

February 1, 2012



# City of Sanibel

800 Dunlop Road  
Sanibel, Florida 33957-4096

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AREA CODE - 239

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| CITY COUNCIL         | 472-4135 |
| ADMINISTRATIVE       | 472-3700 |
| BUILDING             | 472-4555 |
| EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT | 472-3111 |
| FINANCE              | 472-9615 |
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Dear Fellow Elected Official,

I am seeking your assistance in defeating legislation currently pending before the Florida State Legislatures which, if adopted, will have a tremendous negative impact on the economy and environment of our common Coast. Senate Bill 604, currently pending before the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee, eliminates our local authority to regulate the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus that enter our local waterways through the "run-off" of extensive over-fertilization of properties. If Senate Bill 604 is adopted reasonable regulations to control application of nitrogen and phosphorus adopted by local communities will be decimated.

In regards to the broader issue of preemption of local Home Rule by our State legislators, if adopted, Senate Bill 604 will take away our local authority at the very time we have been mandated to control storm water runoff, address septic tank pollution and address water quality issues in general. At the time cities and counties are beginning to be held to increasing responsibility for water quality standards is not the time to dilute local Home Rule authority. The most cost effective way to prevent degradation of our waterways is through prevention not remediation.

One of the seven members of the Committee represents Sarasota County. From one elected official to another, I request that you join our efforts to protect our waterways and contact the Pinellas County Senators below to share your opposition to Senate Bill 604. The vote is scheduled for Monday afternoon, February 6<sup>th</sup>, thus **speed is of the essence**.

**Senator Nancy Detert**

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Sincerely yours,

Kevin R. Ruane  
Mayor