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CONGRESSWOMAN BROWN FIGHTS TO KEEP FULLER WARREN DEBRIS OUT OF ST. JOHNS RIVER

(Washington, DC) Tomorrow, at 9:30 a.m. at the Baptist Towers of Jacksonville, Inc., in Jacksonville, Florida, Congresswoman Corrine Brown, along with representatives from St. Johns Riverkeeper, will host a press conference to denounce their extreme disapproval of The Florida Department of Transportation's plan to tear down the remaining section of The Fuller Warren Bridge and deposit its debris into The St. Johns River. "To me, this idea is simply preposterous, and shows not only a complete lack of respect for the environment, but for the St. Johns River, and the City of Jacksonville. I am simply appalled at the fact that this is even being considered as an option. In fact, it was only just over two years ago when demolition had to be halted because the state's contractor was caught dumping tons of concrete rubble from the old bridge into the St. Johns River without a permit! Now, I see that the state is at it again, with the Florida DOT arguing that disposing of the debris in deeper parts of the St. Johns River "poses no danger to the environment or to navigation." As the Member of Congress who fought for years to get the St. Johns designated as one of only 14 American Heritage Rivers, I will not stand by and allow this to happen. Moreover, I worked extraordinarily hard to secure \$86 million in funding for the new Fuller Warren Bridge, and certainly did not expect the Florida DOT to turn around and dump the remnants of the old bridge into the river!" said Congresswoman Brown.

DATE: July 1st, 2004