



**SENATOR BOB GRAHAM RECEIVES
1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA'S BILL SADOWSKI AWARD**

1000 Friends of Florida board member emeritus and former Board Chairman Lester Abberger presented Senator Bob Graham with the organization's prestigious Bill Sadowski Award at a reception held in Tallahassee on September 27, 2013. Senator Graham was recognized "for his leadership, vision, and on-going commitment to conservation and sound planning in Florida."

"Senator Graham is unparalleled in his contributions to the protection of Florida's environment," notes 1000 Friends of Florida President Charles Pattison. "Throughout his career, he has always recognized that our state's economy, drinking water and quality of life all are contingent upon a healthy, protected natural environment."

Senator Graham has had an illustrious career, starting as a Florida Representative and then Senator in 1966, Governor from 1979 to 1987, and US Senator from 1987 to 2005. Among his innumerable environmental accomplishments as Governor, he was instrumental in the development and passage of Florida's landmark 1985 Growth Management Act, brought under state ownership thousands of acres of threatened natural lands, and founded the Save the Everglades program which cemented the state and federal commitment to restore the iconic Everglades. As US Senator, his commitment to the environment remained unwavering through continued leadership on Everglades restoration and service as Chairperson of the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling.

He continues as a leading force on environmental and planning issues in Florida, educating new generations of civic leaders at the Bob Graham Center at the University of Florida and, along with 1000 Friends of Florida Chairman Emeritus Nathaniel Reed and Seminole County Commissioner and former State Representative and Senator Lee Constantine, chairing the Florida Conservation Coalition.

The Bill Sadowski award is presented to public servants at the regional level whose work exemplifies the high level of commitment to growth management and philosophy of negotiation for which the former Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs was known. 1000 Friends of Florida is also presenting four other awards over the course of 2013. A statewide nonprofit organization, 1000 Friends was founded in 1986 to serve as Florida's growth management watchdog. It has been presenting awards for innovative growth management efforts since 1990. For more information on 1000 Friends, visit www.1000friendsofflorida.org.

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