Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2020

The Honorable Ron DeSantis Office of Governor Ron DeSantis State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

The Honorable Nicole "Nikki" Fried Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Plaza Level 10, The Capitol 400 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0800 The Honorable Ashley Moody Office of the Attorney General State of Florida PL-01 The Capitol Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

The Honorable Jimmy Patronis Office of the Chief Financial Officer Plaza Level 11, The Capitol Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Chief Justice Charles T. Canady Florida Supreme Court 500 South Duval Street, Tallahassee FL 32399-1925.

Dear Florida Cabinet Members and Chief Justice Charles Canady,

We write to express our sentiments that the Florida Cabinet in cooperation with the Florida Courts should temporarily suspend all eviction and foreclosure proceedings in the State of Florida for 60 days during the national emergency of the coronavirus pandemic. We believe this moratorium also apply to Florida residents living in hotels and motels throughout the state.

During this unprecedented public health and economic crisis, many Floridians are furloughed, underemployed or unemployed and unable to pay their rent, mortgage or hotel / motel charges. If they are forced to vacate their homes, it will only exacerbate this health crisis by contributing to the spread of the coronavirus. This will also put an additional strain on our state resources at a time when they are already stretched dangerously thin.

On March 18, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development authorized the Federal Housing Administration to put an immediate moratorium on foreclosures and evictions for the next 60 days for homeowners who are unable to pay their FHA-backed mortgages as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Issuing a similar decision for the State of Florida will allow homeowners and renters the stability they need to care for themselves and their families, stop the spread of coronavirus, and save precious state resources. We appreciate your full and fair consideration of our letter and your attention to this important matter.

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

Sincerely,

Darren Soto

Member of Congress

Kathy Castor

Kathy Castor Member of Congress

/s/ Val Demings Member of Congress

Lois Frankel Member of Congress

Al Lawson, Jr. Member of Congress

Stephanie Murphy Member of Congress

Frederica Wilson Member of Congress

Ted S. Yoho Member of Congress Matt Gaetz

Member of Congress

Charlie Crist

Member of Congress

Ted Deutch

Member of Congress

Alcee L. Hastings Member of Congress

Debbie Mucarsel-Powell Member of Congress

Donna E. Shalala

Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman-Schultz

Member of Congress