April 28, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Coastal Subsurface Water Table and Saltwater Intrusion Monitoring Systems in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this is Florida International University, located at 11200 Southwest 8th Street, Miami, FL 33199.

The funding would be used to establish a new pilot coastal subsurface monitoring systems in cities vulnerable to evolving near-shore subsurface water and saltwater risks to infrastructure. These would establish current conditions, document change as sea levels rise, and provide early warning of changing subsurface conditions that permit coastal managers, utilities, municipalities, and building officials to plan, adapt, and avoid potentially catastrophic infrastructure failures. Existing water monitoring systems (USGS) are designed to provide early warning protection for drinking water well fields and do not provide information at the needed locations or scales on water and saltwater conditions beneath often highly developed barrier island and coastal bay shore areas.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress