services, schools, teachers, road maintenance and construction, and a litany of taxable services that will exist long after the development has taken place.

3) Florida's number one economic driver is tourism. Without growth management, tourists who come to Florida to see natural beauty will instead see more strip malls. We cannot risk losing any of these job-creating visitors.

4) Our quality of life as Floridians depends on a quality environment.

Commercial and residential development with no oversight and poor planning is simply not a good idea for ourselves and our children.

Please contact your Representatives and Senators TODAY. Simply Log on to <u>myfloridahouse.gov</u> or <u>myfloridasenate.gov</u> and find your elected official or Call Toll free 1 (800) 342-2172 and have your Zip Code ready to be directed to your Representative or Senator.

Thank you very much!

Preston T. Robertson,

Florida Wildlife Federation

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