By Senator Detert

28-00365-13 20131470

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to state lands; amending s. 253.03, F.S.; requiring rules adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund relating to certain uses of sovereignty submerged lands to address specific issues; providing that a facility that does not comply with the rules is not eligible for a surcharge waiver; amending s. 253.0345, F.S.; allowing trustees to issue consents of use or leases to special event promoters or boat show owners; providing that certain consents of use or leases may be issued for events to be held over 10 consecutive years; providing for the adoption of rules; amending s. 403.814, F.S.; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to issue general permits for certain special events; providing requirements for such permits; requiring an annual survey to ensure that lease boundaries have not been violated; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Present subsections (9) through (16) of section 253.03, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (10) through (17), respectively, and a new subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:

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253.03 Board of trustees to administer state lands; lands enumerated.—

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(9) Rules adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund relating to the uses of sovereignty

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submerged lands, except as provided in s. 253.51, ss. 253.67-253.75, and s. 311.09(1), must provide, at a minimum, that:

- (a) The annual lease fee for standard term leases is 6 percent of the annual gross dockage income for marinas with 90 percent or more slips open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. When calculating gross dockage income the department may not include pass-through fees, such as fees for utility services.
- (b) A discount of 30 percent applies to the annual lease fee for all marinas with at least 90 percent of the slips available for rent to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. To receive the discount, dockage rate sheet publications and dockage advertising for the marina must clearly state that slips are open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.
- (c) A discount of 10 percent applies to the annual lease fee for any facility that is designated by the department as a "Clean Marina," "Clean Boatyard," or "Clean Marine Retailer" in the Clean Marina Program and that:
 - 1. Actively maintains that designation;
 - 2. Remains in good standing in the program;
 - 3. Remains in compliance with the terms of its lease; and
 - 4. Does not change its use during the term of the lease.

A facility that does not comply with the conditions of the program or that is in arrears on its lease fees is not eligible for the discount for the next annual billing period.

(d) Extended-term lease surcharges are waived for any facility that is designated by the department as a "Clean

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Marina," "Clean Boatyard," or "Clean Marine Retailer" in the
Clean Marina Program and that:

- 1. Actively maintains that designation;
- 2. Is available to the public on a first-come, first-served basis;
 - 3. Remains in good standing in program;
 - 4. Remains in compliance with all terms of its lease; and
 - 5. Does not change its use during the term of the lease.

A facility that does not comply with such conditions is not eligible for the surcharge waiver for the next billing period.

(e) The rules apply to any water-dependent facility operated on state-owned submerged land that keeps open to the general public at least 90 percent of slips that are over the state-owned submerged land. The slips must be open to the general public without qualifying requirements, such as club membership, stock ownership, or equity interest, and have a rental term that does not exceed 1 year, with no automatic renewal rights or conditions. For purposes of this section, all other leases are considered private.

Section 2. Section 253.0345, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.0345 Special events; submerged land leases.-

(1) The trustees are authorized to issue consents of use or leases to riparian landowners, special and event promoters, or boat show owners to allow the installation of temporary structures, including docks, moorings, pilings and access walkways, on sovereign submerged lands solely for the purpose of facilitating boat shows and displays in, or adjacent to,

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established marinas or government owned upland property. Riparian owners of adjacent uplands who are not seeking a lease or consent of use <u>must shall</u> be notified by certified mail of any request for such a lease or consent of use <u>before prior to</u> approval by the trustees. The trustees shall balance the interests of any objecting riparian owners with the economic interests of the public and the state as a factor in determining if a lease or consent of use should be executed over the objection of adjacent riparian owners. This section <u>does shall</u> not apply to structures for viewing motorboat racing, high-speed motorboat contests or high-speed displays in waters where manatees are known to frequent.

- (2) Any special event provided for in subsection (1) may shall be held for a period of up to not to exceed 30 days, but a consent of use or lease may be issued for events to be held over a period of 10 consecutive years. The lease or consent of use may also contain appropriate requirements for removal of the temporary structures, including the posting of sufficient surety to guarantee appropriate funds for removal of the structures should the promoter or riparian owner fail to do so within the time specified in the agreement.
- (3) Nothing in this section \underline{may} shall be construed to allow any lease or consent of use that would result in harm to the natural resources of the area as a result of the structures or the activities of the special events agreed to.
- (4) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund may adopt rules to administer this section, which include rules providing for an exemption from the annual fees for special events.

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Section 3. Subsection (13) is added to section 403.814, Florida Statutes, to read:

403.814 General permits; delegation.-

(13) The department shall issue general permits for special events as defined in s. 253.0345. The permits must be for a period that runs concurrently with the consent of use or lease issued pursuant to that section. No more than two seagrass studies may be required by a general permit, one conducted before issuance of the permit and the other conducted at the time the permit expires. General permits must also allow for the movement of temporary structures within the footprint of the lease area. A survey of the lease or consent area is required at the time of application for a 10-year standard lease or consent of use and general permit. An area of up to 25 percent of a previous lease or consent of use area must be issued as part of the general permit, lease, or consent of use to allow for economic expansion of the special event during the 10-year term. An annual survey of the distances of all structures from the boundaries of the lease or consent of use area must be conducted to ensure that the lease boundaries have not been violated.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.