By the Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; and Senator Calatayud

601-03260-24 20241386c1 1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Department of Environmental 3 Protection; amending s. 253.04, F.S.; revising the 4 aquatic preserves within which a person may not 5 operate a vessel outside a lawfully marked channel 6 under certain circumstances; amending s. 258.39, F.S.; 7 declaring the Kristin Jacobs Coral Reef Ecosystem 8 Conservation Area an aquatic preserve area; amending 9 s. 373.250, F.S.; requiring each water management 10 district, in coordination with the department, to 11 develop rules that promote the use of reclaimed water 12 and encourage quantifiable potable water offsets; 13 providing requirements for such rules; providing construction; amending s. 380.093, F.S.; defining the 14 15 term "Florida Flood Hub"; revising the definition of the term "preconstruction activities"; revising the 16 17 purposes for which counties and municipalities may use 18 Resilient Florida Grant Program funds; revising 19 vulnerability assessment requirements; revising 20 requirements for the development and maintenance of 21 the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and 22 sea level rise data set and assessment; requiring the 23 department to coordinate with the Chief Resilience 24 Officer and the Florida Flood Hub to update the data 25 set and assessment at specified intervals; revising 2.6 requirements for the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level 27 Rise Resilience Plan; revising the purposes of the 28 funding for regional resilience entities; making 29 technical changes; amending s. 381.0061, F.S.;

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30	revising the violations for which the department may
31	impose a specified fine; providing legislative intent
32	regarding a phased transfer of the Department of
33	Health's Onsite Sewage Program to the Department of
34	Environmental Protection; requiring the Department of
35	Environmental Protection to coordinate with the
36	Department of Health regarding the identification and
37	transfer of certain equipment and vehicles under
38	certain circumstances; prohibiting the Department of
39	Health from implementing or collecting fees for the
40	program when the Department of Environmental
41	Protection begins implementing the program; providing
42	exceptions; amending s. 381.0065, F.S.; requiring the
43	Department of Environmental Protection to conduct
44	enforcement activities for violations of certain
45	onsite sewage treatment and disposal system
46	regulations in accordance with specified provisions;
47	specifying the department's authority with respect to
48	specific provisions; requiring the department to adopt
49	rules for a program for general permits for certain
50	projects; providing requirements for such rules;
51	revising department enforcement provisions; deleting
52	certain criminal penalties; requiring the damages,
53	costs, or penalties collected to be deposited into the
54	Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund rather than the
55	relevant county health department trust fund;
56	requiring the department to establish an enhanced
57	nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal
58	system approval program; authorizing the department to

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59	contract with or delegate certain powers and duties to
60	a county; amending s. 381.0066, F.S.; requiring
61	certain fees to be deposited into the Florida Permit
62	Fee Trust Fund after a specified timeframe; amending
63	s. 403.061, F.S.; requiring counties to make certain
64	services and facilities available upon the direction
65	of the department; amending s. 403.064, F.S.; revising
66	legislative findings; revising the domestic wastewater
67	treatment facilities required to submit a reuse
68	feasibility study as part of a permit application;
69	revising the contents of a required reuse feasibility
70	study; revising the domestic wastewater facilities
71	required to implement reuse under certain
72	circumstances; revising applicability; revising
73	construction; amending s. 403.067, F.S.; requiring
74	certain facilities and systems to include a domestic
75	wastewater treatment plan as part of a basin
76	management action plan for nutrient total maximum
77	daily loads; amending s. 403.0673, F.S.; revising the
78	information to be included in the water quality
79	improvement grant program annual report; requiring the
80	department to include specified information on a user-
81	friendly website or dashboard by a specified date;
82	providing requirements for the website or dashboard;
83	amending s. 403.086, F.S.; requiring wastewater
84	treatment facilities within a basin management action
85	plan or reasonable assurance plan area which provide
86	reclaimed water for specified purposes to meet
87	advanced waste treatment or a more stringent treatment
•	

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88	standard under certain circumstances; providing
89	applicability; amending s. 403.091, F.S.; authorizing
90	certain department representatives to enter and
91	inspect premises on which an onsite sewage treatment
92	and disposal system is located or being constructed or
93	installed or where certain records are kept; revising
94	requirements for such access; revising the
95	circumstances under which an inspection warrant may be
96	issued; amending s. 403.121, F.S.; revising department
97	enforcement provisions; revising administrative
98	penalty calculations for failure to obtain certain
99	required permits and for certain violations; amending
100	ss. 403.9301 and 403.9302, F.S.; requiring the Office
101	of Economic and Demographic Research to provide a
102	publicly accessible data visualization tool on its
103	website for comparative analyses of key information;
104	amending s. 403.0671, F.S.; conforming provisions to
105	changes made by the act; reenacting s. $327.73(1)(x)$,
106	F.S., relating to noncriminal infractions, to
107	incorporate the amendment made to s. 253.04, F.S., in
108	a reference thereto; reenacting ss. 381.0072(4)(a) and
109	(6)(a), 381.0086(4), 381.0098(7), and 513.10(2), F.S.,
110	relating to food service protection, penalties,
111	biomedical waste, and operating without a permit,
112	respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s.
113	381.0061, F.S., in references thereto; providing an
114	effective date.
115	
116	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 117 118 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 253.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 119 120 253.04 Duty of board to protect, etc., state lands; state 121 may join in any action brought .-122 (3) (a) The duty to conserve and improve state-owned lands 123 and the products thereof includes shall include the preservation 124 and regeneration of seagrass, which is deemed essential to the 125 oceans, gulfs, estuaries, and shorelines of the state. A person 126 operating a vessel outside a lawfully marked channel in a 127 careless manner that causes seagrass scarring within an aquatic 128 preserve established in ss. 258.39-258.3991 ss. 258.39-258.399, 129 with the exception of the Lake Jackson, Oklawaha River, Wekiva 130 River, and Rainbow Springs aquatic preserves, commits a 131 noncriminal infraction, punishable as provided in s. 327.73. 132 Each violation is a separate offense. As used in this 133 subsection, the term: 134 1. "Seagrass" means Cuban shoal grass (Halodule wrightii), 135 turtle grass (Thalassia testudinum), manatee grass (Syringodium 136 filiforme), star grass (Halophila engelmannii), paddle grass 137 (Halophila decipiens), Johnson's seagrass (Halophila johnsonii),

139 2. "Seagrass scarring" means destruction of seagrass roots, 140 shoots, or stems that results in tracks on the substrate 141 commonly referred to as prop scars or propeller scars caused by 142 the operation of a motorized vessel in waters supporting 143 seagrasses.

Section 2. Subsection (33) is added to section 258.39, Florida Statutes, to read:

or widgeon grass (Ruppia maritima).

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146	258.39 Boundaries of preserves.—The submerged lands
147	included within the boundaries of Nassau, Duval, St. Johns,
148	Flagler, Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Charlotte,
149	Pinellas, Martin, Palm Beach, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Collier, Lee,
150	Citrus, Franklin, Gulf, Bay, Okaloosa, Marion, Santa Rosa,
151	Hernando, and Escambia Counties, as hereinafter described, with
152	the exception of privately held submerged lands lying landward
153	of established bulkheads and of privately held submerged lands
154	within Monroe County where the establishment of bulkhead lines
155	is not required, are hereby declared to be aquatic preserves.
156	Such aquatic preserve areas include:
157	(33) Kristin Jacobs Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area,
158	as designated by chapter 2021-107, Laws of Florida, the
159	boundaries of which consist of the sovereignty submerged lands
160	and waters of the state offshore of Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade,
161	and Palm Beach Counties from the St. Lucie Inlet to the northern
162	boundary of the Biscayne National Park.
163	
164	Any and all submerged lands theretofore conveyed by the Trustees
165	of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and any and all uplands
166	now in private ownership are specifically exempted from this
167	dedication.
168	Section 3. Subsection (9) is added to section 373.250,
169	Florida Statutes, to read:
170	373.250 Reuse of reclaimed water
171	(9) To promote the use of reclaimed water and encourage
172	quantifiable potable water offsets that produce significant
173	water savings beyond those required in a consumptive use permit,
174	each water management district, in coordination with the
I	

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175	department, shall develop rules by December 31, 2025, which
176	provide all of the following:
177	(a) If an applicant proposes a water supply development or
178	water resource development project using reclaimed water that
179	meets the advanced waste treatment standards for total nitrogen
180	and total phosphorous as defined in s. 403.086(4)(a), as part of
181	an application for consumptive use, the applicant is eligible
182	for a permit duration of up to 30 years if there is sufficient
183	data to provide reasonable assurance that the conditions for
184	permit issuance will be met for the duration of the permit.
185	Rules developed pursuant to this paragraph must include, at a
186	minimum:
187	1. A requirement that the permittee demonstrate how
188	quantifiable groundwater or surface water savings associated
189	with the new water supply development or water resource
190	development project either meets water demands beyond a 20-year
191	permit duration or is completed to benefit a waterbody with a
192	minimum flow or minimum water level with a recovery or
193	prevention strategy; and
194	2. Guidelines for a district to follow in determining the
195	permit duration based on the project's implementation.
196	
197	This paragraph does not limit the existing authority of a water
198	management district to issue a shorter duration permit to
199	protect from harm the water resources or ecology of the area, or
200	to otherwise ensure compliance with the conditions for permit
201	issuance.
202	(b) Authorization for a consumptive use permittee to seek a
203	permit extension of up to 10 years if the permittee proposes a

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204	water supply development or water resource development project
205	using reclaimed water that meets the advanced waste treatment
206	standards for total nitrogen and total phosphorous as defined in
207	s. 403.086(4)(a) during the term of its permit which results in
208	the reduction of groundwater or surface water withdrawals or is
209	completed to benefit a waterbody with a minimum flow or minimum
210	water level with a recovery or prevention strategy. Rules
211	associated with this paragraph must include, at a minimum:
212	1. A requirement that the permittee be in compliance with
213	the permittee's consumptive use permit;
214	2. A requirement that the permittee demonstrate how the
215	quantifiable groundwater or surface water savings associated
216	with the new water supply development or water resource
217	development project either meets water demands beyond the issued
218	permit duration or benefits a waterbody with a minimum flow or
219	minimum water level with a recovery or prevention strategy;
220	3. A requirement that the permittee demonstrate a water
221	demand for the permit's allocation through the term of the
222	extension; and
223	4. Guidelines for a district to follow in determining the
224	number of years extended, including a minimum year requirement,
225	based on the project implementation.
226	
227	This paragraph does not limit the existing authority of a water
228	management district to protect from harm the water resources or
229	ecology of the area, or to otherwise ensure compliance with the
230	conditions for permit issuance.
231	Section 4. Present paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2)
232	of section 380.093, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as

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233	paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively, a new paragraph (c) is			
234	added to that subsection, and present paragraph (c) of			
235	subsection (2), paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of subsection (3),			
236	and subsections (4), (5), and (6) of that section are amended,			
237	to read:			
238	380.093 Resilient Florida Grant Program; comprehensive			
239	statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set and			
240	assessment; Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience			
241	Plan; regional resilience entities			
242	(2) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:			
243	(c) "Florida Flood Hub" means the Florida Flood Hub for			
244	Applied Research and Innovation established pursuant to s.			
245	<u>380.0933.</u>			
246	(d) (c) "Preconstruction activities" means activities			
247	associated with a project that addresses the risks of flooding			
248	and sea level rise that occur before construction begins,			
249	including, but not limited to, design of the project, permitting			
250	for the project, surveys and data collection, site development,			
251	solicitation, public hearings, local code or comprehensive plan			
252	amendments, establishing local funding sources, and easement			
253	acquisition.			
254	(3) RESILIENT FLORIDA GRANT PROGRAM.—			
255	(b) Subject to appropriation, the department may provide			
256	grants to each of the following entities:			
257	1. A county or municipality to fund:			
258	a. The costs of community resilience planning and necessary			
259	data collection for such planning, including comprehensive plan			
260	amendments and necessary corresponding analyses that address the			
261	requirements of s. 163.3178(2)(f).			

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 262 b. Vulnerability assessments that identify or address risks 263 of inland or coastal flooding and sea level rise. c. Updates to the county's or municipality's inventory of 264 265 critical assets, including regionally significant assets that 266 are currently or reasonably expected to be impacted by flooding 267 and sea level rise. The updated inventory must be submitted to 268 the department and, at the time of submission, must reflect all 269 such assets that are currently, or within 50 years may 270 reasonably be expected to be, impacted by flooding and sea level 271 rise. 272 d. The development of projects, plans, strategies, and 273 policies that enhance community preparations allow communities 274 to prepare for threats from flooding and sea level rise, 275 including adaptation plans that help local governments 276 prioritize project development and implementation across one or 277 more jurisdictions in a manner consistent with departmental 278 guidance. 279 e.d. Preconstruction activities for projects to be 280 submitted for inclusion in the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level 281 Rise Resilience Plan. Only a county or municipality eligible for 282 a reduced cost share as defined in paragraph (5)(e) is eligible 283 for such preconstruction activities that are located in a

284 municipality that has a population of 10,000 or fewer or a 285 county that has a population of 50,000 or fewer, according to 286 the most recent April 1 population estimates posted on the 287 Office of Economic and Demographic Research's website.

288 <u>f.e.</u> Feasibility studies and the cost of permitting for 289 nature-based solutions that reduce the impact of flooding and 290 sea level rise.

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 291 g. The cost of permitting for projects designed to achieve 292 reductions in the risks or impacts of flooding and sea level 293 rise using nature-based solutions. 2. A water management district identified in s. 373.069 to 294 295 support local government adaptation planning, which may be 296 conducted by the water management district or by a third party 297 on behalf of the water management district. Such grants must be 298 used for the express purpose of supporting the Florida Flood Hub 299 for Applied Research and Innovation and the department in 300 implementing this section through data creation and collection, 301 modeling, and the implementation of statewide standards. 302 Priority must be given to filling critical data gaps identified 303 by the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation 304 under s. 380.0933(2)(a). 305 (c) A vulnerability assessment conducted pursuant to 306 paragraph (b) must encompass the entire county or municipality; 307 include all critical assets owned or maintained by the grant 308 applicant; and use the most recent publicly available Digital 309 Elevation Model and generally accepted analysis and modeling 310 techniques. An assessment may encompass a smaller geographic 311 area or include only a portion of the critical assets owned or 312 maintained by the grant applicant with appropriate rationale and 313 upon approval by the department. Locally collected elevation 314 data may also be included as part of the assessment as long as 315 it is submitted to the department pursuant to this paragraph.

316 1. The assessment must include an analysis of the 317 vulnerability of and risks to critical assets, including 318 regionally significant assets, owned or managed by the county or 319 municipality.

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 320 2. Upon completion of a vulnerability assessment, the 321 county or municipality shall submit to the department all of the 322 following: 323 a. A report detailing the findings of the assessment. 324 b. All electronic mapping data used to illustrate flooding 325 and sea level rise impacts identified in the assessment. When 326 submitting such data, the county or municipality shall include: 327 (I) Geospatial data in an electronic file format suitable 328 for input to the department's mapping tool. 329 (II) Geographic information system (GIS) data that has been 330 projected into the appropriate Florida State Plane Coordinate System and that is suitable for the department's mapping tool. 331 332 The county or municipality must also submit metadata using 333 standards prescribed by the department. 334 c. An inventory A list of critical assets, including 335 regionally significant assets, that are currently, or within 50 336 years are reasonably expected to be, impacted by flooding and 337 sea level rise. 338 (d) A vulnerability assessment conducted pursuant to 339 paragraph (b) must do include all of the following: 340 1. Include peril of flood comprehensive plan amendments 341 that address the requirements of s. 163.3178(2)(f), if the 342 county or municipality is subject to such requirements and has 343 not complied with such requirements as determined by the Department of Commerce Economic Opportunity. 344 345 2. Make use of the best available information through the 346 Florida Flood Hub as certified by the Chief Science Officer, in 347 consultation with the Chief Resilience Officer, including, as If 348 applicable, analyzing impacts related to the depth of:

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349
          a. Tidal flooding, including future high tide flooding,
350
     which must use thresholds published and provided by the
351
     department. To the extent practicable, the analysis should also
352
     geographically display the number of tidal flood days expected
353
     for each scenario and planning horizon.
354
          b. Current and future storm surge flooding using publicly
355
     available National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or
356
     Federal Emergency Management Agency storm surge data. The
357
     initial storm surge event used must equal or exceed the current
358
     100-year flood event. Higher frequency storm events may be
     analyzed to understand the exposure of a critical asset or
359
360
     regionally significant asset. Publicly available National
     Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) or Federal
361
362
     Emergency Management Agency storm surge data may be used in the
363
     absence of applicable data from the Florida Flood Hub.
364
          c. To the extent practicable, rainfall-induced flooding
365
     using a GIS-based spatiotemporal analysis or existing hydrologic
366
     and hydraulic modeling results. Future boundary conditions
367
     should be modified to consider sea level rise and high tide
368
     conditions. Vulnerability assessments for rainfall-induced
369
     flooding must include the depth of rainfall-induced flooding for
370
     a 100-year storm and a 500-year storm, as defined by the
371
     applicable water management district or, if necessary, the
372
     appropriate federal agency. Future rainfall conditions should be
373
     used, if available. Noncoastal communities must perform a
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d. To the extent practicable, compound flooding or the
combination of tidal, storm surge, and rainfall-induced
flooding.

rainfall-induced flooding assessment.

374

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378	3. <u>Apply</u> the fol	lowing scenarios and	l standards:
379	a. All analyses	in the North America	n Vertical Datum of
380	1988.		
381	b. <u>For a vulnera</u>	bility assessment ir	nitiated after July 1,
382	<u>2024,</u> at <u>a minimum</u> le	ast two local sea le	evel rise scenarios,
383	which must include the	e <u>2022 NOAA</u> 2017 Nat	ional Oceanic and
384	Atmospheric Administr	ation intermediate-1	ow and intermediate
385	intermediate-high sea	level rise <u>scenaric</u>	os or the statewide sea
386	level rise projection	s developed pursuant	to paragraph (4)(a)
387	projections.		
388	c. At least two	planning horizons <u>ic</u>	lentified in the
389	following table which	correspond with the	<u>appropriate</u>
390	comprehensive statewi	de flood vulnerabili	ty and sea level rise
391	assessment for which the department, at the time of award,		
392	determines such local vulnerability assessment will be		
393	incorporated:		
394			
		20-year	50-year
	Year of assessment	planning horizon	planning horizon
395		<u></u>	<u>+</u>
	2024	2040	2070
396			
	2029	2050	2080
397			
	2034	2055	2085
398			
	2039	2060	2090
399			

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	2044	2065	2095	
400				
	2049	2070	2100	
401				

402

403 that include planning horizons for the years 2040 and 2070.

404 d. Local sea level data maintained by the Florida Flood Hub 405 which reflect the best available scientific information as 406 certified by the Chief Science Officer, in consultation with the 407 Chief Resilience Officer. If such data is not available, local 408 sea level data may be that has been interpolated between the two closest NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 409 410 tide gauges; however, such. Local sea level data may be taken from only one of the two closest NOAA tide gauges such gauge if 411 the gauge has a higher mean sea level or may be. Data taken from 412 413 an alternate tide gauge may be used with appropriate rationale 414 and department approval, as long as it is publicly available or 415 submitted to the department pursuant to paragraph (b).

416 (4) COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE FLOOD VULNERABILITY AND SEA417 LEVEL RISE DATA SET AND ASSESSMENT.—

418 (a) By July 1, 2023, The department shall develop and 419 maintain complete the development of a comprehensive statewide 420 flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set sufficient to 421 conduct a comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea 422 level rise assessment. In developing and maintaining the data 423 set, the department shall, in coordination with the Chief 424 Resilience Officer and the Florida Flood Hub for Applied 425 Research and Innovation, compile, analyze, and incorporate, as appropriate, information related to vulnerability assessments 426

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 427 and critical asset inventories submitted to the department 428 pursuant to subsection (3) or any previously completed 429 assessments that meet the requirements of subsection (3). 1. The Chief Science Officer shall, in coordination with 430 the Chief Resilience Officer and the Florida Flood Hub necessary 431 432 experts and resources, develop statewide sea level rise 433 projections that incorporate temporal and spatial variability, to the extent practicable, for inclusion in the data set. This 434 435 subparagraph does not supersede regionally adopted projections. 436 2. The data set must include information necessary to 437 determine the risks to inland and coastal communities, 438 including, but not limited to, elevation, tidal levels, and 439 precipitation. (b) By July 1, 2024, The department, in coordination with 440 441 the Chief Resilience Officer and the Florida Flood Hub, shall 442 complete a comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea 443 level rise assessment that identifies inland and coastal 444 infrastructure, geographic areas, and communities in this the 445 state which that are vulnerable to flooding and sea level rise 446 and the associated risks. 447 1. The department shall use the comprehensive statewide 448

449

flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set to conduct the assessment.

450 2. The assessment must incorporate local and regional 451 analyses of vulnerabilities and risks, including, as 452 appropriate, local mitigation strategies and postdisaster 453 redevelopment plans.

454 3. The assessment must include an inventory of critical assets, including regionally significant assets, that are 455

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456	essential for critical government and business functions,	
457	national security, public health and safety, the economy, flood	
458	and storm protection, water quality management, and wildlife	
459	habitat management, and must identify and analyze the	
460	vulnerability of and risks to such critical assets. When	
461	identifying critical assets for inclusion in the assessment, the	
462	department shall also take into consideration the critical	
463	assets identified by local governments and submitted to the	
464	department pursuant to subsection (3).	
465	4. The assessment must include the 20-year and 50-year	
466	projected sea level rise at each active NOAA tidal gauge off the	
467	coast of this state as derived from the statewide sea level rise	
468	projections developed pursuant to paragraph (a).	
469	(c) The department, in coordination with the Chief	
470	Resilience Officer and the Florida Flood Hub, shall update the	
471	comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise	
472	data set with the best available information each year and shall	
473	<u>update the</u> assessment <u>at least</u> every 5 years. The department may	
474	update the data set and assessment more frequently if it	
475	determines that updates are necessary to maintain the validity	
476	of the data set and assessment.	
477	(5) STATEWIDE FLOODING AND SEA LEVEL RISE RESILIENCE PLAN. $-$	
478	(a) By December 1 <u>of</u> , 2021, and each <u>year</u> December 1	
479	thereafter, the department shall develop a Statewide Flooding	
480	and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan on a 3-year planning horizon	
481	and submit it to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and	
482	the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The plan must	
483	consist of ranked projects that address risks of flooding and	
484	sea level rise to coastal and inland communities in the state.	

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 485 All eligible projects submitted to the department pursuant to 486 this section must be ranked and included in the plan. Each plan 487 must include a detailed narrative overview describing how the 488 plan was developed, including a description of the methodology 489 used by the department to determine project eligibility, a 490 description of the methodology used to rank projects, the 491 specific scoring system used, the project proposal application 492 form, a copy of each submitted project proposal application form 493 separated by eligible projects and ineligible projects, the 494 total number of project proposals received and deemed eligible, 495 the total funding requested, and the total funding requested for 496 eligible projects. 497

(b) The plan submitted by December 1, 2021, before the 498 comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise 499 assessment is completed, will be a preliminary plan that 500 includes projects that address risks of flooding and sea level 501 rise identified in available local government vulnerability 502 assessments and projects submitted by water management districts 503 that mitigate the risks of flooding or sea level rise on water 504 supplies or water resources of the state. The plan submitted by 505 December 1, 2022, and the plan submitted by December 1, 2023, 506 will be updates to the preliminary plan. The plan submitted by 507 December 1, 2024, and each plan submitted by December 1 508 thereafter: -

509 <u>1.</u> Shall <u>primarily</u> address risks of flooding and sea level 510 rise identified in the comprehensive statewide flood 511 vulnerability and sea level rise assessment<u>; and</u>

512 <u>2. May include, at the discretion of the department in</u> 513 <u>consultation with the Chief Resilience Officer, other projects</u>

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514	submitted pursuant to paragraph (d) which address risks of		
515	flooding and sea level rise to critical assets not yet		
516	identified in the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability		
517	and sea level rise assessment.		
518	(c) Each plan submitted by the department pursuant to this		
519	subsection must include <u>all of</u> the following information for		
520	each recommended project:		
521	1. A description of the project.		
522	2. The location of the project.		
523	3. An estimate of how long the project will take to		
524	complete.		
525	4. An estimate of the cost of the project.		
526	5. The cost-share percentage available for the project.		
527	6. A summary of the priority score assigned to the project.		
528	7. The project sponsor.		
529	(d)1. By September 1 <u>of</u> , 2021, and each <u>year</u> September 1		
530	thereafter, all of the following entities may submit to the		
531	department a list of proposed projects that address risks of		
532	flooding or sea level rise identified in the comprehensive		
533	statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment or		
534	vulnerability assessments that meet the requirements of		
535	subsection (3):		
536	a. Counties.		
537	b. Municipalities.		
538	c. Special districts as defined in s. 189.012 which that		
539	are responsible for the management and maintenance of inlets and		
540	intracoastal waterways or for the operation and maintenance of a		
541	potable water facility, a wastewater facility, an airport, or a		
542	seaport facility.		
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543	d. Regional resilience entities acting on behalf of one or
544	more member counties or municipalities.
545	
546	For the plans submitted by December 1, 2024 , such entities may
547	submit projects identified in existing vulnerability assessments
548	that do not comply with subsection (3) only if the entity is
549	actively developing a vulnerability assessment that is either
550	under a signed grant agreement with the department pursuant to
551	subsection (3) or funded by another state or federal agency, or
552	is self-funded and intended to meet the requirements of
553	paragraph (3)(d) or the existing vulnerability assessment was
554	completed using previously compliant statutory requirements.
555	Projects identified from this category of vulnerability
556	assessments are eligible for submittal until the prior
557	vulnerability assessment has been updated to meet most recent
558	statutory requirements 2021; December 1, 2022; and December 1,
559	2023, such entities may submit projects identified in existing
560	vulnerability assessments that do not comply with subsection
561	(3). A regional resilience entity may also submit proposed
562	projects to the department pursuant to this subparagraph on
563	behalf of one or more member counties or municipalities.
564	2. By September 1 <u>of</u> , 2021, and each <u>year</u> September 1
565	thereafter, all of the following entities may submit to the
566	department a list of any proposed projects that address risks of
567	flooding or sea level rise identified in the comprehensive
568	statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment or
569	vulnerability assessments that meet the requirements of
570	subsection (3), or that mitigate the risks of flooding or sea
571	level rise on water supplies or water resources of the state and

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572	a corresponding evaluation of each project:
573	a. Water management districts.
574	b. Drainage districts.
575	c. Erosion control districts.
576	d. Flood control districts.
577	e. Regional water supply authorities.
578	3. Each project submitted to the department pursuant to
579	this paragraph for consideration by the department for inclusion
580	in the plan must include all of the following information:
581	a. A description of the project.
582	b. The location of the project.
583	c. An estimate of how long the project will take to
584	complete.
585	d. An estimate of the cost of the project.
586	e. The cost-share percentage available for the project.
587	f. The project sponsor.
588	(e) Each project included in the plan must have a minimum
589	50 percent cost share unless the project assists or is within a
590	financially disadvantaged small community eligible for a reduced
591	cost share. For purposes of this section, the term "community
592	eligible for a reduced cost share"
593	<pre>small community" means:</pre>
594	1. A municipality that has a population of 10,000 or fewer,
595	according to the most recent April 1 population estimates posted
596	on the Office of Economic and Demographic Research's website,
597	and a per capita annual income that is less than the state's per
598	capita annual income as shown in the most recent release from
599	the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of
600	Commerce that includes both measurements; or

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601	2. A county that has a population of 50,000 or fewer,
602	according to the most recent April 1 population estimates posted
603	on the Office of Economic and Demographic Research's website,
604	and a per capita annual income that is less than the state's per
605	capita annual income as shown in the most recent release from
606	the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of
607	Commerce that includes both measurements; or
608	3. A municipality or a county with a per capita annual
609	income that is equal to or less than 75 percent of the state's
610	per capita annual income as shown in the most recent release
611	from the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of
612	Commerce.
613	(f) To be eligible for inclusion in the plan, a project
614	must have been submitted pursuant to paragraph (d) or must have
615	been identified in the comprehensive statewide flood
616	vulnerability and sea level rise assessment, as applicable.
617	(g) Expenses ineligible for inclusion in the plan include,
618	but are not limited to, expenses associated with <u>any of the</u>
619	following:
620	1. Aesthetic vegetation.
621	2. Recreational structures such as piers, docks, and
622	boardwalks.
623	3. Water quality components of stormwater and wastewater
624	management systems, except for expenses to mitigate water
625	quality impacts caused by the project or expenses related to
626	water quality which are necessary to obtain a permit for the
627	project.
628	4. Maintenance and repair of over-walks.
629	5. Park activities and facilities, except expenses to

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 630 control flooding or erosion. 631 6. Navigation construction, operation, and maintenance 632 activities. 633 7. Projects that provide only recreational benefits. 634 (g) (h) The department shall implement a scoring system for 635 assessing each project eligible for inclusion in the plan 636 pursuant to this subsection. The scoring system must include the 637 following tiers and associated criteria: 638 1. Tier 1 must account for 40 percent of the total score 639 and consist of all of the following criteria: 640 a. The degree to which the project addresses the risks 641 posed by flooding and sea level rise identified in the local 642 government vulnerability assessments or the comprehensive 643 statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment, as 644 applicable. 645 b. The degree to which the project addresses risks to 646 regionally significant assets. 647 c. The degree to which the project reduces risks to areas 648 with an overall higher percentage of vulnerable critical assets. 649 d. The degree to which the project contributes to existing 650 flooding mitigation projects that reduce upland damage costs by 651 incorporating new or enhanced structures or restoration and 652 revegetation projects. 653 2. Tier 2 must account for 30 percent of the total score 654 and consist of all of the following criteria: 655 a. The degree to which flooding and erosion currently 656 affect the condition of the project area. 657 b. The overall readiness of the project to proceed in a timely manner, considering the project's readiness for the 658

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 659 construction phase of development, the status of required 660 permits, the status of any needed easement acquisition, and the 661 availability of local funding sources. 662 c. The environmental habitat enhancement or inclusion of 663 nature-based options for resilience, with priority given to 664 state or federal critical habitat areas for threatened or 665 endangered species. 666 d. The cost-effectiveness of the project. 667 3. Tier 3 must account for 20 percent of the total score and consist of all of the following criteria: 668 669 a. The availability of local, state, and federal matching funds, considering the status of the funding award, and federal 670 authorization, if applicable. 671 b. Previous state commitment and involvement in the 672 673 project, considering previously funded phases, the total amount 674 of previous state funding, and previous partial appropriations 675 for the proposed project. 676 c. The exceedance of the flood-resistant construction 677 requirements of the Florida Building Code and applicable flood 678 plain management regulations. 679 4. Tier 4 must account for 10 percent of the total score 680 and consist of all of the following criteria: 681 a. The proposed innovative technologies designed to reduce 682 project costs and provide regional collaboration. 683 b. The extent to which the project assists financially 684 disadvantaged communities. 685 (h) (i) The total amount of funding proposed for each year 686 of the plan may not be less than \$100 million. Upon review and 687 subject to appropriation, the Legislature shall approve funding

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688	for the projects as specified in the plan. Multiyear projects
689	that receive funding for the first year of the project must be
690	included in subsequent plans and funded until the project is
691	complete, provided that the project sponsor has complied with
692	all contractual obligations and funds are available.
693	<u>(i)</u> The department shall <u>adopt rules</u> initiate rulemaking
694	by August 1, 2021, to implement this section.
695	(6) REGIONAL RESILIENCE ENTITIESSubject to specific
696	legislative appropriation, the department may provide funding
697	for <u>all of</u> the following purposes to regional entities <u>,</u>
698	including regional planning councils and estuary partnerships,
699	that are established by general purpose local governments and
700	whose responsibilities include planning for the resilience needs
701	of communities and coordinating intergovernmental solutions to
702	mitigate adverse impacts of flooding and sea level rise:
703	(a) Providing technical assistance to counties and
704	municipalities.
705	(b) Coordinating and conducting activities authorized by
706	subsection (3) with broad regional benefit or on behalf of
707	multiple member counties and municipalities multijurisdictional
708	vulnerability assessments.
709	(c) Developing project proposals to be submitted for
710	inclusion in the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise
711	Resilience Plan.
712	Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 381.0061, Florida
713	Statutes, is amended to read:
714	381.0061 Administrative fines
715	(1) In addition to any administrative action authorized by
716	chapter 120 or by other law, the department may impose a fine,
I	

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717	which may not exceed \$500 for each violation, for a violation of
718	s. 381.006(15) <u>or</u> , s. 381.0065, s. 381.0066, s. 381.0072, or
719	part III of chapter 489, for a violation of any rule adopted <u>by</u>
720	the department under this chapter, or for a violation of chapter
721	386 not involving onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems.
722	The department shall give an alleged violator a notice of intent
723	to impose such fine shall be given by the department to the
724	alleged violator. Each day that a violation continues may
725	constitute a separate violation.
726	Section 6. The Legislature intends that the transfer of the
727	regulation of the Onsite Sewage Program from the Department of
728	Health to the Department of Environmental Protection, as
729	required by the Clean Waterways Act, chapter 2020-150, Laws of
730	Florida, be completed in a phased approach.
731	(1) Before the phased transfer, the Department of
732	Environmental Protection shall coordinate with the Department of
733	Health to identify equipment and vehicles that were previously
734	used to carry out the program in each county and that are no
735	longer needed for such purpose. The Department of Health shall
736	transfer the agreed-upon equipment and vehicles to the
737	Department of Environmental Protection, to the extent that each
738	county agrees to relinquish ownership of such equipment and
739	vehicles to the Department of Health.
740	(2) When the Department of Environmental Protection begins
741	implementing the program within a county, the Department of
742	Health may no longer implement or collect fees for the program
743	unless specified by separate delegation or contract with the
744	Department of Environmental Protection.
745	Section 7. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) and subsections

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 746 (5) and (7) of section 381.0065, Florida Statutes, are amended, 747 paragraph (o) is added to subsection (3) of that section, and 748 subsection (9) is added to that section, to read: 749 381.0065 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; 750 regulation.-751 (3) DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL 752 PROTECTION.-The department shall: 753 (h) Conduct enforcement activities in accordance with part 754 I of chapter 403, including imposing fines, issuing citations, 755 suspensions, revocations, injunctions, and emergency orders for 756 violations of this section, part I of chapter 386, or part III 757 of chapter 489 or for a violation of any rule adopted by the 758 department under this section, part I of chapter 386, or part 759 III of chapter 489. All references to part I of chapter 386 in 760 this section relate solely to nuisances involving improperly 761 built or maintained septic tanks or other onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, and untreated or improperly 762 763 treated or transported waste from onsite sewage treatment and 764 disposal systems. The department shall have all the duties and 765 authorities of the Department of Health in part I of chapter 386 766 for nuisances involving onsite sewage treatment and disposal 767 systems. The department's authority under part I of chapter 386 768 is in addition to and may be pursued independently of or 769 simultaneously with the enforcement remedies provided under this 770 section and chapter 403. 771 (o) Adopt rules establishing and implementing a program of 772 general permits for this section for projects, or categories of 773 projects, which have, individually or cumulatively, a minimal 774 adverse impact on public health or the environment. Such rules

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775	must:
776	1. Specify design or performance criteria which, if
777	applied, would result in compliance with appropriate standards;
778	and
779	2. Authorize a person who complies with the general permit
780	eligibility requirements to use the permit 30 days after giving
781	notice to the department without any agency action by the
782	department. Within the 30-day notice period, the department
783	shall determine whether the activity qualifies for a general
784	permit. If the activity does not qualify or the notice does not
785	contain all the required information, the department must notify
786	the person.
787	(5) ENFORCEMENT; RIGHT OF ENTRY; CITATIONS
788	(a) Department personnel who have reason to believe
789	noncompliance exists, may at any reasonable time, enter the
790	premises permitted under ss. 381.0065-381.0066, or the business
791	premises of any septic tank contractor or master septic tank
792	contractor registered under part III of chapter 489, or any
793	premises that the department has reason to believe is being
794	operated or maintained not in compliance, to determine
795	compliance with the provisions of this section, part I of
796	chapter 386, or part III of chapter 489 or rules or standards
797	adopted under ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386, or
798	part III of chapter 489. As used in this paragraph, the term
799	"premises" does not include a residence or private building. To
800	gain entry to a residence or private building, the department
801	must obtain permission from the owner or occupant or secure an
802	inspection warrant from a court of competent jurisdiction
803	pursuant to the procedures of s. 403.091.

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 804 (b) 1. The department has all of the judicial and administrative remedies available to it pursuant to part I of 805 806 chapter 403 may issue citations that may contain an order of correction or an order to pay a fine, or both, for violations of 807 808 ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386, or part III of 809 chapter 489 or the rules adopted by the department, when a 810 violation of these sections or rules is enforceable by an 811 administrative or civil remedy, or when a violation of these 812 sections or rules is a misdemeanor of the second degree. A 813 citation issued under ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 814 386, or part III of chapter 489 constitutes a notice of proposed 815 agency action. 816 2. A citation must be in writing and must describe the particular nature of the violation, including specific reference 817 818 to the provisions of law or rule allegedly violated. 819 3. The fines imposed by a citation issued by the department may not exceed \$500 for each violation. Each day the violation 820 821 exists constitutes a separate violation for which a citation may 822 be issued. 823 4. The department shall inform the recipient, by written 824 notice pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57, of the right to an 825 administrative hearing to contest the citation within 21 days 826 after the date the citation is received. The citation must 827 contain a conspicuous statement that if the recipient fails to 828 pay the fine within the time allowed, or fails to appear to 829 contest the citation after having requested a hearing, the 830 recipient has waived the recipient's right to contest the 831 citation and must pay an amount up to the maximum fine. 832 5. The department may reduce or waive the fine imposed by

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833	the citation. In determining whether to reduce or waive the
834	fine, the department must consider the gravity of the violation,
835	the person's attempts at correcting the violation, and the
836	person's history of previous violations including violations for
837	which enforcement actions were taken under ss. 381.0065-
838	381.0067, part I of chapter 386, part III of chapter 489, or
839	other provisions of law or rule.
840	6. Any person who willfully refuses to sign and accept a
841	citation issued by the department commits a misdemeanor of the
842	second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
843	775.083.
844	7. The department, pursuant to ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part
845	I of chapter 386, or part III of chapter 489, shall deposit any
846	damages, costs, or penalties fines it collects pursuant to this
847	section and part I of chapter 403 in the Water Quality Assurance
848	<u>Trust Fund</u> county health department trust fund for use in
849	providing services specified in those sections.
850	8. This section provides an alternative means of enforcing
851	ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386, and part III of
852	chapter 489. This section does not prohibit the department from
853	enforcing ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386, or part
854	III of chapter 489, or its rules, by any other means. However,
855	the department must elect to use only a single method of
856	enforcement for each violation.
857	(7) USE OF ENHANCED NUTRIENT-REDUCING ONSITE SEWAGE
858	TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL SYSTEMS.—To meet the requirements of a
859	total maximum daily load, the department shall implement a fast-
860	track approval process of no longer than 6 months for the
861	determination of the use of American National Standards

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862	Institute 245 systems approved by NSF International before July
863	1, 2020. The department shall also establish an enhanced
864	nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal system
865	approval program that will expeditiously evaluate and approve
866	such systems for use in this state to comply with ss.
867	403.067(7)(a)10. and 373.469(3)(d).
868	(9) CONTRACT OR DELEGATION AUTHORITYThe department may
869	contract with or delegate its powers and duties under this
870	section to a county as provided in s. 403.061 or s. 403.182.
871	Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 381.0066, Florida
872	Statutes, is amended to read:
873	381.0066 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems;
874	fees
875	(2) The minimum fees in the following fee schedule apply
876	until changed by rule by the department within the following
877	limits:
878	(a) Application review, permit issuance, or system
879	inspection, when performed by the department or a private
880	provider inspector, including repair of a subsurface, mound,
881	filled, or other alternative system or permitting of an
882	abandoned system: a fee of not less than \$25, or more than \$125.
883	(b) Site evaluation, site reevaluation, evaluation of a
884	system previously in use, or a per annum septage disposal site
885	evaluation: a fee of not less than \$40, or more than \$115.
886	(c) Biennial operating permit for aerobic treatment units
887	or performance-based treatment systems: a fee of not more than
888	\$100.
889	(d) Annual operating permit for systems located in areas
890	zoned for industrial manufacturing or equivalent uses or where
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601-03260-24 20241386c1 891 the system is expected to receive wastewater which is not 892 domestic in nature: a fee of not less than \$150, or more than 893 \$300. 894 (e) Innovative technology: a fee not to exceed \$25,000. 895 (f) Septage disposal service, septage stabilization 896 facility, portable or temporary toilet service, tank 897 manufacturer inspection: a fee of not less than \$25, or more 898 than \$200, per year. 899 (g) Application for variance: a fee of not less than \$150, 900 or more than \$300. (h) Annual operating permit for waterless, incinerating, or 901 902 organic waste composting toilets: a fee of not less than \$15, or 903 more than \$30. 904 (i) Aerobic treatment unit or performance-based treatment 905 system maintenance entity permit: a fee of not less than \$25, or 906 more than \$150, per year. 907 (j) Reinspection fee per visit for site inspection after 908 system construction approval or for noncompliant system 909 installation per site visit: a fee of not less than \$25, or more 910 than \$100. 911 (k) Research: An additional \$5 fee shall be added to each 912 new system construction permit issued to be used to fund onsite 913 sewage treatment and disposal system research, demonstration, 914 and training projects. Five dollars from any repair permit fee collected under this section shall be used for funding the 915 916 hands-on training centers described in s. 381.0065(3)(j). 917 (1) Annual operating permit, including annual inspection 918 and any required sampling and laboratory analysis of effluent, 919 for an engineer-designed performance-based system: a fee of not

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920	less than \$150, or more than \$300.
921	
922	The funds collected pursuant to this subsection for the
923	implementation of onsite sewage treatment and disposal system
924	regulation and for the purposes of ss. 381.00655 and 381.0067,
925	subsequent to any phased transfer of implementation from the
926	Department of Health to the department within any county
927	pursuant to s. 381.0065, must be deposited in the Florida Permit
928	Fee Trust Fund under s. 403.0871, to be administered by the
929	department a trust fund administered by the department, to be
930	used for the purposes stated in this section and ss. 381.0065
931	and 381.00655.
932	Section 9. Subsection (4) of section 403.061, Florida
933	Statutes, is amended to read:
934	403.061 Department; powers and dutiesThe department shall
935	have the power and the duty to control and prohibit pollution of
936	air and water in accordance with the law and rules adopted and
937	promulgated by it and, for this purpose, to:
938	(4) Secure necessary scientific, technical, research,
939	administrative, and operational services by interagency
940	agreement, by contract, or otherwise. All state agencies <u>and</u>
941	counties, upon direction of the department, shall make these
942	services and facilities available.
943	
944	The department shall implement such programs in conjunction with
945	its other powers and duties and shall place special emphasis on
946	reducing and eliminating contamination that presents a threat to
947	humans, animals or plants, or to the environment.
948	Section 10. Subsections (1), (2), (14), and (15) of section

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 949 403.064, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 950 403.064 Reuse of reclaimed water.-951 (1) The encouragement and promotion of water conservation, 952 and reuse of reclaimed water, as defined by the department, are 953 state objectives and are considered to be in the public 954 interest. The Legislature finds that the reuse of reclaimed 955 water is a critical component of meeting the state's existing 956 and future water supply needs while sustaining natural systems and encouraging its best and most beneficial use. The 957 958 Legislature further finds that for those wastewater treatment 959 plants permitted and operated under an approved reuse program by 960 the department, the reclaimed water shall be considered 961 environmentally acceptable and not a threat to public health and 962 safety. The Legislature encourages the development of incentive-963 based programs for reuse implementation. 964 (2) All applicants for permits to construct or operate a 965 domestic wastewater treatment facility located within, serving a 966 population located within, or discharging within a water 967 resource caution area shall prepare a reuse feasibility study as 968 part of their application for the permit. Reuse feasibility 969 studies must shall be prepared in accordance with department 970 guidelines adopted by rule and shall include, but are not 971 limited to: 972 (a) Evaluation of monetary costs and benefits for several 973 levels and types of reuse. 974 (b) Evaluation of the estimated water savings resulting 975 from different types of if reuse, if is implemented.

976 (c) Evaluation of rates and fees necessary to implement 977 reuse.

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 978 (d) Evaluation of environmental and water resource benefits 979 associated with the different types of reuse. 980 (e) Evaluation of economic, environmental, and technical 981 constraints associated with the different types of reuse, 982 including any constraints caused by potential water quality 983 impacts. 984 (f) A schedule for implementation of reuse. The schedule 985 must shall consider phased implementation. 986 (14) After conducting a feasibility study under subsection 987 (2), a domestic wastewater treatment facility facilities that 988 disposes dispose of effluent by Class I deep well injection \overline{r} as defined in 40 C.F.R. s. 144.6(a), surface water discharge, land 989 990 application, or other method to dispose of effluent or a portion 991 thereof must implement reuse to the degree that reuse is 992 feasible, based upon the applicant's reuse feasibility study, 993 with consideration given to direct ecological or public water 994 supply benefits afforded by any disposal. Applicable permits 995 issued by the department must shall be consistent with the 996 requirements of this subsection. 997 (a) This subsection does not limit the use of a Class I 998 deep well injection as defined in 40 C.F.R. s. 144.6(a), surface 999 water discharge, land application, or another method to dispose 1000 of effluent or a portion thereof for backup use only facility as 1001 backup for a reclaimed water reuse system.

(b) This subsection applies only to domestic wastewater treatment facilities located within, serving a population located within, or discharging within a water resource caution area.

1006

(15) After conducting a feasibility study under subsection

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1007	(2), domestic wastewater treatment facilities that dispose of
1008	effluent by surface water discharges or by land application
1009	methods must implement reuse to the degree that reuse is
1010	feasible, based upon the applicant's reuse feasibility study.
1011	This subsection does not apply to surface water discharges or
1012	land application systems which are currently categorized as
1013	reuse under department rules. Applicable permits issued by the
1014	department shall be consistent with the requirements of this
1015	subsection.
1016	(a) This subsection does not limit the use of a surface
1017	water discharge or land application facility as backup for a
1018	reclaimed water reuse system.
1019	(b) This subsection applies only to domestic wastewater
1020	treatment facilities located within, serving a population
1021	located within, or discharging within a water resource caution
1022	area.
1023	Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section
1024	403.067, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1025	403.067 Establishment and implementation of total maximum
1026	daily loads
1027	(7) DEVELOPMENT OF BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS AND
1028	IMPLEMENTATION OF TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS
1029	(a) Basin management action plans.—
1030	1. In developing and implementing the total maximum daily
1031	load for a waterbody, the department, or the department in
1032	conjunction with a water management district, may develop a
1033	basin management action plan that addresses some or all of the
1034	watersheds and basins tributary to the waterbody. Such plan must
1035	integrate the appropriate management strategies available to the

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1036 state through existing water quality protection programs to 1037 achieve the total maximum daily loads and may provide for phased 1038 implementation of these management strategies to promote timely, 1039 cost-effective actions as provided for in s. 403.151. The plan 1040 must establish a schedule implementing the management 1041 strategies, establish a basis for evaluating the plan's 1042 effectiveness, and identify feasible funding strategies for implementing the plan's management strategies. The management 1043 1044 strategies may include regional treatment systems or other 1045 public works, when appropriate, and voluntary trading of water 1046 quality credits to achieve the needed pollutant load reductions.

1047 2. A basin management action plan must equitably allocate, 1048 pursuant to paragraph (6) (b), pollutant reductions to individual 1049 basins, as a whole to all basins, or to each identified point 1050 source or category of nonpoint sources, as appropriate. For 1051 nonpoint sources for which best management practices have been 1052 adopted, the initial requirement specified by the plan must be 1053 those practices developed pursuant to paragraph (c). When 1054 appropriate, the plan may take into account the benefits of 1055 pollutant load reduction achieved by point or nonpoint sources 1056 that have implemented management strategies to reduce pollutant 1057 loads, including best management practices, before the 1058 development of the basin management action plan. The plan must 1059 also identify the mechanisms that will address potential future 1060 increases in pollutant loading.

1061 3. The basin management action planning process is intended 1062 to involve the broadest possible range of interested parties, 1063 with the objective of encouraging the greatest amount of 1064 cooperation and consensus possible. In developing a basin

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 management action plan, the department shall assure that key 1065 1066 stakeholders, including, but not limited to, applicable local 1067 governments, water management districts, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, other appropriate state 1068 1069 agencies, local soil and water conservation districts, 1070 environmental groups, regulated interests, and affected 1071 pollution sources, are invited to participate in the process. 1072 The department shall hold at least one public meeting in the 1073 vicinity of the watershed or basin to discuss and receive 1074 comments during the planning process and shall otherwise 1075 encourage public participation to the greatest practicable 1076 extent. Notice of the public meeting must be published in a 1077 newspaper of general circulation in each county in which the 1078 watershed or basin lies at least 5 days, but not more than 15 1079 days, before the public meeting. A basin management action plan 1080 does not supplant or otherwise alter any assessment made under 1081 subsection (3) or subsection (4) or any calculation or initial 1082 allocation.

1083 4. Each new or revised basin management action plan must 1084 include all of the following:

a. The appropriate management strategies available through
existing water quality protection programs to achieve total
maximum daily loads, which may provide for phased implementation
to promote timely, cost-effective actions as provided for in s.
403.151.

1090 b. A description of best management practices adopted by 1091 rule.

1092 c. For the applicable 5-year implementation milestone, a 1093 list of projects that will achieve the pollutant load reductions

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1094 needed to meet the total maximum daily load or the load 1095 allocations established pursuant to subsection (6). Each project 1096 must include a planning-level cost estimate and an estimated 1097 date of completion. 1098 d. A list of projects developed pursuant to paragraph (e), 1099 if applicable. 1100 e. The source and amount of financial assistance to be made 1101 available by the department, a water management district, or 1102 other entity for each listed project, if applicable. 1103 f. A planning-level estimate of each listed project's 1104 expected load reduction, if applicable. 1105 5. The department shall adopt all or any part of a basin 1106 management action plan and any amendment to such plan by 1107 secretarial order pursuant to chapter 120 to implement this 1108 section. 1109 6. The basin management action plan must include 5-year 1110 milestones for implementation and water quality improvement, and 1111 an associated water quality monitoring component sufficient to 1112 evaluate whether reasonable progress in pollutant load 1113 reductions is being achieved over time. An assessment of 1114 progress toward these milestones shall be conducted every 5 1115 years, and revisions to the plan shall be made as appropriate. Any entity with a specific pollutant load reduction requirement 1116 1117 established in a basin management action plan shall identify the 1118 projects or strategies that such entity will undertake to meet 1119 current 5-year pollution reduction milestones, beginning with the first 5-year milestone for new basin management action 1120 plans, and submit such projects to the department for inclusion 1121 1122 in the appropriate basin management action plan. Each project

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1123 identified must include an estimated amount of nutrient 1124 reduction that is reasonably expected to be achieved based on 1125 the best scientific information available. Revisions to the 1126 basin management action plan shall be made by the department in 1127 cooperation with basin stakeholders. Revisions to the management 1128 strategies required for nonpoint sources must follow the 1129 procedures in subparagraph (c)4. Revised basin management action 1130 plans must be adopted pursuant to subparagraph 5. 7. In accordance with procedures adopted by rule under 1131 1132 paragraph (9)(c), basin management action plans, and other 1133 pollution control programs under local, state, or federal 1134 authority as provided in subsection (4), may allow point or 1135 nonpoint sources that will achieve greater pollutant reductions 1136 than required by an adopted total maximum daily load or 1137 wasteload allocation to generate, register, and trade water 1138 quality credits for the excess reductions to enable other 1139 sources to achieve their allocation; however, the generation of 1140 water quality credits does not remove the obligation of a source 1141 or activity to meet applicable technology requirements or 1142 adopted best management practices. Such plans must allow trading 1143 between NPDES permittees, and trading that may or may not 1144 involve NPDES permittees, where the generation or use of the 1145 credits involve an entity or activity not subject to department 1146 water discharge permits whose owner voluntarily elects to obtain 1147 department authorization for the generation and sale of credits. 8. The department's rule relating to the equitable 1148

abatement of pollutants into surface waters do not apply to water bodies or waterbody segments for which a basin management plan that takes into account future new or expanded activities

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1152 or discharges has been adopted under this section.

1153 9. In order to promote resilient wastewater utilities, if 1154 the department identifies domestic wastewater treatment 1155 facilities or onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems as 1156 contributors of at least 20 percent of point source or nonpoint 1157 source nutrient pollution or if the department determines 1158 remediation is necessary to achieve the total maximum daily 1159 load, a basin management action plan for a nutrient total maximum daily load must include the following: 1160

1161 a. A domestic wastewater treatment plan developed by each 1162 local government, in cooperation with the department, the water 1163 management district, and the public and private domestic 1164 wastewater treatment facilities providing services or located within the jurisdiction of the local government, which that 1165 1166 addresses domestic wastewater. Private domestic wastewater 1167 facilities and special districts providing domestic wastewater 1168 services must provide the required wastewater facility 1169 information to the applicable local governments. The domestic 1170 wastewater treatment plan must:

(I) Provide for construction, expansion, or upgrades necessary to achieve the total maximum daily load requirements applicable to the domestic wastewater treatment facility.

(II) Include the permitted capacity in average annual gallons per day for the domestic wastewater treatment facility; the average nutrient concentration and the estimated average nutrient load of the domestic wastewater; a projected timeline of the dates by which the construction of any facility improvements will begin and be completed and the date by which operations of the improved facility will begin; the estimated

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1181 cost of the improvements; and the identity of responsible 1182 parties. 1183 1184 The domestic wastewater treatment plan must be adopted as part 1185 of the basin management action plan no later than July 1, 2025. 1186 A local government that does not have a domestic wastewater 1187 treatment facility in its jurisdiction is not required to 1188 develop a domestic wastewater treatment plan unless there is a demonstrated need to establish a domestic wastewater treatment 1189 1190 facility within its jurisdiction to improve water quality 1191 necessary to achieve a total maximum daily load. A local 1192 government is not responsible for a private domestic wastewater 1193 facility's compliance with a basin management action plan unless 1194 such facility is operated through a public-private partnership 1195 to which the local government is a party. 1196 b. An onsite sewage treatment and disposal system 1197 remediation plan developed by each local government in 1198 cooperation with the department, the Department of Health, water

1199 management districts, and public and private domestic wastewater
1200 treatment facilities.

(I) The onsite sewage treatment and disposal system remediation plan must identify cost-effective and financially feasible projects necessary to achieve the nutrient load reductions required for onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems. To identify cost-effective and financially feasible projects for remediation of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, the local government shall:

1208 (A) Include an inventory of onsite sewage treatment and1209 disposal systems based on the best information available;

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1210 (B) Identify onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems 1211 that would be eliminated through connection to existing or 1212 future central domestic wastewater infrastructure in the 1213 jurisdiction or domestic wastewater service area of the local 1214 government, that would be replaced with or upgraded to enhanced 1215 nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, 1216 or that would remain on conventional onsite sewage treatment and 1217 disposal systems; (C) Estimate the costs of potential onsite sewage treatment 1218 1219 and disposal system connections, upgrades, or replacements; and 1220 (D) Identify deadlines and interim milestones for the 1221 planning, design, and construction of projects. 1222 (II) The department shall adopt the onsite sewage treatment 1223 and disposal system remediation plan as part of the basin 1224 management action plan no later than July 1, 2025, or as required for Outstanding Florida Springs under s. 373.807. 1225 1226 10. The installation of new onsite sewage treatment and 1227 disposal systems constructed within a basin management action 1228 plan area adopted under this section, a reasonable assurance 1229 plan, or a pollution reduction plan is prohibited where 1230 connection to a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system 1231 is available as defined in s. 381.0065(2)(a). On lots of 1 acre 1232 or less within a basin management action plan adopted under this 1233 section, a reasonable assurance plan, or a pollution reduction 1234 plan where a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system is 1235 not available, the installation of enhanced nutrient-reducing 1236 onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems or other wastewater 1237 treatment systems that achieve at least 65 percent nitrogen 1238 reduction is required.

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1239 11. When identifying wastewater projects in a basin 1240 management action plan, the department may not require the 1241 higher cost option if it achieves the same nutrient load 1242 reduction as a lower cost option. A regulated entity may choose 1243 a different cost option if it complies with the pollutant 1244 reduction requirements of an adopted total maximum daily load 1245 and meets or exceeds the pollution reduction requirement of the 1246 original project. 1247 12. Annually, local governments subject to a basin 1248 management action plan or located within the basin of a 1249 waterbody not attaining nutrient or nutrient-related standards 1250 must provide to the department an update on the status of 1251 construction of sanitary sewers to serve such areas, in a manner 1252 prescribed by the department. 1253 Section 12. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) and subsection 1254 (7) of section 403.0673, Florida Statutes, are amended, and 1255 subsection (8) is added to that section, to read: 1256 403.0673 Water quality improvement grant program.-A grant 1257 program is established within the Department of Environmental 1258 Protection to address wastewater, stormwater, and agricultural 1259 sources of nutrient loading to surface water or groundwater. 1260 (2) The department may provide grants for all of the 1261

1261 following types of projects that reduce the amount of nutrients 1262 entering those waterbodies identified in subsection (1):

(f) Projects identified in a <u>domestic</u> wastewater treatment plan or an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system remediation plan developed pursuant to s. 403.067(7)(a)9.a. and b.

(7) Beginning January 15, 2024, and each January 15

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1268	thereafter, the department shall submit a report regarding the
1269	projects funded pursuant to this section to the Governor, the
1270	President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
1271	Representatives.
1272	(a) The report must include a list of those projects
1273	receiving funding and the following information for each
1274	project:
1275	<u>1.(a)</u> A description of the project;
1276	<u>2.(b)</u> The cost of the project;
1277	3.(c) The estimated nutrient load reduction of the project;
1278	<u>4.(d)</u> The location of the project;
1279	5.(e) The waterbody or waterbodies where the project will
1280	reduce nutrients; and
1281	<u>6.(f)</u> The total cost share being provided for the project.
1282	(b) The report must also include a status report on each
1283	project funded since 2021. The status report must, at a minimum,
1284	identify which projects have been completed and, if such
1285	information is available, provide nutrient load improvements or
1286	water quality testing data for the waterbody.
1287	(8) By July 1, 2025, the department must include the
1288	projects funded pursuant to this section on a user-friendly
1289	website or dashboard. The website or dashboard must allow the
1290	user to see the information provided in subsection (7) and must
1291	be updated at least annually.
1292	Section 13. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
1293	403.086, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1294	403.086 Sewage disposal facilities; advanced and secondary
1295	waste treatment
1296	(1)

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1297 (c)1. Notwithstanding this chapter or chapter 373, sewage 1298 disposal facilities may not dispose any wastes into the 1299 following waters without providing advanced waste treatment, as 1300 defined in subsection (4), as approved by the department or a 1301 more stringent treatment standard if the department determines 1302 the more stringent standard is necessary to achieve the total 1303 maximum daily load or applicable water quality criteria: 1304 a. Old Tampa Bay; Tampa Bay; Hillsborough Bay; Boca Ciega 1305 Bay; St. Joseph Sound; Clearwater Bay; Sarasota Bay; Little 1306 Sarasota Bay; Roberts Bay; Lemon Bay; Charlotte Harbor Bay; 1307 Biscayne Bay; or any river, stream, channel, canal, bay, bayou, 1308 sound, or other water tributary thereto. 1309 b. Beginning July 1, 2025, Indian River Lagoon, or any 1310 river, stream, channel, canal, bay, bayou, sound, or other water 1311 tributary thereto. 1312 c. By January 1, 2033, waterbodies that are currently not 1313 attaining nutrient or nutrient-related standards or that are 1314 subject to a nutrient or nutrient-related basin management 1315 action plan adopted pursuant to s. 403.067 or adopted reasonable 1316 assurance plan. 1317 2. For any waterbody determined not to be attaining 1318 nutrient or nutrient-related standards after July 1, 2023, or 1319 subject to a nutrient or nutrient-related basin management 1320 action plan adopted pursuant to s. 403.067 or adopted reasonable assurance plan after July 1, 2023, sewage disposal facilities 1321 are prohibited from disposing any wastes into such waters 1322 1323 without providing advanced waste treatment, as defined in 1324 subsection (4), as approved by the department within 10 years 1325 after such determination or adoption.

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1326	3. By July 1, 2034, a wastewater treatment facility
1327	providing reclaimed water that will be used for commercial or
1328	residential irrigation or be otherwise land applied within a
1329	nutrient basin management action plan or reasonable assurance
1330	plan area must meet the advanced waste treatment standards for
1331	total nitrogen and total phosphorous as defined in paragraph
1332	(4)(a) if the department has determined in an applicable basin
1333	management action plan or reasonable assurance plan that the use
1334	of reclaimed water as described in this subparagraph is causing
1335	or contributing to the nutrient impairment being addressed in
1336	such plan. For such department determinations made in a nutrient
1337	basin management action plan or reasonable assurance plan after
1338	July 1, 2024, an applicable wastewater treatment facility must
1339	meet the requisite advanced waste treatment standards described
1340	in this subparagraph within 10 years after such determination.
1341	This subparagraph does not prevent the department from requiring
1342	an alternative treatment standard, including a more stringent
1343	treatment standard, if the department determines that the
1344	alternative standard is necessary to achieve the total maximum
1345	daily load or applicable water quality criteria. This
1346	subparagraph does not apply to reclaimed water that is otherwise
1347	land applied as part of a water quality restoration project or
1348	water resource development project approved by the department to
1349	meet a total maximum daily load or minimum flow or level and
1350	where such reclaimed water will be at or below the advanced
1351	waste treatment standards described above before entering
1352	groundwater or surface water.
1353	Section 14. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and
1354	paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 403.091, Florida

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1355	Statutes, are amended to read:
1356	403.091 Inspections
1357	(1)(a) Any duly authorized representative of the department
1358	may at any reasonable time enter and inspect, for the purpose of
1359	ascertaining the state of compliance with the law or rules and
1360	regulations of the department, any property, premises, or place,
1361	except a building which is used exclusively for a private
1362	residence, on or at which:
1363	1. A hazardous waste generator, transporter, or facility or
1364	other air or water contaminant source;
1365	2. A discharger, including any nondomestic discharger which
1366	introduces any pollutant into a publicly owned treatment works;
1367	3. An onsite sewage treatment and disposal system as
1368	defined in s. 381.0065(2)(m);
1369	4. Any facility, as defined in s. 376.301; or
1370	5.4. A resource recovery and management facility
1371	
1372	is located or is being constructed or installed or where records
1373	which are required under this chapter, ss. 376.30-376.317, or
1374	department rule are kept.
1375	(b) Any duly authorized representative may at reasonable
1376	times have access to and copy any records required under this
1377	chapter or ss. 376.30-376.317; inspect any monitoring equipment
1378	or method; sample for any pollutants as defined in s. 376.301,
1379	effluents, or wastes which the owner or operator of such source
1380	may be discharging or which may otherwise be located on or
1381	underlying the owner's or operator's property; and obtain any
1382	other information necessary to determine compliance with permit
1383	conditions or other requirements of this chapter, ss. 376.30-

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1384	376.317, <u>ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386 for</u>
1385	purposes of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, part
1386	III of chapter 489, or rules or standards adopted under ss.
1387	381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386 for purposes of onsite
1388	sewage treatment and disposal systems, or part III of chapter
1389	489, or department rules.
1390	(3)
1391	(b) Upon proper affidavit being made, an inspection warrant
1392	may be issued under the provisions of this chapter or ss.
1393	376.30-376.317:
1394	1. When it appears that the properties to be inspected may
1395	be connected with or contain evidence of the violation of any of
1396	the provisions of this chapter or ss. 376.30-376.317, ss.
1397	381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386 for purposes of onsite
1398	sewage treatment and disposal systems, part III of chapter 489,
1399	or rules or standards adopted under ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part
1400	I of chapter 386 for purposes of onsite sewage treatment and
1401	<u>disposal systems, or part III of chapter 489</u> or any rule
1402	properly promulgated thereunder; or
1403	2. When the inspection sought is an integral part of a
1404	larger scheme of systematic routine inspections which are
1405	necessary to, and consistent with, the continuing efforts of the
1406	department to ensure compliance with the provisions of this
1407	chapter or ss. 376.30-376.317 <u>, ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of</u>
1408	chapter 386 for purposes of onsite sewage treatment and disposal
1409	systems, part III of chapter 489, or rules or standards adopted
1410	under ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386 for purposes
1411	of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, or part III of
1412	chapter 489 and any rules adopted thereunder.

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1413 Section 15. Section 403.121, Florida Statutes, is amended 1414 to read: 1415 403.121 Enforcement; procedure; remedies.-The department shall have the following judicial and administrative remedies 1416 1417 available to it for violations of this chapter, as specified in 1418 s. 403.161(1), ss. 381.0065-381.0067, part I of chapter 386 for 1419 purposes of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, part III of chapter 489, or any rule promulgated thereunder. 1420 1421 (1) Judicial Remedies: 1422 (a) The department may institute a civil action in a court 1423 of competent jurisdiction to establish liability and to recover 1424 damages for any injury to the air, waters, or property, 1425 including animal, plant, and aquatic life, of the state caused 1426 by any violation. 1427 (b) The department may institute a civil action in a court 1428 of competent jurisdiction to impose and to recover a civil 1429 penalty for each violation in an amount of not more than \$15,000 1430 per offense. However, the court may receive evidence in 1431 mitigation. Each day during any portion of which such violation 1432 occurs constitutes a separate offense. 1433 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (2)(c), it is not a 1434 defense to, or ground for dismissal of, these judicial remedies 1435 for damages and civil penalties that the department has failed 1436 to exhaust its administrative remedies, has failed to serve a notice of violation, or has failed to hold an administrative 1437 hearing before the institution of a civil action. 1438 1439 (2) Administrative Remedies: 1440 (a) The department may institute an administrative 1441 proceeding to establish liability and to recover damages for any

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1442	injury to the air, waters, or property, including animal, plant,
1443	or aquatic life, of the state caused by any violation. The
1444	department may order that the violator pay a specified sum as
1445	damages to the state. Judgment for the amount of damages
1446	determined by the department may be entered in any court having
1447	jurisdiction thereof and may be enforced as any other judgment.
1448	(b) If the department has reason to believe a violation has
1449	occurred, it may institute an administrative proceeding to order
1450	the prevention, abatement, or control of the conditions creating
1451	the violation or other appropriate corrective action. Except for
1452	violations involving hazardous wastes, asbestos, or underground
1453	injection, the department shall proceed administratively in all
1454	cases in which the department seeks administrative penalties
1455	that do not exceed \$50,000 per assessment as calculated in
1456	accordance with subsections (3) , (4) , (5) , (6) , and (7) .
1457	Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. s. 300g-2, the administrative penalty
1458	assessed pursuant to subsection (3), subsection (4), or
1459	subsection (5) against a public water system serving a
1460	population of more than 10,000 may not be less than \$1,000 per
1461	day per violation. The department may not impose administrative
1462	penalties in excess of \$50,000 in a notice of violation. The
1463	department may not have more than one notice of violation
1464	seeking administrative penalties pending against the same party
1465	at the same time unless the violations occurred at a different
1466	site or the violations were discovered by the department
1467	subsequent to the filing of a previous notice of violation.
1468	(c) An administrative proceeding shall be instituted by the

1466 (C) An administrative proceeding shall be instituted by the 1469 department's serving of a written notice of violation upon the 1470 alleged violator by certified mail. If the department is unable

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1471	to effect service by certified mail, the notice of violation may
1472	be hand delivered or personally served in accordance with
1473	chapter 48. The notice shall specify the law, rule, regulation,
1474	permit, certification, or order of the department alleged to be
1475	violated and the facts alleged to constitute a violation
1476	thereof. An order for corrective action, penalty assessment, or
1477	damages may be included with the notice. When the department is
1478	seeking to impose an administrative penalty for any violation by
1479	issuing a notice of violation, any corrective action needed to
1480	correct the violation or damages caused by the violation must be
1481	pursued in the notice of violation or they are waived. However,
1482	an order is not effective until after service and an
1483	administrative hearing, if requested within 20 days after
1484	service. Failure to request an administrative hearing within
1485	this time period constitutes a waiver thereof, unless the
1486	respondent files a written notice with the department within
1487	this time period opting out of the administrative process
1488	initiated by the department to impose administrative penalties.
1489	Any respondent choosing to opt out of the administrative process
1490	initiated by the department in an action that seeks the
1491	imposition of administrative penalties must file a written
1492	notice with the department within 20 days after service of the
1493	notice of violation opting out of the administrative process. A
1494	respondent's decision to opt out of the administrative process
1495	does not preclude the department from initiating a state court
1496	action seeking injunctive relief, damages, and the judicial
1497	imposition of civil penalties.
1498	(d) If a person timely files a petition challenging a

(d) If a person timely files a petition challenging a notice of violation, that person will thereafter be referred to

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1500	as the respondent. The hearing requested by the respondent shall
1501	be held within 180 days after the department has referred the
1502	initial petition to the Division of Administrative Hearings
1503	unless the parties agree to a later date. The department has the
1504	burden of proving with the preponderance of the evidence that
1505	the respondent is responsible for the violation. Administrative
1506	penalties should not be imposed unless the department satisfies
1507	that burden. Following the close of the hearing, the
1508	administrative law judge shall issue a final order on all
1509	matters, including the imposition of an administrative penalty.
1510	When the department seeks to enforce that portion of a final
1511	order imposing administrative penalties pursuant to s. 120.69,
1512	the respondent may not assert as a defense the inappropriateness
1513	of the administrative remedy. The department retains its final-
1514	order authority in all administrative actions that do not
1515	request the imposition of administrative penalties.
1516	(e) After filing a petition requesting a formal hearing in
1517	response to a notice of violation in which the department
1518	imposes an administrative negative a respondent may request that

imposes an administrative penalty, a respondent may request that 1518 1519 a private mediator be appointed to mediate the dispute by 1520 contacting the Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium within 10 1521 days after receipt of the initial order from the administrative 1522 law judge. The Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium shall pay all of the costs of the mediator and for up to 8 hours of the 1523 1524 mediator's time per case at \$150 per hour. Upon notice from the 1525 respondent, the Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium shall 1526 provide to the respondent a panel of possible mediators from the 1527 area in which the hearing on the petition would be heard. The 1528 respondent shall select the mediator and notify the Florida

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1529 Conflict Resolution Consortium of the selection within 15 days 1530 of receipt of the proposed panel of mediators. The Florida 1531 Conflict Resolution Consortium shall provide all of the 1532 administrative support for the mediation process. The mediation 1533 must be completed at least 15 days before the final hearing date 1534 set by the administrative law judge. 1535 (f) In any administrative proceeding brought by the 1536 department, the prevailing party shall recover all costs as 1537 provided in ss. 57.041 and 57.071. The costs must be included in 1538 the final order. The respondent is the prevailing party when an 1539 order is entered awarding no penalties to the department and 1540 such order has not been reversed on appeal or the time for 1541 seeking judicial review has expired. The respondent is entitled 1542 to an award of attorney fees if the administrative law judge 1543 determines that the notice of violation issued by the department 1544 seeking the imposition of administrative penalties was not 1545 substantially justified as defined in s. 57.111(3)(e). An award 1546 of attorney fees as provided by this subsection may not exceed 1547 \$15,000.

1548 (g) This section does not prevent any other legal or administrative action in accordance with law and does not limit 1549 1550 the department's authority provided in ss. 403.131, 403.141, and 1551 this section to judicially pursue injunctive relief. When the 1552 department exercises its authority to judicially pursue 1553 injunctive relief, penalties in any amount up to the statutory 1554 maximum sought by the department must be pursued as part of the 1555 state court action and not by initiating a separate 1556 administrative proceeding. The department retains the authority 1557 to judicially pursue penalties in excess of \$50,000 for

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1558 violations not specifically included in the administrative 1559 penalty schedule, or for multiple or multiday violations alleged 1560 to exceed a total of \$50,000. The department also retains the 1561 authority provided in ss. 403.131, 403.141, and this section to 1562 judicially pursue injunctive relief and damages, if a notice of 1563 violation seeking the imposition of administrative penalties has 1564 not been issued. The department has the authority to enter into 1565 a settlement, before or after initiating a notice of violation, 1566 and the settlement may include a penalty amount different from 1567 the administrative penalty schedule. Any case filed in state 1568 court because it is alleged to exceed a total of \$50,000 in 1569 penalties may be settled in the court action for less than 1570 \$50,000.

(h) Chapter 120 applies to any administrative action taken
by the department or any delegated program pursuing
administrative penalties in accordance with this section.

1574 (3) Except for violations involving hazardous wastes,
1575 asbestos, or underground injection, administrative penalties
1576 must be calculated according to the following schedule:

1577 (a) For a drinking water contamination violation, the 1578 department shall assess a penalty of \$3,000 for a Maximum 1579 Containment Level (MCL) violation; plus \$1,500 if the violation 1580 is for a primary inorganic, organic, or radiological Maximum 1581 Contaminant Level or it is a fecal coliform bacteria violation; 1582 plus \$1,500 if the violation occurs at a community water system; 1583 and plus \$1,500 if any Maximum Contaminant Level is exceeded by 1584 more than 100 percent. For failure to obtain a clearance letter 1585 before placing a drinking water system into service when the 1586 system would not have been eligible for clearance, the

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1587 department shall assess a penalty of \$4,500.

1588 (b) For failure to obtain a required wastewater permit, 1589 other than a permit required for surface water discharge, or 1590 obtain an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system permit, or 1591 for a violation of s. 381.0065, or the creation of or 1592 maintenance of a nuisance related to an onsite sewage treatment 1593 and disposal system under part I of chapter 386, or for a 1594 violation of part III of chapter 489, or any rule properly 1595 promulgated thereunder, the department shall assess a penalty of 1596 \$2,000. For a domestic or industrial wastewater violation, not 1597 involving a surface water or groundwater quality violation, the 1598 department shall assess a penalty of \$4,000 for an unpermitted 1599 or unauthorized discharge or effluent-limitation exceedance or 1600 for failure to comply with s. 403.061(14) or s. 403.086(7) or 1601 rules adopted thereunder. For an unpermitted or unauthorized 1602 discharge or effluent-limitation exceedance that resulted in a 1603 surface water or groundwater quality violation, the department 1604 shall assess a penalty of \$10,000. Each day the cause of an 1605 unauthorized discharge of domestic wastewater or sanitary 1606 nuisance is not addressed constitutes a separate offense.

1607 (c) For a dredge and fill or stormwater violation, the 1608 department shall assess a penalty of \$1,500 for unpermitted or 1609 unauthorized dredging or filling or unauthorized construction of 1610 a stormwater management system against the person or persons 1611 responsible for the illegal dredging or filling, or unauthorized 1612 construction of a stormwater management system plus \$3,000 if 1613 the dredging or filling occurs in an aquatic preserve, an 1614 Outstanding Florida Water, a conservation easement, or a Class I 1615 or Class II surface water, plus \$1,500 if the area dredged or

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1616	filled is greater than one-quarter acre but less than or equal
1617	to one-half acre, and plus \$1,500 if the area dredged or filled
1618	is greater than one-half acre but less than or equal to one
1619	acre. The administrative penalty schedule does not apply to a
1620	dredge and fill violation if the area dredged or filled exceeds
1621	one acre. The department retains the authority to seek the
1622	judicial imposition of civil penalties for all dredge and fill
1623	violations involving more than one acre. The department shall
1624	assess a penalty of \$4,500 for the failure to complete required
1625	mitigation, failure to record a required conservation easement,
1626	or for a water quality violation resulting from dredging or
1627	filling activities, stormwater construction activities or
1628	failure of a stormwater treatment facility. For stormwater
1629	management systems serving less than 5 acres, the department
1630	shall assess a penalty of \$3,000 for the failure to properly or
1631	timely construct a stormwater management system. In addition to
1632	the penalties authorized in this subsection, the department
1633	shall assess a penalty of \$7,500 per violation against the
1634	contractor or agent of the owner or tenant that conducts
1635	unpermitted or unauthorized dredging or filling. For purposes of
1636	this paragraph, the preparation or signing of a permit
1637	application by a person currently licensed under chapter 471 to
1638	practice as a professional engineer does not make that person an
1639	agent of the owner or tenant.
1640	(d) For manarove trimming or alteration violations the

(d) For mangrove trimming or alteration violations, the department shall assess a penalty of \$7,500 per violation against the contractor or agent of the owner or tenant that conducts mangrove trimming or alteration without a permit as required by s. 403.9328. For purposes of this paragraph, the

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1645 preparation or signing of a permit application by a person 1646 currently licensed under chapter 471 to practice as a 1647 professional engineer does not make that person an agent of the 1648 owner or tenant. 1649 (e) For solid waste violations, the department shall assess 1650 a penalty of \$3,000 for the unpermitted or unauthorized disposal 1651 or storage of solid waste; plus \$1,000 if the solid waste is 1652 Class I or Class III (excluding yard trash) or if the solid 1653 waste is construction and demolition debris in excess of 20 1654 cubic yards, plus \$1,500 if the waste is disposed of or stored 1655 in any natural or artificial body of water or within 500 feet of 1656 a potable water well, plus \$1,500 if the waste contains PCB at a 1657 concentration of 50 parts per million or greater; untreated 1658 biomedical waste; friable asbestos greater than 1 cubic meter 1659 which is not wetted, bagged, and covered; used oil greater than 1660 25 gallons; or 10 or more lead acid batteries. The department 1661 shall assess a penalty of \$4,500 for failure to properly 1662 maintain leachate control; unauthorized burning; failure to have 1663 a trained spotter on duty at the working face when accepting 1664 waste; or failure to provide access control for three 1665 consecutive inspections. The department shall assess a penalty 1666 of \$3,000 for failure to construct or maintain a required 1667 stormwater management system. 1668 (f) For an air emission violation, the department shall

(f) For an air emission violation, the department shall assess a penalty of \$1,500 for an unpermitted or unauthorized air emission or an air-emission-permit exceedance, plus \$4,500 if the emission was from a major source and the source was major for the pollutant in violation; plus \$1,500 if the emission was more than 150 percent of the allowable level.

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1674 (g) For storage tank system and petroleum contamination 1675 violations, the department shall assess a penalty of \$7,500 for 1676 failure to empty a damaged storage system as necessary to ensure 1677 that a release does not occur until repairs to the storage 1678 system are completed; when a release has occurred from that 1679 storage tank system; for failure to timely recover free product; 1680 or for failure to conduct remediation or monitoring activities 1681 until a no-further-action or site-rehabilitation completion 1682 order has been issued. The department shall assess a penalty of 1683 \$4,500 for failure to timely upgrade a storage tank system. The 1684 department shall assess a penalty of \$3,000 for failure to 1685 conduct or maintain required release detection; failure to 1686 timely investigate a suspected release from a storage system; 1687 depositing motor fuel into an unregistered storage tank system; 1688 failure to timely assess or remediate petroleum contamination; 1689 or failure to properly install a storage tank system. The 1690 department shall assess a penalty of \$1,500 for failure to 1691 properly operate, maintain, or close a storage tank system. 1692 (4) In an administrative proceeding, in addition to the

1693 penalties that may be assessed under subsection (3), the 1694 department shall assess administrative penalties according to 1695 the following schedule:

1696 (a) For failure to satisfy financial responsibility1697 requirements or for violation of s. 377.371(1), \$7,500.

1698 (b) For failure to install, maintain, or use a required 1699 pollution control system or device, \$6,000.

1700 (c) For failure to obtain a required permit before1701 construction or modification, \$4,500.

1702

(d) For failure to conduct required monitoring or testing;

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1729

following manner:

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1703 failure to conduct required release detection; or failure to 1704 construct in compliance with a permit, \$3,000. 1705 (e) For failure to maintain required staff to respond to 1706 emergencies; failure to conduct required training; failure to 1707 prepare, maintain, or update required contingency plans; failure 1708 to adequately respond to emergencies to bring an emergency 1709 situation under control; or failure to submit required 1710 notification to the department, \$1,500. 1711 (f) Except as provided in subsection (2) with respect to 1712 public water systems serving a population of more than 10,000, 1713 for failure to prepare, submit, maintain, or use required reports or other required documentation, \$750. 1714 1715 (5) Except as provided in subsection (2) with respect to 1716 public water systems serving a population of more than 10,000, 1717 for failure to comply with any other departmental regulatory 1718 statute or rule requirement not otherwise identified in this 1719 section, the department may assess a penalty of \$1,000. 1720 (6) For each additional day during which a violation 1721 occurs, the administrative penalties in subsections (3)-(5) may 1722 be assessed per day per violation. 1723 (7) The history of noncompliance of the violator for any 1724 previous violation resulting in an executed consent order, but 1725 not including a consent order entered into without a finding of 1726 violation, or resulting in a final order or judgment after the 1727 effective date of this law involving the imposition of \$3,000 or 1728 more in penalties shall be taken into consideration in the

(a) One previous such violation within 5 years before thefiling of the notice of violation will result in a 25-percent

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1732 per day increase in the scheduled administrative penalty. 1733 (b) Two previous such violations within 5 years before the 1734 filing of the notice of violation will result in a 50-percent 1735 per day increase in the scheduled administrative penalty. 1736 (c) Three or more previous such violations within 5 years 1737 before the filing of the notice of violation will result in a 1738 100-percent per day increase in the scheduled administrative 1739 penalty. 1740 (8) The direct economic benefit gained by the violator from 1741 the violation, where consideration of economic benefit is 1742 provided by Florida law or required by federal law as part of a 1743 federally delegated or approved program, must be added to the 1744 scheduled administrative penalty. The total administrative 1745 penalty, including any economic benefit added to the scheduled 1746 administrative penalty, may not exceed \$15,000. 1747 (9) The administrative penalties assessed for any 1748 particular violation may not exceed \$10,000 against any one 1749 violator, unless the violator has a history of noncompliance, 1750 the economic benefit of the violation as described in subsection 1751 (8) exceeds \$10,000, or there are multiday violations. The total 1752 administrative penalties may not exceed \$50,000 per assessment 1753 for all violations attributable to a specific person in the 1754 notice of violation.

(10) The administrative law judge may receive evidence in mitigation. The penalties identified in subsections (3)-(5) may be reduced up to 50 percent by the administrative law judge for mitigating circumstances, including good faith efforts to comply before or after discovery of the violations by the department. Upon an affirmative finding that the violation was caused by

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1761 circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the respondent 1762 and could not have been prevented by respondent's due diligence, 1763 the administrative law judge may further reduce the penalty. 1764 (11) Penalties collected pursuant to this section must 1765 shall be deposited into the Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund 1766 or other trust fund designated by statute and shall be used to 1767 fund the restoration of ecosystems, or polluted areas of the 1768 state, as defined by the department, to their condition before 1769 pollution occurred. The Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium 1770 may use a portion of the fund to administer the mediation 1771 process provided in paragraph (2)(e) and to contract with 1772 private mediators for administrative penalty cases. 1773 (12) The purpose of the administrative penalty schedule and 1774 process is to provide a more predictable and efficient manner 1775 for individuals and businesses to resolve relatively minor

1776 environmental disputes. Subsections (3)-(7) may not be construed 1777 as limiting a state court in the assessment of damages. The 1778 administrative penalty schedule does not apply to the judicial 1779 imposition of civil penalties in state court as provided in this 1780 section.

1781Section 16. Subsection (5) of section 403.9301, Florida1782Statutes, is amended to read:

1783

403.9301 Wastewater services projections.-

(5) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall
evaluate the compiled documents from the counties for the
purpose of developing a statewide analysis for inclusion in the
assessment due <u>the following</u> January 1, 2023, pursuant to s.
403.928. <u>Beginning July 1, 2024, and by the July 1 following</u>
subsequent publications of the analysis required by this

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1790	section, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall
1791	provide a publicly accessible data visualization tool on its
1792	website which allows for comparative analyses of key
1793	information.
1794	Section 17. Subsection (5) of section 403.9302, Florida
1795	Statutes, is amended to read:
1796	403.9302 Stormwater management projections
1797	(5) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall
1798	evaluate the compiled documents from the counties for the
1799	purpose of developing a statewide analysis for inclusion in the
1800	assessment due <u>the following</u> January 1 , 2023 , pursuant to s.
1801	403.928. Beginning July 1, 2024, and by the July 1 following
1802	subsequent publications of the analysis required by this
1803	section, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall
1804	provide a publicly accessible data visualization tool on its
1805	website which allows for comparative analyses of key
1806	information.
1807	Section 18. Subsection (1) of section 403.0671, Florida
1808	Statutes, is amended to read:
1809	403.0671 Basin management action plan wastewater reports
1810	(1) By July 1, 2021, the department, in coordination with
1811	the county health departments, wastewater treatment facilities,
1812	and other governmental entities, shall submit a report to the
1813	Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
1814	House of Representatives evaluating the costs of wastewater
1815	projects identified in the basin management action plans
1816	developed pursuant to ss. 373.807 and 403.067(7) and the onsite
1817	sewage treatment and disposal system remediation plans and other
1818	restoration plans developed to meet the total maximum daily

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1819 loads required under s. 403.067. The report must include all of 1820 the following: 1821 (a) Projects to: 1822 1. Replace onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems 1823 with enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and 1824 disposal systems. 1825 2. Install or retrofit onsite sewage treatment and disposal 1826 systems with enhanced nutrient-reducing technologies. 1827 3. Construct, upgrade, or expand domestic wastewater 1828 treatment facilities to meet the domestic wastewater treatment 1829 plan required under s. 403.067(7)(a)9. 1830 4. Connect onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to 1831 domestic wastewater treatment facilities.+ (b) The estimated costs, nutrient load reduction estimates, 1832 1833 and other benefits of each project.+ 1834 (c) The estimated implementation timeline for each 1835 project.; 1836 (d) A proposed 5-year funding plan for each project and the 1837 source and amount of financial assistance the department, a 1838 water management district, or other project partner will make 1839 available to fund the project.; and 1840 (e) The projected costs of installing enhanced nutrient-1841 reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems on 1842 buildable lots in priority focus areas to comply with s. 373.811. 1843 1844 Section 19. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1845 made by this act to section 253.04, Florida Statutes, in a 1846 reference thereto, paragraph (x) of subsection (1) of section 1847 327.73, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1848 327.73 Noncriminal infractions.-1849 (1) Violations of the following provisions of the vessel 1850 laws of this state are noncriminal infractions: (x) Section 253.04(3)(a), relating to carelessly causing 1851 1852 seagrass scarring, for which the civil penalty upon conviction 1853 is: 1854 1. For a first offense, \$100. 1855 2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a 1856 prior conviction, \$250. 1857 3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a 1858 prior conviction, \$500. 1859 4. For a fourth or subsequent offense occurring within 72 1860 months after a prior conviction, \$1,000. 1861 1862 Any person cited for a violation of this subsection shall be 1863 deemed to be charged with a noncriminal infraction, shall be 1864 cited for such an infraction, and shall be cited to appear 1865 before the county court. The civil penalty for any such 1866 infraction is \$100, except as otherwise provided in this 1867 section. Any person who fails to appear or otherwise properly 1868 respond to a uniform boating citation, in addition to the charge 1869 relating to the violation of the boating laws of this state, 1870 must be charged with the offense of failing to respond to such 1871 citation and, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor of the 1872 second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 1873 775.083. A written warning to this effect shall be provided at 1874 the time such uniform boating citation is issued. Section 20. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1875 1876 made by this act to section 381.0061, Florida Statutes, in

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601-03260-24 20241386c1 1877 references thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (4) and 1878 paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 381.0072, Florida 1879 Statutes, are reenacted to read: 1880 381.0072 Food service protection.-1881 (4) LICENSES REQUIRED.-1882 (a) Licenses; annual renewals.-Each food service 1883 establishment regulated under this section shall obtain a 1884 license from the department annually. Food service establishment 1885 licenses shall expire annually and are not transferable from one 1886 place or individual to another. However, those facilities 1887 licensed by the department's Office of Licensure and 1888 Certification, the Child Care Services Program Office, or the 1889 Agency for Persons with Disabilities are exempt from this 1890 subsection. It shall be a misdemeanor of the second degree, 1891 punishable as provided in s. 381.0061, s. 775.082, or s. 1892 775.083, for such an establishment to operate without this 1893 license. The department may refuse a license, or a renewal 1894 thereof, to any establishment that is not constructed or 1895 maintained in accordance with law and with the rules of the 1896 department. Annual application for renewal is not required. 1897 (6) FINES; SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES; 1898 PROCEDURE.-1899 (a) The department may impose fines against the 1900 establishment or operator regulated under this section for 1901 violations of sanitary standards, in accordance with s. 1902 381.0061. All amounts collected shall be deposited to the credit 1903

1904 1905

department.

Section 21. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment

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of the County Health Department Trust Fund administered by the

601-03260-24 20241386c1 1906 made by this act to section 381.0061, Florida Statutes, in a 1907 reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 381.0086, Florida 1908 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1909 381.0086 Rules; variances; penalties.-1910 (4) A person who violates any provision of ss. 381.008-1911 381.00895 or rules adopted under such sections is subject either 1912 to the penalties provided in ss. 381.0012 and 381.0061 or to the penalties provided in s. 381.0087. 1913 1914 Section 22. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1915 made by this act to section 381.0061, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (7) of section 381.0098, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 381.0098 Biomedical waste.-(7) ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES. - Any person or public body in violation of this section or rules adopted under this section is subject to penalties provided in ss. 381.0012 and 381.0061. 1922 However, an administrative fine not to exceed \$2,500 may be 1923 imposed for each day such person or public body is in violation 1924 of this section. The department may deny, suspend, or revoke any 1925 biomedical waste permit or registration if the permittee 1926 violates this section, any rule adopted under this section, or 1927 any lawful order of the department. 1928 Section 23. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment

1929 made by this act to section 381.0061, Florida Statutes, in a 1930 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 513.10, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1931

1932 513.10 Operating without permit; enforcement of chapter; 1933 penalties.-

(2) This chapter or rules adopted under this chapter may be

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1916 1917 1918

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1934

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1935	enforced in the manner provided in s. 381.0012 and as provided
1936	in this chapter. Violations of this chapter and the rules
1937	adopted under this chapter are subject to the penalties provided
1938	in this chapter and in s. 381.0061.
1939	Section 24. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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