

December 11, 2017

Dear Members of the Constitution Revision Commission, Judicial Committee:

As leaders representing Florida's business community, we collectively sign this letter in opposition of CRC Proposal 23, a proposed constitutional amendment currently being considered by the 2017-18 Constitution Revision Commission, because of the significant negative impact it would have on Florida's businesses, big and small.

CRC Proposal 23 would provide any person, not just Floridians, the ability to litigate "against any party, public or private" if they feel their right to a "clean and healthful" environment is threatened.

By granting this broad right to challenge any government entity, business or private citizen—even if they are in full compliance with existing laws or valid permits—CRC Proposal 23 would allow delay or defeat of currently legal activities in our state.

This amendment circumvents existing avenues to address concerns over air and water quality and instead encourages frivolous lawsuits, which would inevitably drive up business costs and threaten future economic development in Florida.

Numerous Florida laws and regulations already exist to protect our citizens and their right to clean air and water. CRC Proposal 23 is unnecessary and would do nothing more than create prolonged and harmful uncertainty for Florida businesses.

For these reasons and more, we join together in opposition of CRC Proposal 23 and urge its defeat.

Sincerely,

Associated Builders & Contractors of Florida

Associated Gas Distributors of Florida

Associated Industries of Florida

Association of Florida Community Developers

Florida Beverage Association

Florida Cattlemen Association

Florida Citrus Mutual

Florida Farm Bureau

Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Association

Florida Forestry Association

Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association

Florida Homebuilders Association

Florida Insurance Council

Florida Natural Gas Association

Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA)

Florida Petroleum Council

Florida Ports Council

Florida Propane Gas Association

Florida Pulp and Paper Association

Florida Realtors

Florida Retail Federation

Florida Roofing & Sheet Metal Contractors Association

Florida Transportation Builders Association

Florida Trucking Association

Florida United Businesses Association (FUBA)

Manufacturers Association of Florida

National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

Southeast Milk, Inc.