



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Member Day Hearing
Statement for the Record
November 1, 2023

H.R.2855 - Sinkhole Mapping Act of 2023 directs the United States Geological Survey to study the short and long-term mechanisms that trigger sinkholes, including extreme storm events, prolonged droughts leading to shifts in water management practices, as well as ongoing aquifer depletion, and other major changes in water use. I was proud to have it heard by the House Committee on Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources this past Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

This bipartisan bill aims to better inform constituents of where sinkholes are located or could form, and thus directs the Director of the USGS to establish and maintain a public website to display maps that depict zones at greater risk of sinkhole formation and other relevant information. This is critical for use by community planners and emergency managers to better understand their local landscape.

The legislation is co-led by Congressman Bilirakis and is cosponsored by Representatives Costa (CA-21), Luna (FL-13), Grijalva (AZ-7), Moskowitz (FL-23), Frost (FL-10), Wilson (FL-24), Castor (FL-14), Fitzpatrick (PA-1), Harder (CA-9).

H.R. 3119 - The Save the Manatees Stamp Act would direct the US Postal Service to create a manatee stamp which would not only honor the beauty and uniqueness of these incredible creatures but also serve as a significant means of generating funds to support manatee conservation initiatives. As with previous semi postal stamps, proceeds from the sales of this stamp would be directed toward vital conservation projects, research, and public education programs aimed at safeguarding the manatee population and their habitats.

This bipartisan bill is co-led by Resident Commissioner González-Colón (PR-At Large) and cosponsored by Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz (FL-25).

H.Res. 779 recognizes the importance of the National Park Service in preserving the legacy of LGBTQI+ people and honoring their contributions to American history through the preservation of historic places and landmarks. It honors several notable LGBTQI+ historical figures and encourages the National Park Service to increase the number of LGBTQI+ sites, preservation grants, and research.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation.