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NEW POLL: Floridians Support Electric Vehicles and Fully Resourced Chief Resilience Office

(St. Petersburg – March 11, 2020) - Today, EDF released results of a Mason Dixon poll offering insights into climate related priorities for the Florida legislature. The poll showed [strong] support for Senate Bill 514/House Bill 315 by Sen. Rodriguez and Rep. LaMarca which establishes the Statewide Office of Resiliency, a sea level rise task force and full time Chief Resilience Officer and Senate Bill 138/House Bill 817 by Sen. Brandes and Rep. Toledo which establishes a grant program on to enhance electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure.

“There is overwhelming support on both sides of the aisle for immediate action on climate change,” said Dawn Shirreffs, EDF’s Florida Director. “Floridians want to protect our state’s economy from climate change impacts and reduce the pollution causing it.”

The survey, taken at the start of Florida’s legislative session interviewed 625 registered Florida voters by phone. Among the key takeaways from the survey:

- An overwhelming majority (62%) want to see Florida take immediate steps on climate change to protect homeowners, the economy and job market. While those numbers are highest in most densely populated areas like Miami, Tampa Bay and SW Florida immediate action also received majority support in N. Florida and among voters over 50.
- 67% of Floridians agree the State of Florida should create and designate a full-time independent Chief Resiliency Officer to work with communities to combat coastal flooding and bring more federal funding to solve these issues.
- 43% of Floridians surveyed intend to buy an electric vehicle. This projected demand indicates that Florida, already behind on EV readiness, must invest in charging infrastructure to meet consumer demand and ensure our evacuation routes are not flanked with stranded electric vehicles. Moreover, Floridians are willing to pay their fair share to support this infrastructure (53%).

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