

Florida Reps. Ask Sen. Nelson to Support Request for Further Study

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) and eight fellow Florida Republicans today wrote Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) urging him to support a request by Senator George LeMieux (R-FL) that would delay implementation of new EPA regulations on Florida’s water bodies.

“The EPA’s proposed rule only hits Florida, and it hits us hard. This proposal would cost Florida families and businesses billions of dollars,” Rooney said. “The average household would see their water bill nearly double to \$1400 annually. The billion dollar blow to industry would cost our state 14,500 jobs. How can we afford to punish Florida’s families, industry and farmers when unemployment is already above 11 percent?”

“The EPA needs to complete a full, independent review of this proposal and the science behind it, so we can make sure we know every cost and consequence before EPA moves forward.”

Senator LeMieux’s request, which is pending before the Senate today, would block funding for the implementation of the rule until at least December 3rd allowing more time for the agency to consider comments and input regarding the proposal. The rule, which would set stringent new regulations for numeric nutrients in Florida’s water bodies, is scheduled to go into effect on October 15 unless Congress can force a delay.

View letter to Senator Nelson, signed by Reps. Rooney (FL-16), Adam Putnam (FL-12), Vern Buchanan (FL-13), Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18), Virginia Brown-Waite (FL-5), Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL-21), Gus Bilirakis (FL-9), Jeff Miller (FL-1), and John Mica (FL-7), here: