



EQUITY AND INCLUSION CAMPAIGN

Equity and Inclusion Campaign Supports RESTORE

The Equity and Inclusion Campaign (E&I) announces its support for the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act), recently introduced in the Senate.

“The coalition applauds Gulf Coast Senators for working together during this tough political climate to ensure fairness for our states,” says Adren Wilson, E&I National Director.

This essential legislation directs 80 percent of Clean Water Act fines paid by BP and other responsible parties from the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster directly to areas most severely impacted, rather than the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.

Wilson continues, “E&I is especially pleased this bipartisan group of Senators has worked so hard to craft legislation that will benefit impacted communities, economies, and the entire country.”

“However, members in all our states know we have our work cut out for us. While passage might be the first step, ensuring accountability and transparency for these funds will be on-going and long term. We need to work on the front-end to claim the jobs and healthy ecosystems essential to our Coast, rather than fighting for scraps on the back end after funds have already been spent down.”

E&I applauds the Gulf Coast delegation for taking the first step. E&I urges Congress to pass this bill as quickly as possible so that the work of restoring the Gulf can begin.

The RESTORE Act was introduced by Senators Landrieu (D-LA), Shelby (R-AL), Nelson (D-FL), Vitter (R-LA), Sessions (R-AL), Hutchison (R-TX), Rubio (R-FL), Wicker (R-MS), and Cochran (R-MS).