

Support for S. 373 and H.R. 2811

The editorial boards of Florida's largest newspapers have expressed support for Senate Bill 373 and House Resolution 2811.

- St. Petersburg Times (February 4, 2010): "These predatory reptiles should not be sold like puppies, and they are overrunning the Everglades. Last summer a hungry, poorly secured pet python killed a 2-year-old Sumter County girl. Banning their import and interstate sale is the only reasonable response."
- Gainesville Sun (December 12, 2009): "[this week] the U.S. Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee gave preliminary approval to a bill that would ban the interstate sale of nine dangerous snake species, including the Burmese python, anaconda and boa constrictor. The bill will next go before the full Senate for a vote.... These exotic reptile species threatens native Florida wildlife and even human safety. Quick action is needed."
- Palm Beach Post (December 2, 2009): "However many exotic snakes inhabit the Everglades, they're not good for the Everglades. Today, a U.S. Senate panel hears a bill designed to keep those snakes out of Florida.... Florida will debate how to eradicate the pythons we have. Washington can help by keeping more big snakes of all kinds out of Florida."
- Miami Herald (November 10, 2009): "Congress should halt importation of exotic predators."
- Sarasota Herald-Tribune (August 10): "A ban on importing pythons, as proposed in federal legislation, is warranted.... The wisdom of allowing the importation of any exotic, constrictor snake escapes us, but, whatever the case, it's vital for Congress to enact new limits on the most dangerous and prolific species."
- Tallahassee Democrat (August 7): "Maybe some pet owners love them, herpetologists respect them, and hunters get a charge out of trapping them. But for the run-of-the-mill Floridian, including us, a ban on bringing them into the country would be one of the smartest things Congress has done in a while."
- St. Petersburg Times (July 20): "Only greater state and federal regulation of the animals — from banning their import and interstate sale to potentially outlawing pythons as pets — will address the threats the Burmese python poses to Florida's environment and people. Congress needs to embrace a bill offered by two Florida Democrats, Sen. Bill Nelson (S 373) and Rep. Kendrick Meek of Miami (HR 2811), to restrict the import and interstate sale of the South Asian species."
- Sun Sentinel (July 17): "The big reward, however, would be if the renewed attention on exotic snakes in the wild prompts better regulatory efforts to control their import in the first place."
- Pensacola News Journal (July 15): "Since the girl's death, Sen. Nelson and Rep. Kendrick Meek, D-Miami, both have introduced companion bills to classify pythons as 'injurious animals.' To protect the public and the environment, the bills demand swift action from Congress."

- Lakeland Ledger (July 15): “In the interest of both public safety and environmental integrity, quick federal and state action is needed to ban the importation, sale and private ownership of these ‘pets.’”
- Bradenton Herald (July 14): “Congress should pass Nelson’s bill. Burmese pythons should be removed from pet store inventories and banned from importation — to protect the environment and public safety.”
- Fort Myers News-Press (July 10): “A congressional proposal to ban the import of snakes is long overdue.”
- Miami Herald (July 10): “Mr. Nelson is right: The pythons should be banned. They threaten not just other animals but also humans.”
- Orlando Sentinel (June 22): “Florida's congressional delegation in Washington needs to get behind a federal law that will get a grip on this growing problem.”