

CHAMBER *South*
*River of Grass Initiative***Statement of Support*****Secure Land Now for Florida's Economy,
Everglades and Water Supply!***


The Chamber South Board of Directors supports the *River of Grass Initiative* to acquire the land needed to secure clean and abundant fresh water for human and environmental needs.

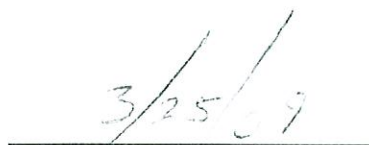
The flow of abundant clean water through the Everglades is the key to South Florida's tourist, boating, fishing and agricultural industries. Hundreds of thousands of good-paying Florida jobs depend on these industries. Florida must act to secure the land now, while it is available from a willing seller.

We support the public purchase of US Sugar Corp. land to convey, store and treat water for the Everglades. The absence of land to move, store and treat water has limited previous Everglades restoration efforts and water supply planning. The flow of abundant clean water through the Everglades is the key to South Florida's economy.

Over the last twenty years taxpayers have committed billions of dollars to Everglades restoration projects; this investment will now be secured by Governor Crist's initiative. Public purchase of the land currently owned by US Sugar Corp. is the best and most cost-effective option available to ensure Florida's water and economic security.

On behalf of the Chamber South Board of Directors,



Peter Jude, Chairman

Date

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