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CONTACT

Beth Lerner
Office of Representative Christine Hunschofsky
Beth.Lerner@myfloridahouse.gov
(850) 717-5096

Florida House Passes Bill to Rename Reef Conservation Area in Memory of Environmental Champion Late Representative Kristin Jacobs

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, the Florida House unanimously passed [House Bill 217](#) to rename the Southeast Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation area after the late State Representative Kristin Jacobs, a nationally recognized champion and tireless advocate for protecting Florida’s environmental assets who lost a battle with cancer last April. Jacobs was a former Broward County Commissioner, two-time Broward County Mayor and three-term Representative for District 96.

Carrying this bill in the House is her District 96 successor, **Representative Christine Hunschofsky (D-Parkland)**. “It is my privilege to carry this bill in the Florida House to honor my friend Kristin,” stated **Representative Hunschofsky**. “Her name will forever be seen off the coast of Martin, Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade Counties from the St. Lucie Inlet to Biscayne National Park. This will be a beautiful memorial to a very special Broward County champion. As the bill has gone through the committee process, expressions from both sides of the aisle have been truly heartwarming. The bill is a fitting tribute to honor her legacy as an advocate for Florida’s environmental assets.”

House Bill 217 now goes to the Senate for a vote where **Senator Lauren Book (D-Plantation)** has sponsored the companion bill.

About Kristin Jacobs:

Kristin Jacobs was a member of the Florida House of Representatives who built a career centered on climate and resiliency policy. Her journey began as president of her neighborhood Homeowner’s Association, and she quickly evolved to become Broward County Commissioner, Mayor of Broward County and was twice chosen by the President of the United States to serve on national task forces dealing with climate resiliency and protecting our oceans.

As a public servant, Kristin demonstrated a keen ability to pull people with differing points of view together and to find common ground even on hot button issues pertaining to climate change, adaption and mitigation. Her collaborative approach has led to landmark initiatives, many of which have been heralded as national models.

Her eagerness to take on daunting challenges led her to be one of the original signers and champions of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact which President Obama called the national and international model of bipartisan collaboration.

