

## HR 628

### South Florida Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** Jan 30, 2023

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. (Feb 1, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/628>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Gimenez, Carlos A. [R-FL-28]

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

## Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Donalds, Byron [R-FL-19]	R · FL		May 9, 2023
Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Jun 22, 2023

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 1, 2023

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 119	Identical bill	Jan 26, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

## **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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- **Feb 1, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Jan 30, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 30, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.