

**MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 133 -2022**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS URGING CONGRESS TO REAUTHORIZE THE CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT OF 2000; SUPPORTING S. 46 AND H.R. 160, THE RESTORING RESILIENT REEFS ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE FEDERAL RESPONSE TO THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEMS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, from tourism to marine recreation and sport fishing, coral reefs are an important part of the State of Florida's ocean economy, and play a central role in the economies of Southeast Florida's communities, including the Florida Keys. NOAA suggests that coral reefs in southeast Florida have an asset value of \$8.5 billion, generating \$4.4 billion in local sales, \$2 billion in local income, and 70,400 full and part-time jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, coral reefs are a significant habitat for fisheries. In the United States, about half of all federally managed fisheries depend on coral reefs. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service estimates the annual commercial value of U.S. fisheries from coral reefs to be over \$100 million. Reef-based recreational fisheries generate over \$100 million annually in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, coral reefs act like submerged breakwaters by breaking wave and dissipating their energy offshore before they flood coastal properties and communities and enormously valuable function for hurricane prone areas like Florida and according the USGS Florida reefs provide flood protection to more than 5,600 people and \$675M in averted property and economic activity and with a 1 meter loss in reef height, the 100-year flood plain would increase by 20 km<sup>2</sup> imperiling 24,000 more people and \$2.9B in property and economic activity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Reef Tract, nearly 150-miles long and 4-miles wide and stretching from the Dry Tortugas in Monroe County to Martin County is the world's third-largest barrier reef; and the only living coral reef in the continental United States; and

**WHEREAS**, massive, region-wide bleaching events have become more common on the Florida Reef Tract. Since 1987, six extensive coral bleaching events have affected the entire tract. Substantial mass coral mortality occurred during the global bleaching events; and

**WHEREAS**, while Florida Reef Tract disease outbreaks are not unprecedented, the current disease event is unique due to its scale, high infection rate, and rapid spread; the number of coral species affected across such a large portion of the Florida Reef Tract, estimated to have resulted in the mortality of millions of corals; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reports that diseases and diminishing health condition among corals throughout the Florida Reef Tract have dramatically increased; and

**WHEREAS**, at the federal level there have been limited resources to address this disease outbreak and the overall health of coral reefs. Congress passed the Coral Reef Conservation Act in 2000, which authorized appropriations to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(NOAA) for coral reef protection and management activities through 2004. Authorization for the overall program expired in 2004 but Congress has continued to fund the CRCP through the annual appropriations process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Senate and House bills are sponsored by Florida Senator Marco Rubio and Florida Representative Darren Soto, respectively, and are supported by the entire Florida federal delegation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act provides a five year authorization for federal funding, provides increased funding, provides statutory authority for the US Coral Reef Taskforce to lead, coordinate and strengthen federal government actions to preserve and restore coral reef systems, and directs federal funding and technical assistance so states and impacted communities can drive priorities and management of coral reef ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act specifically strengthens the federal response to coral reef *emergencies* including disease, bleaching, natural disasters, and hazardous spills; and

**WHEREAS**, support for S. 46 and H.R. 160 is consistent with Monroe County's long history of championing protections for Florida's coral reef ecosystems; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1.** Monroe County urges Congress to pass S. 46 and H.R. 160, the Restoring Resilient Reef Act, reauthorizing the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and strengthening the federal response to coral reef ecosystem protection, conservation and sustainability; and

**Section 2.** Direct the Clerk to transmit copies of this resolution to:

Senator Maria Cantwell, Chair  
Commerce, Science, & Transportation Committee  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Marco Rubio  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Rick Scott  
502 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Carlos Gimenez  
419 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

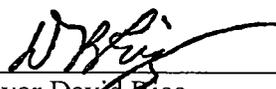
**Section 3.** This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, at a regular meeting held on the 20th day of April, 2022.

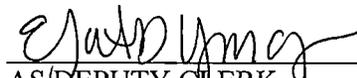
Mayor David Rice	<u>Yes</u>
Mayor Pro Tem Craig Cates	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Michelle Coldiron	<u>Yes</u>
District III Commissioner	<u>vacant</u>
Commissioner Holly Raschein	<u>Yes</u>



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY   
Mayor David Rice

ATTEST: KEVIN MADOK, CLERK

  
AS DEPUTY CLERK

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency  
Robert B. Shillinger, Monroe County Attorney

Robert B.  
Shillinger

Digitally signed by Robert B. Shillinger  
DN: cn=Robert B. Shillinger, o=B.O.C.C.  
of Monroe County, FL, ou=County  
Attorney, email=shillinger-  
bob@monroecounty-fl.gov, c=US  
Date: 2022.04.01 17:28:09 -04'00'

FILED FOR RECORD

2022 MAY -2 AM 10:14

CLERK CIR. CT.  
MONROE COUNTY, FL



**Kevin Madok, CPA**

Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller – Monroe County, Florida

May 4, 2022

Honorable Senator Maria Cantwell  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington DC 20510

Honorable Senator Cantwell,

Attached is a certified copy of Resolution No. 133-2022 urging Congress to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000; Supporting S. 46 and H.R. 160, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act to strengthen the federal response to the protection, conservation and sustainability of coral reef ecosystems; and providing an effective date.

This Resolution was adopted by the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners at a regular meeting, held in formal session, on April 20, 2022. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (305) 292-3550.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Madok, CPA, Clerk of the  
Circuit Court and ex-officio to the  
Monroe County Board of County  
Commissioners

*By: Liz Yongue, Deputy Clerk*

cc: File

---

KEY WEST  
500 Whitehead Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
305-294-4641

MARATHON  
3117 Overseas Highway  
Marathon, Florida 33050  
305-289-6027

PLANTATION KEY  
88820 Overseas Highway  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145

PK/ROTH BUILDING  
50 High Point Road  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145



**Kevin Madok, CPA**

Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller – Monroe County, Florida

May 4, 2022

Honorable Representative Carlos Gimenez  
419 Cannon House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20510

Honorable Representative Gimenez,

Attached is a certified copy of Resolution No. 133-2022 urging Congress to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000; Supporting S. 46 and H.R. 160, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act to strengthen the federal response to the protection, conservation and sustainability of coral reef ecosystems; and providing an effective date.

This Resolution was adopted by the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners at a regular meeting, held in formal session, on April 20, 2022. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (305) 292-3550.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Madok, CPA, Clerk of the  
Circuit Court and ex-officio to the  
Monroe County Board of County  
Commissioners

*By: Liz Yongue, Deputy Clerk*

cc: File

---

KEY WEST  
500 Whitehead Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
305-294-4641

MARATHON  
3117 Overseas Highway  
Marathon, Florida 33050  
305-289-6027

PLANTATION KEY  
88820 Overseas Highway  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145

PK/ROTH BUILDING  
50 High Point Road  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145



**Kevin Madok, CPA**

Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller – Monroe County, Florida

May 4, 2022

Honorable Senator Marco Rubio  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington DC 20510

Honorable Senator Rubio,

Attached is a certified copy of Resolution No. 133-2022 urging Congress to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000; Supporting S. 46 and H.R. 160, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act to strengthen the federal response to the protection, conservation and sustainability of coral reef ecosystems; and providing an effective date.

This Resolution was adopted by the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners at a regular meeting, held in formal session, on April 20, 2022. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (305) 292-3550.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Madok, CPA, Clerk of the  
Circuit Court and ex-officio to the  
Monroe County Board of County  
Commissioners

*By: Liz Yongue, Deputy Clerk*

cc: File

---

KEY WEST  
500 Whitehead Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
305-294-4641

MARATHON  
3117 Overseas Highway  
Marathon, Florida 33050  
305-289-6027

PLANTATION KEY  
88820 Overseas Highway  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145

PK/ROTH BUILDING  
50 High Point Road  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145



**Kevin Madok, CPA**

Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller – Monroe County, Florida

May 4, 2022

Honorable Senator Rick Scott  
502 Hart Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington DC 20510

Honorable Senator Scott,

Attached is a certified copy of Resolution No. 133-2022 urging Congress to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000; Supporting S. 46 and H.R. 160, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act to strengthen the federal response to the protection, conservation and sustainability of coral reef ecosystems; and providing an effective date.

This Resolution was adopted by the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners at a regular meeting, held in formal session, on April 20, 2022. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (305) 292-3550.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Madok, CPA, Clerk of the  
Circuit Court and ex-officio to the  
Monroe County Board of County  
Commissioners

*By: Liz Yongue, Deputy Clerk*

cc: File

---

KEY WEST  
500 Whitehead Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
305-294-4641

MARATHON  
3117 Overseas Highway  
Marathon, Florida 33050  
305-289-6027

PLANTATION KEY  
88820 Overseas Highway  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145

PK/ROTH BUILDING  
50 High Point Road  
Plantation Key, Florida 33070  
305-852-7145