

**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515**

CORRINE BROWN
SQUAMINEE, FLORIDA

**PRESS RELEASE
THE HONORABLE CORRINE BROWN
THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

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BROWN SUPPORTS CONSERVATION BILL TO BENEFIT JACKSONVILLE

(Washington, DC) Congresswoman Corrine Brown, a cosponsor of H.R. 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act, spoke in support of this important bill today because of the enormous benefits it will bring to Florida. The bill calls for an increase in conservation funding and it will mean more than \$141 million a year for the state of Florida. This money will be used to protect and preserve environmentally sensitive lands as well as for conservation and recreation programs. This bill will fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund, coastal restoration and other conservation programs. These programs will help preserve places like the Timucuan preserve in Jacksonville. Brown made the following statement:

"This bill is an excellent example of bipartisanship, demonstrated in the agreement reached between the leadership of both parties, environmentalists, property owners and the Clinton Administration. Many of the funding initiatives in the bill, such as park acquisition and maintenance, and urban recreation, will have a great impact on the Third District of Florida.

Some of these are critical programs that have been severely underfunded for years -- especially the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This fund is extremely important to Florida's environment program and is critical for preserving places like the Timucuan Preserve in Jacksonville and the Everglades. More than 35 years ago, land conservation and acquisition was supposed to have a guaranteed funding mechanism, which this bill will provide. I know that there are critics out there, but this bill is necessary for places like Florida that have precious ecosystems that need to be preserved in a period of extreme