

RESOLUTION 2003 - 45

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUED BEACH MANAGEMENT FUNDING OF \$30 MILLION ANNUALLY.

WHEREAS, Florida's number one tourist attraction is its beaches; and

WHEREAS, beach-related tourism has a \$41.6 billion impact on the State's economy; and

WHEREAS, Florida's beaches contribute over \$1 billion in tourist-related sales tax revenues annually; and

WHEREAS, 442,000 jobs are created by beach-related tourism, with an \$8 billion payroll resulting from additional spending related to Florida's beaches; and

WHEREAS, over half of Florida's 825 miles of sandy beaches are experiencing erosion, with 333 miles designated by the Department of Environmental Protection as critically-eroded; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature, pursuant to Florida Statutes, Chapter 161, has declared beach erosion to be a serious threat to the economic and general welfare of the State and its residents; and has further declared it to be a necessary responsibility to preserve Florida's beaches and make provision for beach nourishment projects; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature, in 1998, pursuant to Florida Statutes, Sections 161.091 and 201.15(11), provided

that designated funding of \$30 million annually should be deposited in the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, and that documentary stamp tax revenues shall be the source of that funding; and

WHEREAS, this \$30 million allocation has enabled Florida to develop a consistent, adequately-funded, priority-driven, long-range management program to address critical erosion; and

WHEREAS, the program represents a cost-effective intergovernmental partnership that leverages a dollar-for-dollar local government match, and up to sixty-five percent (65%) of the total project cost from Federal sources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 24th day of February, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, as follows:

1. That the Board strongly urges the Florida Legislature to fully fund the Department of Environmental Protection's beach erosion control project priority list for fiscal year 2003-2004 for \$30 million as provided for in Florida Statutes, Chapters 161 and 201.

2. That the Board respectfully requests the Florida Legislature to oppose any legislative efforts to amend existing law which allocates \$30 million annually to certain documentary stamp tax revenues to the Ecosystem

Management and Restoration Trust Fund for the purposes of  
beach preservation and repair.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



VICKIE SAMUS  
Its: Chairman

ATTEST:



J. M. "CHIP" OXLEY, JR.  
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the  
Nassau County Attorney



MICHAEL S. MOLLIN

h/anne/res/beach-management-funding