

## S 119

### South Florida Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** Jan 26, 2023

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Jan 26, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/119>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 26, 2023

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 628	Identical bill	Feb 1, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

## **South Florida Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023**

This bill provides support for ecosystems in South Florida. Under the bill, *South Florida* means (1) land and water within the administrative boundaries of the South Florida Water Management District and contiguous near-shore coastal waters, including the Florida Keys; and (2) Florida's Coral Reef and the associated patch reef, hard-bottom, and seagrass resources.

Specifically, the bill directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish a South Florida Program within the Water Division of its Region 4 Office. Under the program, the EPA must (1) assess trends in water quality, (2) assess data to identify existing or potential water quality problems and the causes of those problems, and (3) award grants to carry out ecosystem and educational programs established by this bill.

In addition, the EPA must annually develop and execute interagency agreements or cooperative agreements with federal, state, local, and tribal entities. Those agreements must provide funding for one or more special projects or activities within South Florida on the recommendation of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 26, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 26, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.