

The Honorable David B. Struhs  
Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

David B. Struhs was appointed Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by Governor Jeb Bush in January 1999 and confirmed by the Florida Senate in March. In this capacity, Mr. Struhs oversees Florida's environmental regulatory and law enforcement programs, the acquisition and management of public lands, including an extensive system of state parks, and the development and regulation of Florida's water resources through the state's water management districts.

Prior to being appointed Secretary in Florida, Mr. Struhs served as Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection in Massachusetts under Governor William Weld and Paul Cellucci. As Commissioner, he worked with environmental advocates and business interests to permanently eliminate thousands of state environmental permits and replace them with self-certifications. This closely watched Environmental Results Program provided new flexibility to business, improved overall compliance, and substantially reduced pollution. The program was cited as a model for reforming federal environmental regulations and was recognized as one of the best innovations in state government by the conservative Pioneer Institute.

From 1993 to 1995, Mr. Struhs was Vice President of The Canyon Group, Inc. a consulting firm to the gas and electric utility industry. As part of his practice, Mr. Struhs worked with his clients in developing some of the first projects to use market-oriented strategies for managing greenhouse gas emissions.

In the Administration of President George Bush, Mr. Struhs was Chief of Staff to the President's Council on Environmental Quality. Prior to that, he was on the senior staff at the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's New England Regional Office in Boston.

Upon his arrival in Florida, Secretary Struhs became chief strategist and advocate for the passage of Governor Jeb Bush's "Florida Forever" plan -- the largest conservation land program in the world. Florida's Republican-led Legislature passed this \$3-billion program with but one dissenting vote.

As Florida's Environmental Secretary, Mr. Struhs successfully negotiated the first Enforcement Order in the country that required a major electric utility to abandon its "grandfathering" claims under the federal Clean Air Act. The Tampa Electric Company is now brining all of its old power plants up to modern emission standards, delivering a 90-percent reduction in air pollution. This is the largest cut in pollution by a single company in Florida history.

Secretary Struhs has also gained national recognition for Florida's Department of Environmental Protection by successfully arguing that the "reasonable assurance" test widely used by environmental regulators as the standard for issuing permits should

consider the applicant's record of environmental performance. This common sense consideration represents a significant advancement in executing environmental laws.

At Governor Jeb Bush's request, Mr. Struhs leads Florida's effort to restore America's Everglades, widely regarded as the most ambitious environmental restoration project ever undertaken. Secretary Struhs successfully advanced through the Florida Legislature Governor Bush's plan to fully fund Florida's half of the massive restoration project, including an up-front commitment of \$2 billion from the state in an effort to spur similar commitment from the federal government.

Secretary Struhs takes special pride and finds personal pleasure in the 150 parks operated by the Department of Environmental Protection. Florida's State Parks currently hold the National Park and Recreation Association's Gold Medal, having been voted the best state parks system in America.

In his first year in Florida, the Florida Junior Chamber of Commerce named Mr. Struhs "Outstanding Young Environmentalist".

Mr. Struhs holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. He was a Fulbright Fellow to the Weekly Review and the University of Nairobi, Kenya in 1985. He graduated from Indiana University in 1982 with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and Political Science. He is married and has four children.