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April 30, 2015

Honorable Lee Zeldin  
United States House of Representatives  
306 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: HR 1732

Dear Congressman Zeldin:

The Long Island Builders Institute, the largest residential home building trade association in the State of New York, wishes to express its strong support for HR 1732, introduced by Congressman Schuster, which would require the Environmental Protection Agency to withdraw their current proposed regulation with regard to wetland protection and to require a new analysis of the subject matter.

There is no business group in the State of New York which encourages environmental protection more than the Long Island Builders Institute. Our work to protect our groundwater and drinking water on Long Island is well known throughout the region, especially as it relates to our support for the Pine Barrens Law, new funding for septic system advancements and other land use regulations. However, the currently proposed regulation by EPA relating to the definition of wetlands and its negative impact upon landowners and development cannot be understated. The need for thousands of landowners to procure federal permits because of non-natural wet areas and other activities goes far beyond reasonable environmental protection. Congress cannot stand by and let such regulatory actions impose unreasonable restrictions upon land use activities; it must take action to begin the process again, a process which must include all of the stakeholders involved in these issues.

The need for reasonable environmental protection can be defended, however, once such protection becomes unreasonable it is time for action. Congress must take action now and we urge you to vote for HR 1732 and require the process to begin again. All of Long Island will benefit.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Mitchell H. Pally  
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Long Island Congressional Delegation

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**MITCHELL H. PALLY**  
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