

RESOLUTION NO. 97-199

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO GIVE ITS HIGHEST PRIORITY TO FULLY FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTING THE SWIM ACT OF 1987 IN ORDER TO IMPROVE AND PROTECT THE ST. JOHNS RIVER AND OTHER SURFACE WATERS AND ASSOCIATED NATURAL RESOURCES IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY AND THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Act, Section 373.451, F.S. was passed by the Florida Legislature in 1987; and

WHEREAS, the 1987 Florida Legislature found that "the water quality of many of the surface waters of the state have become degraded, or is in danger of being degraded, and that the natural systems associated with many surface waters have been altered." and

WHEREAS, the Lower St. Johns River Basin was specifically listed in the SWIM Act as a priority waterbody; and

WHEREAS, water quality within the Lower St. Johns River, along with its associated natural systems, continues to be degraded due to growth and development factors; and

WHEREAS, the St. Johns River Water Management District has been conducting the Lower St. Johns River SWIM program as directed by the SWIM Act; and

WHEREAS, state funding for the SWIM program has declined while the St. Johns River continues to require adequate funds to preserve and improve the quality and health its water; and

WHEREAS, the St. Johns County Commission recognizes the intrinsic value of the St. Johns River to the community in respect to the natural and economic functions it supports; and

WHEREAS, the St. Johns County Commission has supported and funded programs to promote and improve the health of the river.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, that it requests the 1998 Florida Legislature to establish strong budgetary support for the SWIM Act so that local governments, the Water Management District, and the State can develop effective partnerships and programs which will insure the long-term health of the St. Johns River.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 23 day of December, 1997, by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Moses A. Floyd  
Chairman

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: Donna Racetti  
Deputy Clerk