



WATERREUSE®

1199 North Fairfax St, Suite 900 • Alexandria, VA 22314

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April 6, 2018

The Honorable Rick Scott
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

The WateReuse Association supports HB 1149, legislation that encourages water reuse and expands the use of purified water to replenish Florida's aquifers to meet Florida's future water supply needs. We urge you to sign this bill.

Water reuse is not new in Florida. Florida has been the leader in water reuse (use of reclaimed water) since the 1970's – recycling water and recharging aquifers for decades in a safe and proven manner to enhance environmental features, increase water supply, improve water quality, stop saltwater intrusion, and more. The water reuse and aquifer recharge provisions in this bill simply provide stronger legislative and regulatory frameworks for these efforts by delineating existing recycled water practices that may be considered an "impact offset," establishing criteria of how to apply these credits, and encouraging the use of recycled water for aquifer recharge as a state objective. These provisions are important in expanding the use of recycled water to support Florida's water resource needs.

Furthermore, recent press coverage of this legislation has consistently overlooked one simple and important fact – there is no new water. We have the same amount of water today that we had at the beginning of time. The difference today is that we have the technology to clean both "fresh water" and wastewater to make it safe for us to drink. Wherever the water comes from, the water that comes out of our tap is treated to meet stringent federal and state water quality standards for human health. The proposed legislation does nothing to change that. Drinking water will still be safe to drink.

The WateReuse Association applauds Florida's efforts in its historic leadership in reusing water and initiating its plan a safe and sustainable path to meet a portion of its future water supply using a water recycling approach. So we urge you to sign this legislation by the April 10 deadline. Using technology to accelerate water recycling is a proven method for providing a safe, reliable and locally-controlled supply of water that protects the

environment, supports economic growth, and provides a high quality of life in the Sunshine State. It is a common-sense solution for today's water challenges.

Sincerely,



Patricia Sinicropi
Executive Director
WateReuse Association

