

INTERNATIONAL NATURIST FEDERATION FEDERATION NATURISTE INTERNATIONALE INTERNATIONALE NATURISTEN-FÖDERATION

Head office: St. Hubertusstraat, 3, B-2600 Antwerpen, Belgium. Office hours: 9.00 - 15.00,

Tel.: +32 3; 230 05 72 Fax: +32 3; 230 05 72

24 August, 2002

TO:

Florida Elected Officials
Florida Public Administrators
Florida Tourist & Economic Development Authorities
Florida Lodging and Hospitality Industry Executives
Florida Convention & Visitor Bureau Executive and Members

Subject: A Request for a Tourist Friendly State of Florida

This communication brings you greetings from the officers and delegates of the International Naturist Federation (INF) assembled in our **28th Biennial Congress** at Cypress Cove Nudist Resort in Kissimmee, Florida.

The INF represents the naturist/nudist associations of <u>35</u> nations stretching from Australia and New Zealand throughout Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, and from Brazil to Canada. We include in our federations the American Association for Nude Recreation and its state affiliate, the Florida Association for Nude Recreation, both headquartered in Kissimmee.

There are more than <u>33,000,000</u> naturists/nudists worldwide. We practice social naturist activities and look for these opportunities where we vacation. We are young couples and families with children and senior citizens. And, most importantly, our members spend billions of dollars annually in their vacation travels to the hundreds of clothing optional beaches and nude recreation facility destinations of Europe and the Caribbean Islands.

In light of the devastating effect of September 11 on your tourist economy, we are well aware of the efforts of elected officials and tourism and hospitality industry leaders to increase the number of overseas and domestic tourists who will be attracted to visit the beautiful State of Florida. Therefore, with the exception of Miami-Dade and Pasco counties, we continue to be surprised and dismayed at Florida's continued hostility towards what we know to be a healthy, wholesome and family-oriented form of recreation.



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This official hostility at state, county, and municipal levels continues to result in regulations and law enforcement practices, which limit Florida's desirability as a naturist tourism destination for our members and this substantial recreation market segment. Yet, we are made to feel welcome in other countries of the world, including Cuba.

We respectfully ask of you as elected officials and industry leaders, the following:

- 1. That you encourage the members of your legislative, councils and industry associations to become better informed about the positive values inherent in naturist/nudist recreation, and;
- 2. That you undertake, through the good offices of Florida's tourist, economic development and convention & visitor bureaus, a study of the potential dollar value and economic impact – as yet unrealized – of naturist /nudist tourist market. You now have Miami-Date County's Haulover Beach Park's officially designated clothing optional naturist family beach as a prime model since 1992. Florida also has a number of large combined resort/residential communities to study that are quite successful, and;
- 3. That you, the elected officials, public servants, hospitality industry executives help us, the members of the worldwide INF community, to make Florida our vacation destination - through the establishment of safe, officially sanctioned designated clothing optional recreational areas on public lands and opportunities in private facilities.

Many of our members are retiring and considering warm climates for their retirement home. Florida is one of the areas that they are looking at. If you will provide a positive political and legal climate to foster safe naturist recreational choices and lifestyle needs, we will provide our supportive resources to grow Florida's economic health through increased tourism and its numerous benefits.

With warm personal regards for the continued success of Florida as a tourist and retirement home destination, we are:

The Officers and Delegates of the 28th Biennial Congress, International Naturist Federation (INF) at Cypress Cove Resort, Kissimmee, Florida.



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Landolt John o	regal l'arm	witzerland Modherland
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